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ATLANTIC SUNRISE PROJECT
(DOCKET NO. CP15-138-000)

PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING ON THE
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

JUNE 15, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Bloomsburg University
Haas Center for the Arts - Mitrani Hall
400 East Second Street
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

Court Reporter A

- 1 SPEAKER LIST
- 2
- 3 JOANNE WACHHOLDER
- 4 WADE CHANDLER
- 5 JASON FINK
- 6 ED GILLETTE
- 7 DOUG MCLINKO
- 8 JOHN WALKER
- 9 DENNIS WYDRA
- 10 SANDRA WALKER
- 11 LINDA DIETRICHSON
- 12 LINDA QUODOMINE
- 13 SIERRA SHAMER
- 14 CARL MOHR
- 15 SUSAN PATALONE
- 16 DEIRDRE LALLY
- 17 DAVID HORN
- 18 CHUCK CLARKE
- 19 DAVID BUTTERWORTH
- 20 TERRY LANGLEY
- 21 ERIC MATTHEWS
- 22 DEAN MARSHALL
- 23 WALT KOCHAN
- 24 KEVIN LYNN
- 25 RICHARD STERN

1 SPEAKER LIST
2
3 WILLIAM EMICK
4 KEN SHANNON
5 ABE AMOROS
6 ANNE DINCHER
7 ZORA GUSSOW
8 CHARIS MCCALLUM
9 GEORGE FLICK
10 STEVEN KENNEY
11 ROBERT WILDS
12 CASE PEGG
13 LINDA HARTUNG
14 MARK FISCHER
15 MARIAN MENAPACE
16 JOHN TELESCO
17 MARK CLATTERBUCK
18 PETER TIPKA
19 BAMBI HANDON
20 CAROL PARENZAN
21 FRED GAFFNEY
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MS. WACHHOLDER: Good evening everyone. On behalf
3 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission also known as
4 FERC or the Commission I would like to welcome you here
5 tonight. The primary purpose of this meeting is to give you
6 an opportunity to provide comments on the Draft
7 Environmental Impact Statement or Draft EIS for the Atlantic
8 Sunrise Project.

9 Let the record show that the Draft EIS comment
10 meeting began at 7:12 p.m. on June 15, 2016. My name is
11 Joanne Wachholder and I am an Environmental Project Manager
12 with the FERC's Office of Energy Projects.

13 Eric Howard also with FERC is at the sign-in
14 table. Also assisting FERC are Bart Jensen, Tina Lyons and
15 DeAnn Thyse with ERM and that's an environmental consulting
16 firm assisting us in the production of the EIS for the
17 Project.

18 Here tonight representing the U.S. Army Corps of
19 Engineers are Wade Chandler and Mike Dombroski in the back.
20 The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is participating as a
21 cooperating agency in the preparation of the EIS.

22 As you can see this meeting is being recorded by
23 a court reporter so that we have an accurate record of
24 tonight's comments. A transcript of this meeting will be
25 placed in the public record so that everyone has access to

1 the information discussed here tonight. We are also trying
2 something a bit different to allow for further opportunities
3 to provide comments.

4 We are offering access to an additional court
5 reporter and FERC representative and Corps representative in
6 the room upstairs. If you go up the stairs it is right
7 there and I will explain a little bit more about that at the
8 end. The speaker's list is in the back at the table. For
9 the main room in here we will use that list to call speakers
10 to the podium tonight. If you wish to speak and have not
11 signed up please add your name to that list.

12 In March 2015 the Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line
13 Company, LLC or Transco filed an application under Section
14 7C of the Natural Gas Act to construct and operate natural
15 gas facilities including about 195.2 miles of new natural
16 gas pipeline in Pennsylvania and 2.5 miles of replacement
17 piping in Virginia. The project's above-ground facilities
18 would consist of two new compressor stations in
19 Pennsylvania, additional compression and modifications to
20 three existing compressor stations in Pennsylvania and
21 Maryland, two new meter stations and three new regulator
22 stations in Pennsylvania as well as minor modifications of
23 existing above-ground facilities at various locations to
24 allow for bi-directional flow.

25 The primary purpose of this meeting is to give

1 you the opportunity to provide specific environmental
2 comments on the Draft EIS prepared by FERC staff for this
3 project. It will help us the most if your comments are as
4 specific as possible regarding the proposed project and the
5 Draft EIS.

6 I would like to again clarify that this is a
7 project being proposed by Transco, it is not a project being
8 proposed by the FERC. Rather the FERC is the federal agency
9 responsible for evaluating applications to construct and
10 operate interstate natural gas pipeline facilities. The
11 FERC therefore is not an advocate for the project instead
12 the FERC staff is advocates for the environmental review
13 process.

14 During our review of the project we assembled
15 information from a variety of sources including the
16 applicants, you the public, other state, local and federal
17 agencies and our own independent analysis and field work.
18 We analyze this information and prepared the Draft EIS that
19 was distributed to the public for comment.

20 A Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS was
21 issued for this project on May 5, 2016. We are nearing the
22 end of the 45 day comment period on the Draft EIS which is
23 scheduled for Monday, June 27th, 2016.

24 If you have comments but do not wish to speak
25 tonight you may provide written comments on the comment

1 forms provided at the back table. You may drop those off
2 with us or mail them at a later date. Be sure to include
3 the Project Docket Number CP15-138 and your personal
4 information if you want us to place you on the mailing list.

5 Your comments will be considered with equal
6 weight regardless of whether they are provided verbally or
7 submitted in writing. At the end of the Draft EIS comment
8 period FERC staff will prepare a Final EIS that specifically
9 addresses each comment received on the Draft EIS and
10 includes all necessary changes, additions and modifications
11 to conclusions reached in the Draft EIS.

12 Once we have issued the Final EIS currently
13 scheduled for late October it is forwarded to our
14 Commissioners for their consideration. Currently our
15 mailing list for this project is over 4,000 stakeholders.
16 If you received a copy of the Draft EIS in the mail, either
17 the CD or paper version you are already on the mailing list
18 to receive the final EIS. If you did not get a copy and
19 would like to get a copy of the Final, please provide your
20 name and address to the FERC staff at the back of the room
21 and we will make sure you get a copy of the Final EIS.

22 I would like to state that neither the Draft nor
23 the Final EIS are decision-making documents. In other words
24 once the Final EIS is issued it does not determine whether
25 the project is approved or not. I also want to

1 differentiate between the roles of two distinct FERC groups,
2 the Commission and the environmental staff.

3 I and other FERC staff present are part of the
4 FERC environmental staff and it is our job to oversee the
5 preparation of the EIS for this project. We do not
6 determine whether or not to approve the project. Instead
7 the FERC Commission consists of up to five
8 Presidentially-appointed Commissioners who are responsible
9 for making a determination on whether to issue a Certificate
10 of Public Convenience and Necessity or Certificate to
11 Transco.

12 The Commission will consider the environmental
13 information from the EIS, public comments, as well as a host
14 of non-environmental issues such as engineering, markets and
15 rates in making its decision to approve or deny Transco's
16 request for a Certificate.

17 Only after taking the environmental and
18 non-environmental factors into consideration, will the
19 Commission make its final decision on whether or not to
20 approve the project. If the Commission votes to approve the
21 project and the Certificate is issued, Transco will be
22 required to meet certain conditions outlined in the
23 Certificate.

24 FERC environmental staff would monitor the
25 project through construction and restoration performing

1 on-site inspections to document environmental compliance
2 with applicable laws on regulations, the applicant's
3 proposed plans of mitigation and the additional conditions
4 in the FERC certificate.

5 Next Wade Chandler will discuss the role of the
6 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

7 MR. CHANDLER: Good evening my name is Wade
8 Chandler and I am Chief of the Pennsylvania Section for the
9 Regulatory Branch of the Baltimore District U.S. Army Corps
10 of Engineers. Also with me is Michael Dombroskie he is the
11 Corps Project Manager who is in charge of evaluating the
12 permit application for this proposed project.

13 We want to welcome you to this joint U.S. Army
14 Corps of Engineers public hearing and the Federal Energy
15 Regulatory Commission public meeting for the proposed
16 Williams Gas Pipe Line known as the Atlantic Sunrise
17 Project.

18 It is the responsibility of my office to evaluate
19 applications for Department of the Army authorization for
20 work in navigable waters of the United States and waters of
21 the United States including jurisdictional wetlands. Our
22 authority comes from Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors
23 Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. At this
24 time no decision has been made regarding whether or not a
25 Department of the Army permit will be issued for the

1 proposed project.

2 The purpose of today's hearing is to inform you
3 of this proposed project and to allow you the opportunity to
4 provide comments to be considered in the Corps public
5 interest review for the proposed project. A federal public
6 hearing is a formal process used to gather information that
7 otherwise would not be available during the public notice
8 comment period.

9 Your comments will be included and addressed in
10 the Environmental Impact Statement for the project. Your
11 comments are important in the preparation of this document
12 and our evaluation of the permit application. The subject
13 project is being proposed by Transcontinental Gas Pipeline
14 Company, Williams Gas Pipeline and is referenced as the
15 Atlantic Sunrise Project.

16 The project as proposed is to construct
17 approximately 183.7 miles of new 30 and 42 inch diameter
18 pipelines, 11 miles of new 36 inch and 42 inch diameter
19 pipeline loops, construction of two new compressor stations,
20 additional compression installation at two existing
21 compressor stations and construction of two meter stations
22 and three regulator stations in Pennsylvania.

23 The Baltimore District Corps of Engineers is
24 reviewing only the portion of the project in Pennsylvania.
25 2.5 miles of the piping replacement will also occur in

1 Virginia and involve impacts to waters of the United States
2 and wetlands. Installation of additional compression at
3 existing compressor stations, modifications to existing
4 compressor stations to allow for bi-directional flow and
5 installation of the supplemental odorization, odor detection
6 and odor masking and de-odorization equipment at various
7 meter and valve stations will occur in Maryland, Virginia
8 and North Carolina and South Carolina and do not involve
9 regulated activities in the waters of the United States
10 including the wetlands.

11 The proposed project impacts to navigable waters
12 of the United States are located in the Susquehanna River.
13 Impacts of the waters in the United States including
14 jurisdictional wetlands are located in the Susquehanna River
15 and various waters in Susquehanna, Wyoming, Luzerne,
16 Sullivan, Columbia, Lycoming, Clinton, Northumberland,
17 Schuylkill, Lebanon and Lancaster Counties, Pennsylvania.

18 As proposed, construction of the Atlantic Sunrise
19 Pipeline would result in the following impacts:

20 Approximately 48.23 acres of wetland impact of which 6.52
21 acres will be permanent wetland-type conversion and 41.72
22 would be a temporary impact, 329 total water bodies will be
23 crossed resulting in 22,529 linear feet of temporary stream
24 impact.

25 The decision of whether or not to issue a permit

1 will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts
2 including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the
3 public interest in compliance with the Clean Water Act
4 Section 404(B-1) guidelines. That decision will reflect the
5 national concern for both protection and utilization of
6 important resources. The benefits that reasonably may be
7 expected to occur from the proposal will be balanced against
8 the reasonable foreseeable detriments -- all factors that
9 may be relevant to the proposal are considered.

10 Among these are conservation, economics,
11 aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands,
12 cultural values, fish and wildlife service values, flood
13 hazards, recreation, water supply and conservation, water
14 and air quality, threatened and endangered species, energy
15 needs, food and fiber production, safety, environmental
16 justice, cumulative impacts and the general needs and
17 welfare of the public.

18 Compliance with the National Environmental Policy
19 Act the Corps is a cooperating agency in the FERC regulatory
20 Commission's preparation of the Environmental Impact
21 Statement for the proposed project. The Corps comment
22 period for this hearing and for public comment extends to
23 June 30, 2016.

24 Comments received tonight and throughout the
25 comment period will be considered by the Corps as we reach a

1 permit decision. Your testimony this evening will be
2 recorded and we will prepare a verbatim record of today's
3 hearing. If you would like to receive a copy of the
4 transcript of these proceedings please provide us with your
5 information on the attendance record at the registration
6 table.

7 Once we have the verbatim record we will contact
8 you and let you know the associated costs and how we can
9 provide a copy of the record. All comments made at this
10 proceeding will be made part of the hearing record thank
11 you.

12 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. We are now going to
13 move into the part of the meeting where we will hear
14 comments from the audience members. As I mentioned before
15 if you would rather not speak you may hand in written
16 comments tonight or send them to the Secretary of the
17 Commission by following the procedures outlined in the Draft
18 EIS and comment forms.

19 Whether you verbally provide your comments or
20 mail them in, again they will be equally considered by FERC.
21 The Commission also encourages electronic filings of
22 comments and the forms are at the sign-in desk and provide
23 the web address and instructions as well.

24 Again this meeting is being recorded by a
25 transcription service. For the benefit of all in attendance

1 and for accuracy of the transcript I will set some ground
2 rules. When your name is called please step up to the
3 microphone and clearly state your name and affiliation if
4 any. You might spell your name for the court reporter to
5 insure accuracy if misspelling is likely. Also please speak
6 directly into the microphone so that you can be clearly
7 heard by the reporter, the panel and the audience. Due to
8 the number of speakers that we have signed up we will have
9 to limit each speaker to 3 minutes so that everyone has an
10 opportunity to provide comments. Bart here will set his
11 cell phone to three minutes and when it gets down to 30
12 seconds he will raise his hand and at the end of the three
13 minutes it will beep and then he will turn it off and I will
14 allow people to finish their statement and get to their
15 conclusions I'm not going to just cut you off and tell you
16 sit down.

17 But please just be respectful there's a lot of
18 people and I want to make sure everyone gets a chance. We
19 will go until the last speaker or 10:30 p.m. whichever comes
20 first. A few other rules -- when other people are speaking
21 in order for the transcription to adequately record their
22 statements we can't have noise from the audience. I know
23 sometimes you want to you know clap for people you like or
24 not do that for people you don't like and I ask you to
25 please just be respectful of each speaker and their three

1 minutes. So even if you are on their side and you cheer and
2 it takes 10 seconds from them I don't want that either.

3 So I ask everyone in the audience to be quiet unless
4 they are at the mic and
5 remember to respect all speakers equally whether you agree
6 or disagree and that is my strongest rule that we all be
7 kind to each other.

8 If you have other detailed comments other than
9 your 3 minutes you can summarize the comments at the mid and
10 then give the full written comments at the table when you
11 came in.

12 Also if you feel that your comments were
13 previously expressed you can simply state your name and your
14 endorsement of those previous comments. Before we start as a
15 courtesy to the speakers and the rest of the audience please
16 turn off or silence your cell phones.

17 As I mentioned at the beginning we
18 have an additional court reporter with the FERC and Corps
19 representations up the stairs in the top there. We want to
20 try this different format with the extra court reporter for
21 a number of reasons. First we wanted to offer everyone an
22 opportunity to provide verbal comments and this would allow
23 a greater number of people to do so in the allotted time
24 frame.

25 Second, we appreciate that you are spending time

1 away from your other responsibilities to participate in this
2 meeting and if you choose this option it would reduce the
3 time you would have to wait to speak while still getting
4 your comments in the official record.

5 Third, people have indicated at other meetings
6 that I have attended that they are not comfortable speaking
7 in front of a large crowd and we are trying to be sensitive
8 to that. With that all being said we are going to call the
9 first speaker. Thank you for your consideration. Number 1
10 is Jason Fin, number 1 Jason Fink.

11 MR. FINK: Alright good evening. My name is
12 Jason Fink and I live in Williamsport, Lycoming County.
13 Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments towards
14 the Atlantic Sunrise Project. My remarks here tonight are
15 to express support for FERC approval of this pipeline
16 development.

17 Since 1996 I have been employed at the
18 Williamsport Lycoming County Chamber of Commerce. My
19 current position is Executive Vice President for the Chamber
20 where I handle Chamber activities along with industrial
21 development responsibilities as well as being the Executive
22 Director of the Lycoming County Visitor's Bureau.

23 Our organization belongs to a consortium of
24 business and labor organizations across Pennsylvania
25 advocating for enhanced energy infrastructure. Pennsylvania

1 Energy Infrastructure Alliance supports all forms of
2 investment here in the Commonwealth's Energy Infrastructure
3 whether it be wind, solar, natural gas, nuclear or coal.
4 Pennsylvania plays a pivotal role in the regional, national
5 and global economy.

6 We believe that is important for future workforce
7 development here in the Commonwealth for us to have the
8 appropriate infrastructure in place to service our energy
9 needs. Natural gas is a key component to achieving and
10 realizing the employment opportunities for residents here in
11 Pennsylvania.

12 Lycoming County is one of several communities in
13 the Marcellus gas region that has benefitted from the
14 development of the natural gas industry here in the
15 Commonwealth. Even with the downturn in the sector we still
16 find it to be a key component to future labor opportunities
17 in our region.

18 While there will be short-term gains associated
19 with the construction of the pipeline, we view as more
20 important the long-term advantages that lie ahead for our
21 Commonwealth with the approval of the Atlantic Sunrise
22 Project. Providing this clean burning energy resource to
23 other parts of the east coast states will enable more
24 development of the player within our community.

25 This gives local land owners greater financial

1 stability along with more job opportunities in the Greater
2 Lycoming County area. It also can provide our Commonwealth
3 a vehicle to look at deriving a more impactful benefit from
4 the natural resource. Our leaders can work with the
5 legislative realm within the legislative realm to
6 development a way to see that Pennsylvania residents and
7 businesses can derive a financial incentive from the natural
8 gas utilized in their daily lives and operations.

9 This can lead to a more formable energy resource
10 for families and be used as a key economic development tool
11 for retaining and attracting future industry here in the
12 Commonwealth. The Williamsport Lycoming Chamber of Commerce
13 strongly recommends an approval of FERC of the application
14 by Williams for their Atlantic Sunrise Project.

15 For the reasons cited we believe it will provide
16 significant benefits to all residents and businesses in
17 Pennsylvania. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you
18 this evening.

19 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Number 2 is Ed
20 Gillette, number 2.

21 MR. GILLETTE: Thank you for listening to my
22 comments tonight. My name is Ed Gillette. I represent
23 Local 542 of the Operating Engineers. Pipeline
24 infrastructure is as important as roadways and railways. It
25 is not possible to meet our country's energy needs without

1 natural gas.

2 According to the Energy Information
3 Administration even under the most optimistic scenarios for
4 renewable energy growth, oil and natural gas will still be
5 needed supplying 60% of our energy needs in the year 2040.
6 Right now natural gas fuels one-third of our electric power
7 generation.

8 The Atlantic Sunrise will support 2300
9 construction jobs and 6000 indirect jobs. These are family
10 supporting jobs. Pennsylvania must continue to upgrade and
11 build the necessary infrastructure to safely and efficiently
12 transport our energy resources. Large scale infrastructure
13 projects such as the Atlantic Sunrise plays an increasing
14 role in the strength of our economy both now and in future
15 decades.

16 As Pennsylvania takes its place as a global
17 energy hub our organization will continue to provide
18 qualified hard-working residents with the training and
19 support they need to develop a safe and efficient
20 transportation network, thank you.

21 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 3
22 and number 3 is Doug McLinko.

23 MR. MCLINKO: Thank you, thank you also for
24 having me here and letting me testify, thank you for the
25 tough important job that you folks do and my last name is

1 McLinko M-c-L-i-n-k-o and I rise in full support of this
2 project 100% and I am going to talk a little bit tonight
3 about our experiences.

4 I am the Chairman of the Bradford County Board of
5 Commissioners, we are the most drilled on county in the
6 state of Pennsylvania. We have the most routes, we have
7 nearly 1,000 miles of permitted and installed gathering
8 lines, we have had zero problems, none.

9 We have had the full support of our property
10 owners, our farmers -- we also have the pipeline across my
11 property and I do not own the gas rights, I have a pipeline
12 across from it and I have a well across from it -- and a
13 retention well across my pipeline. From my property I also
14 have I am surrounded with great drinking water -- the
15 Tennessee Pipeline transmission line goes across our county
16 as well.

17 Most people in our county do not even know what
18 exists. We have had no problems. It goes across my uncle's
19 farm for 50 years it has been there it has recently been
20 looped with 36 inch loop to handle more gas we have had zero
21 problems, no problems with that. And again most of the
22 residents of Bradford County grew up there and don't even
23 know that it exists and again no problems with any of these.

24 As far as the environment goes myself I am a
25 little tired of people that are pro-energy that somehow we

1 don't care about our environment. I will tell you in
2 Bradford County we do care about our environment. The
3 Susquehanna River goes through our county it is full of
4 boats and fisherman, it is beautiful up there we have a lot
5 of wells and again it is green and it is beautiful. The
6 pipelines have been installed again and have had no trouble.

7 Today just alone on the pipeline that goes across
8 my property we went out and were looking for fawns they
9 recently the doe have dropped their fawns, we saw two in the
10 grass that pipeline right there, yesterday there was an
11 eagle flying across, we have turkeys on it, we have bobcat
12 cross it and we have videos of that it is terrific.
13 Pipelines are great for animals and things and it has been a
14 wonderful experience in our county.

15 I would like too to talk a little bit about the
16 importance of this to our nation. Recently we saw the
17 devastation in Orlando with ISIS and we are dealing with
18 Middle Eastern terrorists and they are not funded by Gihad
19 or the dues are financed by Middle Eastern Energy.

20 We as Pennsylvanians very proud Bradford County
21 is a patriotic part of this where we can compete on a global
22 market and hit these people in the pocketbooks and they are
23 using that money to kill Americans and I think that we need
24 to put the pressure on and we need to get this gas to
25 market.

1 It is great for -- a couple of gentlemen said for
2 heating our home, low cost for our seniors and our families
3 and everybody. We are proud of that Bradford County and we
4 need to be able to move that gas out. One other quick note
5 as I walked in I saw gas going to this University, natural
6 gas which is terrific.

7 In Cornell University who is an old friend of
8 natural gas by the way is 100% fueled by natural gas
9 cogeneration. They generate their electric at Cornell
10 University with natural gas and they heat with natural gas.
11 So I would like to close and I would like to say thank you
12 folks very, very much a great experience, a blessing from
13 God himself and Bradford County and God bless American and I
14 hope this passes.

15 MS. WACHHOLDER: Next up is number 4 John Walker,
16 number 4.

17 MR. WALKER: My name is John Walker. I'm a
18 Bloomsburg area, Columbia County citizen have been for 50
19 years. In the last 2 years I have spent searching and
20 researching the record at Williams Company, Williams Transco
21 because they are the corporation with a permit application
22 before FERC for the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline.

23 What I found is very alarming. So I sent a
24 sampling of Williams record to the FERC Commissioners to our
25 local state and national elected officials in the interest

1 of public information I sent that record to every library in
2 Columbia County so that it is accessible to Columbia County
3 citizens.

4 If you are a Columbia County citizen I urge you
5 to go to any local library and look at what I have found
6 about Williams and draw your own conclusions. During the 15
7 plus years of the current century Williams has compiled an
8 extensive history of incidents of fines, of penalties,
9 property damage, compression and pipeline explosions and/or
10 fires.

11 They have been charged by regulators with failure
12 to follow their own policies and to protect their own
13 workers. They have been charged with failing to conduct
14 required annual inspections, reported false data,
15 participated in efforts to manipulate the U.S. and
16 California natural gas markets, violated Colorado,
17 California and U.S. laws, paid the largest civil penalty
18 ever levied at that time, that's in March of 2003 it was 20
19 million dollars which incidentally if exceeded the previous
20 record also by Transco.

21 They had an 11 million dollar in the early '90's.
22 They failed to monitor corrosion adequately leading to the
23 Virginia Pipeline explosion at Appomattox, were given
24 corrective orders in at least three different explosions,
25 admitting to lying about energy prices, admitted that its

1 traders gave phony information to a publication that
2 compiles price indexes used in sales contracts. Williams
3 had three years of non-compliance with the Federal Clean Air
4 Act, failed to conduct an OSHA inspection for a Louisiana
5 plant for 10 years was the company name in the release of
6 thousands of pounds of toxic chemicals in a Louisiana
7 explosion and fire and was reported to PHMSA on ten
8 occasions related to incidents in Parachute, Colorado and
9 brought benzene pollution to both soil and water.

10 I know some of the Williams people who are
11 sitting in this room have heard this for the first time.
12 And I am sorry that I have had to say it but what I have
13 found I have said and it is true. Please remember that
14 Williams Transco is a company FERC is certain will offer
15 mitigation plans to have environmental concerns minimized to
16 be of no consequence.

17 I don't believe that will be so. Now I want to
18 say just a few words about FERC.

19 MS. WACHHOLDER: Can you just wrap -- your time
20 is up can you just go to your conclusion and you can put the
21 rest of your comments in the docket written to.

22 MR. WALKER: Here we are again with FERC deciding
23 there will be an EIS and then FERC becomes the lead agency
24 in completing the EIS and FERC actually prepares the EIS and
25 then FERC determines whether the EIS is done properly and

1 then FERC announces that if you have comments on the
2 document FERC will give you three minutes to speak about
3 matters which you have concern about is a 1250 page EIS.

4 In conclusion I must ask how can FERC really be
5 considering a pipeline company to plan to mitigate when past
6 records and performance indicate a profound lack of
7 mitigation skills.

8 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 5
9 Dennis Wydra.

10 MR. WYDRA: Good evening my name is Dennis Wydra,
11 I am a retired education professor from Mansfield University
12 and my hobby has been Marcellus shale for a number of years.
13 I strongly support the Draft Environmental Impact Statement
14 of the Atlantic Sunrise Project and I am really impressed
15 with the job that FERC and Williams Transco did in the 492
16 page Environmental Impact Statement.

17 The document actually reads more like an
18 incredible doctoral dissertation and you have covered
19 everything from geology and ground water to wildlife and
20 endangered species to land use and public and private
21 recreational land to air quality, noise and public safety.
22 And I really commend you for the job that you have done
23 working with this private firm.

24 Many people are concerned that with the pipeline
25 it is going to change the way of life in the area, it is

1 going to bring danger in here and it is going to fragment
2 properties. I graduated from Bloomsburg State College in
3 1965 about 50 years ago and back then we didn't when we were
4 talking about -- people weren't considered about 100 foot
5 right-of-way they were concerned about a 400 foot
6 right-of-way and they talked again about when fragmentation
7 the danger and changing the way of life.

8 But it brought new life to Bloomsburg University.
9 We were only 2500 students back then and now we are well
10 over 10,000 and the reason for that was this controversial
11 project called Interstate 80. There was so much opposition
12 to Interstate 80 that Penn-Dot's first draft of the route
13 from East Stroudsburg took it to Millersburg, Pennsylvania.

14 People in Bloomsburg said we really want it to
15 come through here and the pipeline transportation pipeline
16 has been a God send to Bloomsburg University and the
17 Bloomsburg community. I want to talk about some people are
18 saying we can't have gas go south of the Marcellus shale.

19 People forget that Philadelphia is the largest
20 municipal gas works called Philadelphia Gas Works in the
21 United States. They have a half of a million gas customers.
22 Right now in Bloomsburg its canning season has started. In
23 Philadelphia gas season has started and the poor Richmond
24 plant there is not enough pipeline to feed Philadelphia all
25 the gas they need for the winter months.

1 And Philadelphia right now has Port Richmond
2 where they are actually converting to LNG. People that came
3 here tonight came here by way of another pipeline
4 Philadelphia has a gasoline pipeline that brings all of the
5 gas. Everybody that came here tonight came here because of
6 the gasoline pipeline terminates in Northumberland and I
7 think it is really unfair to tell the people in Philadelphia
8 and south that we can't send our clean natural gas south.

9 We want their gasoline up here but we can't share
10 our clean natural gas with them. They are not the only city
11 that has this problem and I just think if you believe in
12 liberty and justice for all as you have in the pledge of
13 allegiance, don't barricade Marcellus shale north of
14 Interstate 80. Let it flow to the cities south of the
15 eastern part of the United States from below I80 and I want
16 to say thank you very much for the incredible job you did.

17 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Next up is number 6
18 Sandra Walker.

19 MS. WALKER: I don't want to turn my back to you
20 can you hear me?

21 MS. WACHOLDER: No you have to get closer to the
22 mic.

23 MS. WALKER: Can you hear me now? Okay, so here
24 we are in Haas Auditorium as we were in 2014 hoping that
25 FERC will have our best interest at heart even though they

1 have been supporting Williams at every turn. That will not
2 keep me from warning you that they will sooner or later be
3 in the same seat as Exxon who covered up the research that
4 told of their assault on human life or in the same seat as
5 the EPA who systematically covered up toxic fracking
6 emissions for years knowing all about the degradation to the
7 climate and human life for the sake of the almighty dollar,
8 they lied.

9 Williams and FERC are now in that same seat as
10 Exxon and the EPA. Williams and FERC know the dangers to
11 humans, wildlife, to the environment and they choose to deny
12 it, to pretend it isn't happening but they know we know they
13 know. We all live downstream -- even Williams and FERC so
14 when the hundreds of thousands of trees are cut down to make
15 way for a pipeline we gain the carbon they no longer
16 sequester.

17 We lose the oxygen that they produced. We lose
18 the aquifers that they regulated and we gain the higher
19 temperatures resulting from this deforestation. We all live
20 downstream even Williams and FERC. So when the chemicals
21 have perked back to the surface and show fracking
22 contamination in the waterways as indicated in the U.S.
23 geological survey or chemicals from shale drilling show up
24 in our drinking water as the Penn State study reported, not
25 only does the Wolf Creek watershed lose fish, clean water

1 and a place where wildlife come to drink, we lose, not just
2 Dimmich, not just West Virginia all of us.

3 We all live downstream even FERC and Williams.
4 And when FERC ignores the reports of esteemed scientists and
5 rubber stamps pipeline expansion and construction in this
6 county and this state not for us but and not but for
7 independent -- not for us to be independent from foreign
8 fuel and not for our consumption Mr. Mansfield, but for
9 export.

10 It is not needed for you and me but for the money
11 Williams and FERC will get from it. When they rubber stamp
12 gas storage in caverns in New York in the Seneca Region,
13 when they rubber stamped self-regulated by the company,
14 pipeline explosions occur like the one in Greensburg, PA
15 that essentially ruined a man's life due to extensive burns
16 or the one in Unityville that helped us to know how fallible
17 the once every 5 to 7 year examination of a pipeline is.

18 When they rubber stamp compressor stations that
19 push the gas through the pipes and emit toxic chemicals 24
20 hours a day methane being the primary one but formaldehyde,
21 benzene, nitrogen oxide, butane, toluene and 20 others are
22 emitted at one site or another at one time or another and
23 are in the air we breathe causing illness and death.

24 Cutting down a maple forest in Susquehanna County
25 this past spring by eminent domain which FERC made possible

1 for Williams, Constitution Pipeline so that a maple sugaring
2 operation was ruined and just so you know Williams did not
3 and does not have the authority to take that pipeline into
4 New York so it goes nowhere -- nice job Williams being such
5 a good neighbor, nice job FERC making eminent domain
6 possible really?

7 People who put dollars --

8 MS. WACHHOLDER: Your time is up --

9 MS. WALKER: One more sentence.

10 MS. WACHHOLDER: Okay.

11 MS. WALKER: People who put dollars over
12 fundamental safety of people do not belong to government. I
13 do know that a 42 inch pipeline with a 1500 psi that's
14 pressure per square inch if you turn one of them on its side
15 but on a bottom and put on a lid with that much pressure in
16 it a space shuttle, a physicist discovered would have to sit
17 on the top of it to keep the lid from exploding that's why I
18 don't want that pipeline here, thank you.

19 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 7
20 Linda Dietrichson, number 7.

21 MS. DIETRICHSON: My name is Linda Dietrichson
22 and I live in Millville, Pennsylvania. I appreciate this
23 opportunity to address you tonight on behalf of all citizens
24 of Columbia County especially children. I am a retired
25 teacher and a grandmother so for me children's health,

1 safety and education will always be primary concerns.

2 Today it is difficult to believe that we could
3 all soon be breathing in methane and other toxins if the
4 proposed Atlantic Sunrise Project is approved. But it is a
5 reality that we must face. There are emissions released at
6 every stage of the shale gas development. Contaminants pass
7 through and are released from well pipes, condensate tanks,
8 compressor and metering stations and processing plants.

9 There are planned emissions, leaks and accidents.
10 That these emissions include toxic chemicals is by now well
11 known to all of us but do you realize that these emissions
12 can travel over long distances? After a blow down from a
13 compressor station emissions can travel more than 2 miles.
14 How many children whose rapidly developing minds and bodies
15 are most vulnerable to the toxins and emissions will that
16 affect?

17 Even worse is the news that the emissions to
18 which they would be subjected are being under-reported. Dr.
19 David Allen the head of EPA's science advisory board has led
20 an ongoing three year effort to cover up the under-reporting
21 of the primary device, the Bacharach hi flow sampler used to
22 measure gas released from equipment across the natural gas
23 industry.

24 The Bacharach hi flow sampler is relied on to
25 measure methane emissions at nearly every point in the

1 fracked gas production process. To Shea Howard who invented
2 the device had been attempting for years to blow the whistle
3 on the crucial instruments malfunctioning but he was gagged.
4 He claims that the Bacharach hi flow sampler under-reports
5 methane emissions up to 100 fold.

6 So perhaps it shouldn't surprise us to learn that
7 Dr. David Allen is also on the faculty of the University of
8 Texas in Austin where he has been funded by the oil and gas
9 industries for years. According to the federal complaint
10 filed June 9th with EPA's inspector general there has been a
11 persistent and deliberate cover up that has prevented the
12 agency from requiring the natural gas industry to make
13 widespread urgently needed and very achievable reductions in
14 methane venting and leakage across the nation's expanding
15 natural gas infrastructure.

16 So how much credence is there in Williams Draft
17 Environmental Impact Statement which says on page 39 that
18 operational emissions would not have a significant impact on
19 local or regional air quality. We demand that regulators
20 such as you FERC and politicians reject the pervasive
21 pressure of corporate money, stop coddling polluters and do
22 your jobs on behalf of the public, especially for the
23 children who are the most vulnerable and susceptible victims
24 of the proposed pipeline.

25 We must stop the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline,

1 Columbia decides, not FERC. Columbia says, No.

2 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 8,
3 number 8 is Dr. Linda Quadomine.

4 MS. QUADOMINE: And I will spell my name for the
5 recorder it is Q-u-o-d-o-m-i-n-e. I want to just say a few
6 things tonight. First of all I want everyone in the room to
7 know that I stand against this pipeline for many reasons and
8 I don't have enough time in three minutes to go into most
9 but I do want to thank FERC for reading over 500 submissions
10 by horse clients and horse owners in this valley that
11 submitted comments in favor of rerouting around my home farm
12 and my brand new equine clinic.

13 FERC has seen the advantages of this re-route
14 Alternate 24C in not only it would not shut my business and
15 my home farm down putting many horse owners in the valley at
16 risk for equine care but there is also no wetlands, fewer
17 water crossings, more co-location with existing
18 right-of-way, far fewer houses in proximity to the pipeline,
19 no houses within 50 feet of the pipeline and some other
20 additional benefits.

21 So I thank FERC for seeing the light on that
22 re-route. Apparently Williams has not seen the light they
23 are doing everything they can to not take your
24 recommendations. One of the reasons that I am vehemently
25 opposed to this project is the despicable business practices

1 that I have witnesses both first-hand and in through reading
2 hundreds of submissions on the FERC docket.

3 And I would like to say if there are any horse
4 owners in this room or clients please stand with me. First
5 we know that Williams Transco has submitted false
6 information to FERC and to the federal government, that's a
7 felony but they don't get prosecuted. Second they sent out
8 many fraudulent contracts to land owners along the route
9 often very much under-estimating the actual footage that
10 they plan on crossing.

11 According to Pennsylvania law the weights and
12 measures that is a felony and if they offer these contracts
13 and mail them through any form that's mail fraud. If they
14 are offered to people over 60 years of age it bumps from a
15 Class 2 to a Class 3 felony but no one will prosecute this
16 company.

17 And lastly the recent strong arm tactics of
18 sending out contracts saying that we have appraised your
19 property at X number of dollars but we will give you four
20 times that amount if you sign the easement now, otherwise
21 the court will use the lower value -- I think they must have
22 a crystal ball. I don't know how anyone can predict what a
23 court will or will not do, that's the point of going to
24 court.

25 Further Williams website posts that in Columbia

1 County there will be 1012 jobs however on table 5.2-4 in
2 their application to FERC last spring for the pipeline they
3 state that Columbia County will have approximately 118 jobs,
4 not 1012. Why the discrepancy? Even the company's
5 spokesperson couldn't come up with a reason.

6 So when I see what this company says and what
7 they do it's two different things. As Mr. Walker pointed
8 out there's a long history of violations in safety matters
9 and other things. Many people are submitting comments to
10 the docket recently quoting numbers from a Penn State study.

11 The Penn State study had an inherent conflict of
12 interest, it was commissioned by Williams and of course it
13 would try to paint Williams in a good light. But the
14 numbers that they have quoted were always this could produce
15 this much economic benefit, it might do this and yet people
16 are saying look what it is going to do. There is no proof
17 that any of these numbers are valid. 1.6 billion in
18 economic impact, three-quarters of the jobs are going to be
19 transient where do transients spend their money? They send
20 it back to their home state to pay their mortgages, to buy
21 cars and trucks at their local dealers to support their wife
22 and children.

23 This economic impact is not going to benefit
24 Pennsylvania anywhere near the amount that Williams would
25 like you to believe. Williams is now touting that they are

1 going to build their pipeline safer than the existing
2 standards recommend or require. It is going to be built
3 much higher than what they need -- much better well they
4 have stock-piled all of their steel which was imported from
5 Turkey down in Annville. I guess Pennsylvania doesn't have
6 steel that is good enough for their pipeline or anywhere in
7 America for that matter.

8 MS. WACHHOLDER: Can you summarize your time is
9 up.

10 MS. QUODOMINE: I can thank you. I just want to
11 point out that the National Pipeline Safety Trust published
12 their data last year showing that pipelines built in the
13 last 5 years in this country are failing at a rate faster
14 than any other class of pipeline including ones that are put
15 in the ground before 1940. Why should we believe this
16 company when they have done nothing but lie and cheat and
17 deceive?

18 I realize FERC thinks they are going to mitigate
19 the damages but I am not convinced.

20 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Next up is number 9,
21 number 9 is Sierra Shamer.

22 MS. SHAMER: Hello everyone I'm here tonight to
23 support the residents and land owners in Columbia and
24 Northumberland Counties. I oppose the Atlantic Sunrise
25 Pipeline and the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and as

1 I stated last night in Lebanon I request that you extend the
2 comment period for this draft at least 30 days and that you
3 address each comment in a Supplementary Draft that has its
4 own comment period.

5 The DEIS argues that the impacts of constructing
6 the Atlantic Sunrise would be reduced to less than
7 significant levels. In the Supplemental Draft I want you to
8 define the word significant because clearly you and I have
9 different understandings of that word. The word significant
10 is a mound of vacuous undefined terms of the industry and
11 you, FERC, used to justify this project and minimize the
12 impacts.

13 In the introduction of the Impact Statement you
14 claim that the need for the project will not be determined
15 in this document however you use the need for the project as
16 a reason against the no-action alternative saying that while
17 no action would eliminate all of the environmental impacts,
18 Transco would not be able to move gas from the well pads in
19 northeast PA to the delivery points in its network.

20 Why do the objectives of the company influence
21 your environmental review? If FERC were not a rubber stamp
22 agency it wouldn't. The second contradiction of capitalism
23 correctly states that the conditions of production will be
24 degraded as corporations and individuals pursue the endless
25 accumulation of resources and capital. These degraded

1 conditions are not only identified as the air, soil, water
2 and eco systems that comprise our environment but the
3 conditions that guarantee community and individual rights to
4 quality of life, public health and safety and community
5 self-determination.

6 The land owners and residents along the proposed
7 route are treated by FERC and by Williams as merely the
8 conditions of production, production that will only produce
9 money for the industry. The lives of these residents and
10 the environment will become degraded. Industry
11 representatives have mentioned that around 25% of the wells
12 in PA do not have adequate access to the pipeline network.

13 The fact is that the rapid extraction of PA has
14 flooded the market causing the price of natural gas to drop.
15 The industry has ceased drilling and proposes pipeline build
16 out to access markets overseas so they can overcome the low
17 price and make profit. The Atlantic Sunrise is an example
18 of this and I oppose it. The cumulative impacts of the
19 pipeline build-out should be included in the Environmental
20 Impact Statement and FERC should recognize the error in
21 permitting this to continue.

22 Columbia County deserves better, Columbia will
23 decide not FERC and Columbia says, No .

24 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 10
25 Carol Mohr I believe Miss Shamer you were going to read that

1 for her is she going to come up with you?

2 MS. MOHR: I'm Carol Mohr I'm from Millville and
3 Sierra is going to read for me.

4 MS. SHAMER: Okay this is Carol's statement: The
5 Williams Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline is proposed to go through
6 my property. My property has been in my family for a long
7 time and Williams doesn't care what I or people here think
8 about their pipeline. The whole project is just money to
9 them. They don't care about the animals in the woods, the
10 mudslides that could happen from erosion when the trees are
11 cut down or the air quality we breathe from the compressor
12 station they want to build near my house.

13 People living near compressor stations in
14 Pennsylvania have reported strong odors coming from the
15 station emissions. Williams is not concerned about the
16 chemicals they put into the ground through the fracking and
17 drilling process and showed no concern for the potential of
18 contaminating the water we drink.

19 Natural gas pipelines are built to make way for
20 more fracking. An average fracked well uses 400 gallons of
21 chemicals and 8 million gallons of water. Chemicals used
22 include benzene, uranium, methanol, mercury and hydrochloric
23 acid, all which are shown to be toxic to humans.

24 The next question is where the chemicals go once
25 they have been injected underground. Many places of water

1 contamination in Pennsylvania have shown chemicals known to
2 be used in fracking. To run a pipeline compressor stations
3 must be built, where will the chemicals go? Into our air
4 and into our ground water -- it won't be too long until
5 people will start to experience health problems just look at
6 proven patterns in northern heavily fracked counties. Why
7 should we have to live in fear of a pipeline that could
8 explode at any moment?

9 If the Atlantic Sunrise explodes it will
10 incinerate most of everything within 1000 feet on both side
11 of the line. I had a picture of a woman who was in a car
12 when she was 10 years old and a pipeline exploded. The
13 picture shows what she looks
14 like now and the pain she endured. I hope nobody here ever
15 has to go through that.

16 We need people here to stand up with us for our
17 rights. Why is it legal for Williams to say that they will
18 take this to eminent domain if the gas is not for our public
19 use but for their profit? If you as a land owner do not
20 immediately sign an easement agreement Williams will see
21 that they can't just come here and bully us. No amount of
22 money is worth your life.

23 Help protect our animals, our water, our air and
24 our own lives. We all have to live on this planet together.
25 Columbia County decides not FERC. Columbia County says,

1 No .

2 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 11,
3 number 11 is Susan Patalone.

4 MS. PATALONE: Good evening my name is Susan
5 Patalone. Williams Pipeline has informed us that if we do
6 not sign they will use eminent domain to take our property.
7 Our home, my two son's homes and their families and the
8 family homestead with another family member will all be
9 within the no chance of survival hazard zone.

10 It's open season on citizens' rights with this
11 industry. It started when they were exempted from most
12 major federal regulations. This shows the long arm of the
13 industry in our politics. How can it be that gas and oil
14 are freed from these rules the rest of us must abide.
15 Fracking itself is exempt thanks to the Bush Administration
16 and Vice President Dick Chaney secret energy task force from
17 the following: the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, the
18 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and then there is the
19 Comprehensive Environmental Response Conservation and
20 Recovery Act, the National Environmental Protection Act, the
21 Toxic Release Inventory which is under the Emergency
22 Planning and Community Right to Know Act and the Superfund
23 Law that's the good one look that one up.

24 When you see what these involve your blood will
25 boil. There isn't much that they are responsible for. The

1 Williams Company hasn't flown completely under the radar.
2 Over the past 15 plus years they have compiled an extensive
3 history of incidents. Since 1986 pipeline accidents have
4 killed 500 people, injured over 4,000 and cost nearly 7
5 billion in property damage in over 1400 accidents.

6 Now their decision to lay this 42 inch pipeline
7 with the extreme pressure of 1450 psi and having 1.7 billion
8 cubic feet of gas going through it per day through Coal
9 Township -- this is a vast area of unstable ground because
10 of abandoned mines. An explosion in this land of coal would
11 be a catastrophe leading to another unstoppable underground
12 burn.

13 We are here tonight -- we here tonight would like
14 to know when your agency is likely to stop facilitating the
15 gas industry. It is as if the company's benefit is
16 paramount to the people of this country. Columbia County
17 decides not FERC, Columbia County says, No thank you.

18 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 12,
19 number 12 is Deirdre Lally.

20 MS. LALLY: Deirdre Lally, Benton, PA. Just to
21 talk a little bit more about the coal region. The abandoned
22 coal lands near Shamokin look scraggly and unnatural. There
23 are mounds, ditches and barren patches all over. Coal and
24 other rock is littered everywhere. They are the scars of
25 mining above and below ground over many years. Those lands

1 were home to the Glenburn Colliery which ran for over 130
2 years. It was once the second largest anthracite coal mine
3 in the world. The waste produced by the mine rock and coal
4 dust now sits as the world's largest man-made mountain.

5 There are three active fires inside the old
6 tunnels. The most famous place like this is Centralia the
7 town on fire where the coal under the town has been burning
8 since 1962. There have been books and documentaries about
9 Centralia but there are more than 30 other mine fires in PA
10 that most people don't know about like the fires where the
11 Glenburn Colliery used to be.

12 Would you run a pipeline through Centralia? No.
13 But the pipeline is set to run right through the area of the
14 Glenburn fires. Here's what the Department of Conservation
15 and Natural Resources said about the fire in their December,
16 2013 newsletter. The Glenburn mine fire has started
17 wildfires for as long as locals in Northumberland County can
18 remember. A part of the Glenburn fire called the Hickory
19 corner fire which started in 1975 has been giving VFD's and
20 DCNR problems during dry conditions over the past few years.

21 The spring of 2013 was no exception when a mine
22 fire started a wild fire April 9th around 2400 hours. While
23 doing the investigation in daylight it became apparent that
24 we should not be fighting fire in this area due to numerous
25 hazards especially between dusk and dawn. The government

1 doesn't really know the extent of the fires. The last time
2 they tried to check was 1987 when they put in vent pipes to
3 monitor it.

4 The Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline is not proposed to
5 go directly over the fire it is going about half a mile from
6 the last known location of two of them. It does run inside
7 of the natural limits of where the fire could spread. Fire
8 or not the old tunnels as Susan just said run under the
9 whole mountain and sometimes collapse. That causes surface
10 cave-ins called subsidence. Williams has said the pipeline
11 will be designed to maximize its intrinsic ability to span
12 mine subsidence features. As in they expect that if the
13 land falls away the pipeline will not move.

14 If you walk around the area though you can see
15 subsidence holes anywhere from 10 to 100 feet deep, roads
16 and homes are often destroyed. So since I have 30 seconds
17 left I am going to say a couple of other things. I live
18 just a couple of miles from compressor station 517 which is
19 proposed to be doubled in size for the Atlantic Sunrise
20 Pipeline.

21 It is already being built even though the
22 Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline is not approved. There was an air
23 quality violation in February and one of the workers of the
24 compressor station was driving so recklessly down my road
25 that they hit my neighbor's work horse on their farm and

1 killed it on site.

2 And just to close up I just wanted to read some
3 bits from Mother Jones' speech to striking coal miners in
4 1912 I think it rings true today. This great gathering
5 that is here tonight signals there is a disease in this
6 state that must be wiped out. The people have suffered that
7 disease patiently they have born insults, oppression and
8 outrages.

9 They appealed to the courts and in every case
10 they were turned down, they were ignored. The people must
11 not be listened to the corporation's must get a hearing.
12 You pay the public officials don't you? You paid for your
13 land didn't you? Then who does it belong to?

14 I am going to say to everyone in this audience
15 that we will carry on this fight. This Commission has the
16 three wings of capitalism there is no wing for the people on
17 that Commission. Now then I will tell them that we are in a
18 fight to the finish and now today about 100 years later
19 Columbia decides not FERC and Columbia says, No .

20 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 13
21 David Horn number 13.

22 MR. HORN: Hello my name is David Horn, H-o-r-n
23 and I am here representing the Laborer's Union of North
24 America International Union of North America representing
25 thousands of members across Pennsylvania some of which have

1 joined me tonight. And I am here to express my support for
2 the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline Project filed by Williams.

3 The proposed Atlantic Sunrise Project will serve
4 as an additional delivery line for increased regional
5 production of natural gas. As soon as this project is
6 approved Williams will be able to meet the growing demand
7 for natural gas along the mid-Atlantic and southeast states.
8 The growth of natural gas production in the United States is
9 leading to the country to become more and more energy
10 independent.

11 Companies like Williams need to be able to move
12 gas through pipelines and facilities such as those proposed
13 in the Atlantic Sunrise Project. These facilities have many
14 systems in place to make them safe including monitoring 24
15 hours a day, 365 days a year with back-up and redundant
16 monitoring.

17 I believe the pipeline can be constructed with
18 little environmental impact and operate safely once in
19 service. I also support the use of natural gas as a cleaner
20 burning fuel source. Pipeline infrastructure is needed now
21 to move this domestic resource. Our members represent some
22 of the most highly trained, skilled extensively trained
23 laborers in the country.

24 We will be on the ground during this extensive
25 infrastructure installation and you can be sure that the

1 Atlantic Sunrise will be built safe and the environment will
2 be protected. I urge FERC to rule in favor of the Atlantic
3 Sunrise Project. As a member of LIUNA I believe this
4 project will help sustain highly skilled jobs for our
5 members in northeastern Pennsylvania thank you for your
6 time.

7 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you, speaker number 14
8 Chuck Clarke.

9 MR. CLARKE: Good evening. My name is Chuck
10 Clarke, C-l-a-r-k-e. I speak on behalf of my fellow
11 brothers and sisters of the Laborers International Union of
12 North America also known as LIUNA. I also speak in support
13 of the Atlantic Sunrise Project which is an expansion of the
14 Williams Trans-Continental Pipeline which has been in
15 service for over 50 years.

16 The United States needs to continue developing
17 natural gas resources in order to drive heat to residences
18 and businesses and to provide natural gas for commercial
19 transportation use. More and more customers are turning to
20 natural gas for their heating needs and ensuring a reliable
21 gas supply should be a primary concern of the FERC.

22 FERC and the state of Pennsylvania need to
23 continue allowing pipeline infrastructure and compressor
24 facilities to be built in order to keep natural gas prices
25 affordable. Furthermore the economic benefits of the

1 Atlantic Sunrise Project will be significant including
2 expanded opportunities for the locally skilled men and women
3 of the Laborer's International Union North America.

4 Williams consistently contracts with several
5 Pennsylvania based employers that employ local union
6 workers. Williams realizes the high quality work local
7 union members of LIUNA offer. In closing I support the
8 Atlantic Sunrise Project and request the Federal Energy
9 Regulatory Commission to allow Williams to proceed with the
10 project including the construction of the Central Penn Line
11 and the two compressor stations, thank you.

12 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 15
13 David Butterworth.

14 MR. BUTTERWORTH: Thank you. I was telling this
15 story last night, this is my story and I am going to tell it
16 again. My name is David Butterworth I am from Clendenin,
17 West Virginia and I have a story to tell about pipelines. I
18 come from a community in West Virginia where you didn't get
19 many breaks. If you worked hard you would be okay but
20 opportunities were not just there for the taking they had to
21 be earned.

22 We weren't poor but my father made sure that
23 nothing was going to be given to you. In Clendenin and if
24 you didn't go to college you either worked pipeline or at
25 one of the chemical plants located in Charleston. At the

1 age of 17 I joined the Army I needed structure and after a
2 signature from my father it was official.

3 I served a 2 year 18 week enlistment and was
4 stationed at Fort Knox, Kentucky, Camp Casey, Korea and Port
5 Stewart, Georgia. I received an honorable discharge in 1997
6 and \$20,000 for college. I decided to attend WVU on a GI
7 bill. I chose journalism as my major. During my summers I
8 worked on pipeline jobs with my father who was a welder out
9 of Pipeliners Local 798.

10 I so enjoyed the summer months that I knew if
11 journalism didn't work out this is something I would like to
12 do. These guys took pride in their work they didn't cut any
13 slack to those who thought otherwise. I finished college in
14 '01 and returned to my home town to try to obtain work for
15 myself.

16 I looked around for six months and realized I
17 would have to move to find a job in my field. At that point
18 I made the decision to not move, go work pipeline and never
19 look back. I worked as a welder helper full-time until '05
20 when I made the choice to become a welder like my father.

21 During my time as a welder I was totally
22 dedicated to working steady and feeding my family. I never
23 thought for a second that I was doing a bad thing. I took
24 pride in my work and never had a hard time laying my head
25 down on my pillow. I was given a hard day's work for fair

1 wages. In January 2016 my union called upon me to become a
2 business agent. In this position I try to find work for my
3 members in the northeast part of the country.

4 My job also entails attending these meetings in
5 hopes of putting the members I represent to work on projects
6 such as the Atlantic Sunrise. I feel that this pipeline
7 even though it is for export purposes will help gain energy
8 independence from the rogue nations in the Middle East.

9 I also feel that with the death of coal natural
10 gas will provide work to those in my home state and other
11 rural areas. This is the way I fed my two children for the
12 last 10 years and that is something for which I make no
13 apologies. At these meetings I have grown to have a sense
14 of understanding from the land owners and local residents of
15 the communities in which the pipelines are projected to be
16 laid but I would like to ask for respect and common decency
17 for those who oppose those members.

18 The booing and hissing is totally logical when
19 the words eminent domain are mentioned but understand this I
20 am from a totally different walk of life, one which you
21 could not understand unless you have walked in my shoes and
22 although I oppose you I respect your passion and I think it
23 is only fair for you to respect mine.

24 In closing I would like to say that I have my
25 view and you have yours. I'm not backing down and neither

1 are you. I have heard the term un-American thrown around
2 many times at these meetings. What is un-American to me is
3 to fight and argue and not find some sort of common ground.

4 America was founded on compromise and from what I
5 have seen at these meetings compromise has left our
6 vocabulary, thank you.

7 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next is number 16
8 Terry Langley.

9 MR. LANGLEY: Good evening thank you for this
10 opportunity to speak. I mimic most of the speakers that
11 have come before me like 1 and 2 and the gentleman that just
12 spoke. My name is Terry Langley I am an organizer for
13 Pipeliners Local Union 798. We are the welders, journeyman
14 and pipefitters that work on these projects. As I indicated
15 last night when I did my speech we advocate for the jobs.

16 And I -- we are not against the land owners, we
17 respect the land owners, we respect their properties when we
18 are working on them and we think that their complaints is
19 their complaints but we as Americans are all about the
20 energy and our local union is about the energy and I believe
21 with all of what we have talked about tonight as far as the
22 economic benefits to this state, the economic benefits to
23 the families that will work on this project outweighs a lot
24 of the other.

25 We think that the natural gas is a whole lot

1 better than coal and it has reduced the emissions, 20% since
2 2005 so it is a clean burning facility and it is a bridge to
3 renewables but renewables will not sustain this country's
4 energy right now and until we get there we are going to have
5 to use the fossils, thank you for your time.

6 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 17
7 Eric Matthews.

8 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you for taking my comments
9 tonight. My name is Eric Matthews and I am from Bradford
10 County I'm a small business owner, a father and a
11 grandfather. I am here tonight to convey my support of the
12 application by Williams to construct the Atlantic Sunrise
13 Pipeline through Pennsylvania and I encourage the Federal
14 Energy Regulatory Commission to issue all the necessary
15 permits so that this long, difficult regulatory process can
16 finally come to an end and the construction of the critical
17 piece of infrastructure can start.

18 For well over 2 years the Federal Energy
19 Regulatory Commission carried out an extensive environmental
20 review and determined the environmental impacts of the
21 project will be minimal. I agree with this assessment. As
22 part of this review the impact on aquifers, ground water,
23 storm water run-off, spring thaws and other waterways was
24 all considered.

25 Again the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

1 ruled that the impact on these water systems would be
2 minimal and again I agree. This project will get to market
3 the abundant clean burning natural gas from counties like
4 mine across Pennsylvania to over 7 million homes that really
5 benefit by it.

6 It will contribute to lower energy costs which is
7 especially important not only to our business sector but our
8 working class people who struggle to keep their homes in the
9 winter months and it will create approximately 2700 family
10 sustaining jobs throughout the construction process and
11 drive a 1.6 billion in regional economic activity.

12 Finally for areas without the necessary
13 infrastructure to have natural gas services at their homes,
14 projects like this will pave the way for increased
15 residential service giving consumers a choice to use clean
16 burning Pennsylvania natural gas over other less
17 environmentally sound choices.

18 I would also like to add that a lot of discussion
19 tonight obviously the impact of the environment -- I have
20 lived in Bradford County all of my life. We have several
21 FERC pipelines as you have already noted tonight going
22 across there. From the time I was born until now my father
23 at one point worked as a game protector.

24 He was one of the first ones to re-introduce
25 turkeys to our region, we didn't have turkeys here. Today

1 the turkeys are abundant. I have bobcats going through my
2 yard, bears were killed in my township for the first time in
3 over 100 years in the last five years. This is about
4 conservation and these pipelines do help the environment and
5 I have checked with the Game Commission Directors we don't
6 have these animals laying out dying from all of these
7 chemical spills that people talk about.

8 So I would just like to finish that I am
9 confident that the Atlantic Sunrise Expansion Project can be
10 built safely in an environmentally conscious way throughout
11 the footprint of the entire proposed project and for that
12 reason and others I mentioned I urge the Federal Energy
13 Regulatory Commission to its Final Environmental Impact
14 Statement and to issue the Certificate of Public Convenience
15 and Necessity thank you for your time.

16 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next is number 18 Dean
17 Marshall.

18 MR. MARSHALL: Dean Marshall from Columbia
19 County. I got my copy of your Draft Environmental Impact
20 Statement. The forward in Volume 1 states, Transco
21 requests authorization to expand its existing pipeline
22 system from the Marcellus shale production area in northern
23 Pennsylvania to deliver an incremental 1.7 million
24 dekatherms per day of year round firm transportation
25 capacity to its existing southeastern market areas.

1 This turns out to be the first in a long list of
2 half-truths, vague terminology, semantic shenanigans,
3 non-binding promises, deliberate omissions and outright
4 lies. It is a matter of public record for instance that
5 Cabot Oil and Gas has contracted approximately half of the
6 capacity of this 42 inch 1500 psi line and has informed
7 shareholders for over a year that they have entered into
8 contractual agreements with a Japanese firm for 20 years of
9 LNG export shipments.

10 The additional well pads, water withdrawals,
11 gathering lines, compressor stations and related equipment
12 that would be needed to continue to feed the export
13 facilities in Sabine Pass, Louisiana and Cove Point,
14 Maryland will certainly have enormous lasting environmental
15 impacts throughout our region and global impacts from
16 additional air and water pollution and methane greenhouse
17 gas venting to the atmosphere in exponentially increasing
18 amounts.

19 On Section 4-263 in this DEIS FERC acknowledges
20 receipt of comment of the above concerns. It states,
21 Development of the Marcellus shale natural gas resource is
22 not the subject of this EIS nor does the issue directly
23 relate it to the project.
24 This begs the question how is the major aim of this pipeline
25 to deliver the majority of the gas for export not going to

1 be directly related to the resurgence of drilling and
2 processing gas to perpetually supply the foreign markets
3 that the shippers have made the deals with?

4 We also wish to know how a commodity extracted
5 from our countryside and shipped through this Green Field
6 line is going to be a public benefit for anything but a few
7 temporary local jobs and easement money paid to a small
8 percentage of land owners who will lose up to half of their
9 property value.

10 I personally am curious as to the definitions
11 FERC ascribes to the broken record repetitions of
12 conclusions such as most of the impacts would be reduce to
13 less than significant levels or Transco's proposed
14 mitigation or impact avoidance -- can you insure us that
15 when the Final EIS is released it will have definitive
16 explanations for the following terms:

17 Temporary affects -- how long is that?
18 Significant -- how much is significant adverse effects?
19 Minimized -- just how small qualifies as minimal?
20 Adequately mitigated -- who determines when a mitigation
21 is adequate? And finally how can FERC conclude that clear
22 cutting and segmenting our forest, trenching, blasting and
23 drilling through mountains, farms, wetlands, neighborhoods
24 and building a huge LNG export vessel through our state will
25 have less than significant environmental impact ?

1 I have poured over the charts and maps and
2 surveys that Williams supplied you with and I am simply
3 amazed at your preliminary conclusions. Now the petrol
4 chemical industry is watching intently in hopes that you
5 give this unneeded, unsafe and unwanted project the okay.

6 They are all set to build multi-billion dollar
7 refineries and plastic and fertilizer plants right here in
8 Penn's Woods, will you facilitate the taxification of our
9 state? Will you enable the fossil fuel dinosaur to dominate
10 our energy supply and other generation here and worldwide?
11 Will you decide in favor of accelerated climate change with
12 heat waves, draughts, massive storms and sea level rise?
13 Will you sleep well tonight?

14 I have saved 2,000 separate comments and
15 bulletins emailed from FERC on this docket. I would
16 estimate that nearly two-thirds of them are from residents
17 opposed to the project. So some merely do not want it built
18 in their neighborhoods, others do not believe it is needed
19 and think the investment should be in inspecting, repairing
20 and replacing aging lines that actually are depended on for
21 delivery to our county residents and businesses where we
22 work.

23 MS. WACHHOLDER: Could you please just get to
24 your conclusion your time is up.

25 MR. MARSHALL: Final sentence.

1 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you.

2 MR. MARSHALL: The recent list of leaks,
3 ruptures, fires, explosions and evacuations, injuries and
4 property damage will only get longer if Williams and other
5 big gas companies concentrate on exporting to raise profits.
6 Meanwhile with FERC and DEP blessings we are in constant
7 peril for the next failure, threat of eminent domain legal
8 actions and spoiled quality of living in the endless
9 mountains most of us chose for their tranquility, natural
10 beauty and wildlife. This project is the means to the end
11 of exactly what must be saved and for the workers here and I
12 see a bunch of them have left. I am a welder -- for the
13 last 44 years, I have been an instructor, I have been an
14 inspector, I trained welders -- I have never yet seen one
15 that could consistently for the life of his career not have
16 a failed weld.

17 They might like the pipeline in their own
18 backyard let them have it. In Columbia County we say, No.

19 MS. WACHHOLDER: Next up is number 19 Walt
20 Kochan.

21 MR. KOCHAN: Good evening everyone my name is
22 Walt Kochan from
23 Dallas, Pennsylvania. The fact that I even have to be here
24 to defend my land, my privacy and my pursuit of happiness is
25 in of itself repugnant. The America that I knew and the

1 America that millions have gave their lives for is long
2 gone, their graves spit upon by greedy corporate interests
3 and agencies such as FERC that obligingly rubber stamp their
4 plans.

5 I am requesting that FERC extend the deadline for
6 review and comment on DEIS. You expect the public to read
7 over 1300 pages of technical information in the time
8 allotted is absurd and a reflection about the obviously
9 rigged pipeline approval process. Allowing less than 60
10 days for someone who has a job and is raising a family to
11 plow through and understand this report is unconscionable.

12 I doubt that a single person here tonight who
13 might speak or who has spoken in favor of this pipeline is
14 registered for it or will read this report or can even
15 understand this report. The report is incomplete. In
16 several places where the pipeline company is to provide
17 information it merely says it will come later. How am I
18 expected to comment on the Draft EIS when it is incomplete?

19 It is nice that they have that luxury and not
20 have it ready for me to read while I have to make my comment
21 within the deadline. When I attempted to access FERC's
22 website to make comments there it becomes immediately
23 obvious that the website's operation is designed in part to
24 thwart opposition and dissent. Too often it takes many
25 attempts over several days to post or read a comment on

1 FERC's website. It is obvious that this is designed to be
2 an opaque process and to obfuscate.

3 The blast zone and the incineration zone for gas
4 pipelines ranges in size the cutting of the pipe size and
5 diameter and pressure -- why aren't property owners within
6 these blast zones notified even if the right-of-way is not
7 on our land. Why isn't everyone notified? It is obvious
8 that the pipeline operators and FERC don't want the
9 possibility of more protests and more opposition and more
10 dissent by alerting land owners to this potential death
11 trap.

12 We don't care about those people. If a neighbor
13 was producing a bomb next door to you and it became public
14 knowledge those neighbors would be arrested. But it seems
15 perfectly legal for a pipeline operator to plant the bomb in
16 my backyard with FERC's blessing.

17 When pipeline operator Williams claims to be
18 working with land owners nothing could be further from the
19 truth. When asked how they will prevent run-off and
20 sedimentation on my land into my pond and streams on my
21 property their response to me was, It's your problem not
22 ours.

23 This is not as they claim being a good neighbor.
24 The bog turtles and timber rattlesnakes on my land are of no
25 importance to them. I am asking that FERC have Williams use

1 the Alternate 10 proposed route that I proposed rather than
2 Alternative Route 10A. Alternate Route 10 would pass
3 through less forested land, be a shorter pipeline route and
4 pass through one more empty un-developed lot in Goodly Manor
5 it just makes all of the sense in the world to use 10. And
6 this will prevent the loss of building sites on my 16 acres
7 in Dallas and at least my home on Alternate Route 10 would
8 be a little further away from the center of the blast/kill
9 zone.

10 All of the people here that talked in favor of
11 this the shills sent to you by their puppet masters, they
12 are getting paid nickels and dimes, these jobs are here for
13 that. How do these people look at their kids in the eyes?
14 How do they look their loved ones in the eyes? I don't know
15 how they do that.

16 If this is such a great thing let them put the
17 pipeline on land and pay more money for people who want
18 this, thanks for letting me have the opportunity to speak.

19 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next is number 20
20 Kevin Lynn.

21 MR. LYNN: Hi thank you my name is Kevin Lynn I
22 live at Harvey's Lake and I have never spoken at one of
23 these before but I annoy people all of the time in public so
24 this will do it. This thing tonight this meeting tonight it
25 strikes me that it is really about the future.

1 I mean either we are talking about the Atlantic
2 Sunrise Project and all that but this is really about the
3 future and just for the record I am in favor of the Atlantic
4 Sunrise Project okay and I know there are lots of good
5 people here who are against this. I don't include the
6 people who are holding up signs right now it is rude, knock
7 it off. But that is my opinion and I will move on, okay.

8 Alright but basically look here's the question
9 okay because this is the question about the future tonight
10 and the question really is in 5 years will we need more
11 energy or will we need less? Is there anyone out there who
12 doesn't think we are going to need a lot more energy to run
13 this country, to run this world? Of course we will, most
14 experts are guessing somewhere oh and standing up is rudest
15 yes but so welcome -- you know in 5 years most experts
16 estimate we are going to need between 20 and 50% more energy
17 even than we need today.

18 Every server farm, every computer requires energy
19 to run so look I could stand here and tell you all of the
20 reasons why we should be in favor of this FERC project like
21 the energy delivered to millions of homes every day and the
22 economic build-out and all that stuff but I am a green --
23 I'm a liberal Democrat.

24 While I was waiting in line tonight to sign up I
25 got my calls to go out and canvas for Hillary Clinton this

1 year as I did for Barack Obama four years ago so I have my
2 own list of reasons and I just want to tell you what they
3 are because I worked for a pipeline company and I have been
4 up there.

5 And by the way as far as the welder here who
6 claims that has nobody ever made a bad weld, sure it happens
7 and anybody who works for Williams will tell you what
8 happens to you if you make a bad weld. If you fail a weld
9 you are off the job, it is just that simple.

10 Anyway let me go on. These are the things these
11 are the reasons why I am in favor okay. I am in favor
12 because of cleaner air okay -- gas is 10 times cleaner than
13 coal and while I appreciate the concern of the grandmother
14 in here who was worried about the health of her children
15 natural gas is 10 times cleaner than coal and it is one of
16 the reasons why the United States is leading the world right
17 now in CO2 emission reductions, that's why because we are
18 switching to natural gas.

19 By the way last year it was last April of May for
20 the first time -- this year I mean in April or May for the
21 first time we started generating more electricity in this
22 country with natural gas than with coal. It is a trend that
23 is going to continue so like I said it is going to be
24 cheaper it is going to be vastly cheaper.

25 Number three or number four security -- no longer

1 dependent on -- is my three minutes up? Wow, we are no
2 longer dependent on foreign oil and as for the renewables
3 that everybody loves so much they are 14.2% of our energy
4 supply. Everyone agrees on that including the Department of
5 Energy and everybody else who keeps track of this stuff,
6 that is one day out of 7 folks we need the energy, we need
7 safe energy, we need clean energy -- natural gas is the
8 answer, thank you.

9 MS. WACHHOLDER: Alright we are going to go 15
10 more minutes and then take a quick break, we are about
11 halfway through so we are going to be on number 21 and we
12 have more than 40 so if you are near the end and you don't
13 want to wait remember we have an extra court reporter you
14 can just ask the people at the table and they can help you
15 with that. So number 21 is Richard Stern.

16 MR. STERN: My name is Richard Stern, S-t-e-r-n.
17 I'm with the Teamsters International Pipeline Labor
18 Management Cooperation Trust representing 72 union
19 contractors in the Teamsters Union. I wanted to address
20 just a couple of issues. One is one of the things at these
21 meetings that I constantly here are the workers on these
22 jobs are not from Pennsylvania and that is not true.

23 By virtue of our collective bargaining agreement
24 at least 50% have to be from the local union and that is
25 with our collective bargaining agreement which is a legal

1 document. However we have had so much pipeline work in
2 Pennsylvania over the years that we have skilled workers
3 that most of the contractors use their local people.

4 I pulled up our last steward report from a job in
5 Pennsylvania with Contractor's Rental it is in Prosperity,
6 Pennsylvania, Green County and we have 9 people working on
7 this job, 8 of them are from Pennsylvania. We have a driver
8 from Local 585 Washington, Pennsylvania; parts chaser Local
9 341 Pittsburg; a low-boy drier Local 585 Washington,
10 Pennsylvania; a fuel truck driver, Local 30, Westmoreland,
11 Pennsylvania; a bus driver Local 585, Washington,
12 Pennsylvania; a one-time truck driver, Local 585,
13 Washington, Pennsylvania; a skid truck driver Local 585,
14 Washington, Pennsylvania; a warehouse, Local 585,
15 Washington, Pennsylvania and one load boy driver out of
16 Local 697, Wheeling, West Virginia.

17 And this is typical of the steward reports we get
18 in Pennsylvania. Another thing we have been doing to help
19 insure a safe and efficient job is we have done a lot of
20 training in Pennsylvania over the last couple of years. We
21 have a training schedule starting next Monday in Scranton
22 for that local union's people. We have spent an average of
23 \$25,000 per member that we trained here and these people
24 live here like the rest of them and they have an investment
25 in doing this project and in doing it in a safe and

1 efficient manner because they have to live here too.

2 I appreciate the time and effort that you have
3 given and thank you.

4 MS. WACHHOLDER: Next up is number 22 William
5 Emick.

6 MR. EMICK: How are you doing this evening? My
7 name is William L. Emick, E-m-i-c-k. I'm in favor of the
8 project because I'm a local resident here in the area
9 Williamsport, Pennsylvania. I started my business in 2009
10 when the gas industry the Marcellus moved to town. I grew up
11 in the area all of my life on a farm, went to Penn College
12 in Vo-Tech learned the welding went out in the field and
13 worked for 25 years and my job in the field was building
14 these pipelines all over the country, the compressor
15 stations.

16 I worked with probably 32 different gas companies
17 from here to California, Alaska, down south so I had a lot
18 of knowledge came back and finished my bachelor's degree at
19 Penn State in weld engineering. The Marcellus was kicking
20 off and I started my own business. The first year I started
21 my business we did a million dollars in work. I started in
22 a 2 car garage, I had four employees from town, friends I
23 knew.

24 By the end of the first year I had 20 guys
25 working for me all local guys. The second year we did about

1 18 to 20 million and the third year we were doing over 30
2 million and I had 274 employees. I own a 15 acre
3 fabrication facility and it has just been a great thing the
4 gas industry that came here.

5 And these families have good paying jobs, I mean
6 high paying jobs, higher than I could get if I went to
7 college and came out of college and went to find a job and a
8 career that I went to college for these are construction
9 jobs. The guys are working with their hands a lot of people
10 can't afford to go to college and if you can't afford to go
11 to college you have to do something else so you work
12 construction.

13 We trained the guys at our facility to be better.
14 I used the laborers unions I used carpenters unions, I used
15 electricians unions the operators union, I use a lot of the
16 local unions right in the area so when people say these are
17 transient workers yeah they are transient they are from
18 Willamsport. If we are working in Columbia County or
19 Susquehanna County or I'm doing a big project in York County
20 right now -- we will use all local people. So I don't know
21 where people get their information but that is not true.

22 A very small percentage of employees come from
23 surrounding states. I use some people from the New York
24 states, some from Ohio, some from West Virginia but the
25 majority of our workers come from here. We train them from

1 young up it has just been a real good thing this gas
2 industry and I hope you pass this line because it is not
3 just a temporary job for people this line is a main artery
4 that is going to keep all of northern Pennsylvania working.

5 They have wells shut in they are not going to
6 drill anymore wells or do anything else until they can get
7 this gas to market. They have to get this gas to market so
8 it is an on-going job it is not going to be just quick jobs
9 these jobs are going to be here when I am dead and gone and
10 my grandkids have my business and they are running it,
11 that's how long this is going to go and just think of how
12 many more jobs that this is going to create down the road.

13 It's just like throwing a pebble in a lake the
14 ripple effect goes on and the environmental concerns you
15 guys have some of them are legitimate. I mean I have built
16 these lines and done this for 30 years but the majority of
17 what FERC does is they regulate everything we do out there
18 on those lines. I mean they have watch dogs there I hate
19 them as a contractor because they bust my ass and they cost
20 me money to make sure that we do the job correctly.

21 So FERC does a hell of a job you guys ought to be
22 clapping for them, thank you.

23 MS. WACHHOLDER: Number 23 is Ken Shannon.

24 MR. SHANNON: Hello my name is Ken Shannon thanks
25 for this opportunity to speak before you today. I'm the

1 owner of 22 acres on both the north and south side of Lunger
2 Drive here in Hemlock Township which is bordered to the east
3 by the big Fishing Creek. I have several environmental
4 concerns -- one was the initial proposed pipeline I'm sorry
5 -- was in the watershed drain by Hemlock Creek.

6 The proposed relocation moves the line
7 substantially to the east into another water shed, Fishing
8 Creek just above a major municipal water intake which
9 services thousands of people an effect of this relocation
10 will put at risk the water supply of 21,500 people. United
11 Water provides water service to the town of Bloomsburg,
12 Bloomsburg University, Geisinger Bloomsburg Hospital and all
13 of Hemlock, Montour, Scott and South Center Township in
14 Columbia County.

15 The surface water intake is on Fishing Creek just
16 north of Bloomsburg. It's an excellent water source because
17 the fish of Creek watershed is mostly forested area. I have
18 another concern and that is there are several iron ore mines
19 in the area and also directly to the property of the south
20 of my location.

21 One of the earlier speakers stated that there was
22 no building sites within 50 foot of the alternative route
23 this is simply not true. This route runs right through my
24 on-site septic system, my recently excavated foundation and
25 that is both Alternative Route 24(A) and 24(C) runs right

1 through my property.

2 With that said I am in favor of Alternate Route
3 24(B) if anything that's it, thank you.

4 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 24
5 Abe Amoros.

6 MR. AMOROS: Good evening ladies and gentlemen my
7 name is Abe Amoros, A-m-o-r-o-s I am the Pennsylvania
8 Legislative Director for the Laborers International Union
9 also known as LIUNA. We are a private construction firm or
10 union with more than 18,000 members in Pennsylvania. Time
11 and again we have proven ourselves to have a successful
12 track record with contractors across the Commonwealth.

13 Our members are highly trained workers who get
14 the job done on time safety and with some of the best
15 training programs in the country. Our exhaustive training
16 program consists of 80 hours including hands-on training as
17 well as classroom participation.

18 During the past several years LIONA has worked
19 with several energy companies on pipeline work. These
20 opportunities have allowed our members to work on projects
21 that have provided them with excellent wages, a health care
22 package and the ability to contribute to their pension.
23 These jobs provide our members a life-line and promote their
24 livelihoods as well as the well-being for their families.

25 Aside from the jobs component this project will

1 also pump billions of dollars into the region. This
2 translates into approximately 1.6 billion in economic
3 activity in the project area including almost 50 million in
4 new state and federal tax revenue as well as 859 million
5 total value added for the Pennsylvania economy. This
6 pipeline will also add 1.9 million dollars to the economies
7 in its operating area. Even with the inadequate
8 distribution network the production of gas has employed
9 thousands of people in good paying jobs in the gas fields
10 and in related industries.

11 Furthermore the presence of this energy supply
12 promises to attract new industries that will employ
13 additional thousands for a very long time. Our members
14 appreciate these opportunities of creating work and
15 prosperity. In 2014 alone more than 3,600 of our members
16 were working within the natural gas industry.

17 And last year Pennsylvania lost more than 41,000
18 residents many of those people left to find work. Since
19 2011 more people have moved out of the Commonwealth than
20 have made Pennsylvania their home. As members of our
21 communities and those people who operate and maintain
22 transportation systems members of labor unions appreciate
23 the extraordinary safety of pipelines.

24 With respect to the Atlantic Sunrise Project it
25 will have 100% of its main line weld undergo non-destructive

1 testing compared to a federal requirement of only 10%. As
2 workers on the site we take that very seriously. Ladies and
3 gentlemen we need this work. The economic impact for our
4 members alone has been immeasurable.

5 By providing steady employment on pipeline work
6 thousands of families have been rescued from financial ruin.
7 For these reasons I ask FERC for an expeditious review of
8 Atlantic Sunrise, thank you.

9 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you we will do one more
10 person before we take a break so number 25 is Anne Dincher,
11 number 25.

12 MS. DINCHER: Good evening my name is Ann Dincher
13 and I have been a resident of Pennsylvania my entire life.
14 I am a retired educator of over 30 years and have been a
15 horse enthusiast for much longer than that. I am here to
16 speak on behalf of Dr. Linda Quodomine, her clinic and many
17 other concerned client families.

18 Talk about numbers -- Pennsylvania is currently
19 home to over a quarter of a million horses. According to
20 studies released by Penn State University 8.2 billion
21 dollars or 18% of AGRI business sales the state's largest
22 industry can be attributed to horses. This figure refers to
23 investments including lands, building, machinery et cetera
24 and does not include the value of the horses themselves
25 which is approximately an additional 1.3 billion.

1 The amount of land devoted to horses totals 1.14
2 million acres in Pennsylvania valued at 4.8 billion dollars
3 and is a tremendous force in preserving open space land in
4 our state. Also it should be noted that the equine industry
5 provides about 30,000 jobs in Pennsylvania which are not
6 transient.

7 In spite of these numbers available and readily
8 assessable emergency equine hospitals are limited. Dr.
9 Quodomine's newly constructed state of the art veterinarian
10 hospital has been a God send to the horse population of
11 central Pennsylvania. It's location, quality of care and
12 the expertise of Dr. Q has made it possible for horse owners
13 to receive emergency care and/or hospitalization for their
14 animals within a reasonable driving distance.

15 I have known Dr. Quodomine since she began her
16 practice from the back of an old Subaru. This wonderful
17 clinic is the culmination of her life's work. To lose this
18 facility would not only be heartbreaking for her but
19 devastating to the countless people and horses that depend
20 on it. The gas company involved would like you to think
21 that the pipeline would only be a temporary inconvenience
22 for her practice but anyone who owns horses and operates a
23 horse facility knows that is simply not the case.

24 I stand with many who applaud the Federal Energy
25 Regulatory Commission for recommending a re-route around

1 this hospital to insure that the fiscal designs of big
2 business will not once again take precedence over common
3 sense, unique needs of the small business practice, the
4 concerns of many Pennsylvania horse owners and the inherent
5 well-being of those who cannot speak for themselves, our
6 equine partners, thanks very much.

7 MS.WACHHOLDER: Thank you. It's about 9:00 so we
8 will take a quick break and come back at 10 after 9, thanks.

9 MS. WACHHOLDER: We are going to get started
10 again the next person on my list is number 26 so number 26
11 is Zora Gussow.

12 MS. GUSSOW: Hi my name is Zora Gussow I live and
13 work on a farm in Buckhorn it is on the right-of-way for the
14 pipeline. Regardless of any of the like energy aspects or
15 like how badly they can screw this up which we know that
16 they can screw it up pretty badly -- like just this pipeline
17 being built would be totally devastating for this farm, it
18 would be totally devastating for the community and FERC
19 approving these permits would mean that we would face the
20 risk of eminent domain which is like a horrible totally
21 un-Constitutional process that shouldn't be given to private
22 corporations for their profit.

23 So I am entirely against this pipeline being
24 approved in any way whatsoever and no matter what happens
25 this pipeline is not going to get built here so like the

1 opposition is going to keep growing and the environmental
2 impacts are devastating, the social impacts are devastating
3 and we absolutely have to say no and Columbia says, No .

4 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 27,
5 27 is Jill Lashmitt, number 27 Jill Lashmitt going once,
6 going twice okay maybe they left, number 28, number 28 is
7 Chris McCallum and you were very quick off the mark there.

8 MR. MCCALLUM: Chris McCallum, M-c-c-a-l-l-u-m.
9 I live here in Bloomsburg. I was quick of the mark because
10 speaker number 27 I happen to know she is not here she is my
11 spouse and she is putting our kids to sleep. I have the
12 opportunity to provide a specific example to some of the
13 things that were said before. We live north of town as Zora
14 stated our farm is on Route 42 it is Mile Marker 107 on your
15 route maps that Route 107 number is where my house is it is
16 about 200 feet from the pipeline.

17 There's a big fat greenhouse that we use to
18 produce diversified organic vegetables all winter long that
19 is not pictured on any of your things this has all been
20 pointed out to Williams. But our farm occupies the
21 beautiful 38 acres of bottom land just north of town.

22 Your pipeline wants to come down onto the north
23 of it and travel about 1600 feet which is about a third of a
24 mile. You want to cut across Little Fishing Creek which
25 bisects our property Little Fishing Creek has become another

1 member of our family. We have three small kids but each day
2 somebody will say to somebody else oh have you checked out
3 the creek lately and somebody has to go down and look at it.

4 So you know you want to cut across that and then
5 you want to cut through the barns and then straight into the
6 gosh-darn market garden you know we operate 5 acres of
7 diversified organic vegetables which Zora has been weeding.
8 We have put sweat you know Jill likes to say when we get
9 angry about this whole situation she likes to say, 'We pull
10 weeds with our hands , you know and that's how we feel we
11 feel so powerless ever since this whole bullshit started.

12 Williams is completely you know useless they
13 don't want to talk to us. We have used all of their means
14 of communication but you know and then so you get into the 5
15 acre market garden they want to take a 90 degree turn and
16 cause as much damage in that market garden so they can cross
17 42 there and that's not to mention the water withdrawal --
18 they have put in an application to the Susquehanna River
19 Basin Commission to do a water withdrawal out of Little
20 Fishing Creek right there on our farm which is kind of
21 insane.

22 But regardless Jill wanted me to mention the
23 kids. She said she had to leave so she said mention the
24 kids, so the three small kids you know 200 feet from the
25 pipeline I don't know it's pretty close and you know so you

1 approve it and then we get hauled into like federal court
2 and like what choice do we have. So we are trying to talk
3 to our kids about the bat field and the creek and the you
4 know bulldozers and all of this stuff and they are like well
5 you don't want it but then you know you get sent into
6 federal court.

7 And it's like you know like what can we do like
8 you haul us into court and you take the God-damn farm anyway
9 and so like you know talking to Williams after a year or so
10 has begun to seem completely pointless because like they get
11 what they want to get anyway you know.

12 Like they are going to haul us in and so a
13 re-route of this or that onto my neighbor's property I don't
14 want them to have to deal with it either so I wish you would
15 just like whatever you can do to just deny the permit that
16 would be the safest thing, it would be safe for me and my
17 kids, there are a few of them and my neighbors and yeah that
18 would be the thing to do, thanks.

19 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you, number 29 is Cetrina
20 Collin Spiltz number 29 no? Number 30, number 30 is George
21 Flick

22 MR. FLICK: Hi good evening and thanks for taking
23 your time to be with us tonight. My name is George Flick I
24 live in Orange Township. I have some questions and concerns
25 about the proposed compressor station located in Orange

1 Township. I would urge you to please consider changing that
2 to another location where less homes, less families, less
3 livestock, it is a location that is going to impact a lot of
4 homes and families.

5 Why was that compressor station location picked
6 in Orange Township, I don't know how that was chosen when I
7 know there was another alternate location in this area here
8 but there has got to be other areas that have less of an
9 impact on any residential areas.

10 How long would it take for an emergency vehicle
11 to get to that location in Orange Township? The access road
12 to that area is a long narrow winding road which would not
13 be good -- suitable for emergency vehicles to go racing up
14 that road. Also I would like you to check in to how that
15 location was chosen as some of the people that own that
16 property work in the courthouse so I would like to see how
17 that location was chosen.

18 Let's see what will be done about the value of
19 our homes when that location if that compressor station
20 location is utilized the property value is going to go down
21 for everybody within the local area around it.

22 My other question is is this something that you
23 would like in your backyard? This is going to go in our
24 backyard and we are going to have to hear it and see it --
25 it's something that we choose not to have there. I don't

1 want it there I agree with these people here we do not want
2 it there. I understand there are jobs needed and I
3 understand progress needed but I don't think that is the
4 right location for that compressor station I think there are
5 better ones to be chosen so thank you for your time.

6 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 31
7 Steven Kenney.

8 MR. KENNEY: Good evening thank you for giving me
9 the opportunity to share for a couple of minutes here. My
10 name is Steven Kenney I am from Northumberland,
11 Pennsylvania. I am a recent law school graduate and spent a
12 lot of time focusing my studies on oil and gas and I believe
13 that this pipeline is a necessity. I believe that it is a
14 necessity to be able to rehabilitate the natural gas it's a
15 dependent economy of Pennsylvania by getting the gas to
16 market.

17 First of all I believe that the land owners that
18 are dependent upon royalties are struggling right now
19 because of the low price of natural gas and that this
20 pipeline will help reinvigorate those royalties, secondly I
21 also believe that not just the PA workers that will be
22 working directly on the pipeline but also the indirect
23 workers that are working in industries that are dependent
24 upon natural gas production are in need of a rehabilitation
25 of the natural gas price such as my uncle who works there

1 for a company that produces pumps for the oil and gas
2 industry.

3 I also believe that it is necessary for county
4 budgets. I also believe that it is necessary for state
5 budgets. Right now we have an impact fee that is directly
6 dependent upon oil and gas production and production is
7 limited right now. And as there is talk about a severance
8 tax a severance tax would also be dependent upon oil and gas
9 production.

10 And lastly I believe it is necessary to usher
11 Pennsylvania power into the next generation. Because of the
12 Clean Power Plan a lot of Pennsylvania coal-fired power
13 plants are having to switch over to natural gas. They are
14 not going to be able to access this natural gas as easily
15 without the ability to transmit that natural gas.

16 In the end I think everyone wants the lights to
17 be able to turn on when they go home at night and I believe
18 the natural gas is the best option to do so, thank you.

19 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up number 32
20 Robert Wilds.

21 MR. WILDS: Good evening my name is Robert Wilds
22 I'm a representative of the International Operating
23 Engineers and I would like to thank you for the opportunity
24 to speak. I just want to talk about a few things real
25 quick. There was a gentlemen up here earlier -- I am in

1 favor of the pipeline by the way -- there was a gentleman up
2 here from the Teamsters earlier that stated 50% of the
3 workers are local hire, that is true because the same thing
4 is in our agreement.

5 I am a rep finder for the contract. About
6 three-quarters of the workers are transient workers as was
7 stated earlier. Right here in this region there's over
8 6,000 members who live in this region that belong to the
9 Local 542 the Operating Engineers okay. Another thing
10 I would like to talk about real quick it was stated that it
11 is just going to be a few measly temporary jobs I believe
12 those were the exact words. I have made a 30 year career
13 out of measly temporary jobs. I have bought a farm I have
14 raised a family, I've lived very well, built a house on a
15 measly temporary job okay.

16 I have heard talk about exported natural gas. So
17 what if they export the natural gas? After World War II
18 what made the United States of America a great economic
19 leader and an industrial leader of the world -- we exported
20 more goods than we imported that is what made us strong.

21 We are not exporting more than we import right
22 now and that at least will give us a little leg up exporting
23 some products. Okay -- then I heard talk about solar
24 renewable energy -- some people say that us workers in the
25 gas industry are not environmentally friendly so to speak,

1 well if I am not environmentally friendly why did I increase
2 the cost of the home I built five years ago by \$60,000 to
3 put a 10K solar system on the roof and another \$40,000 to
4 put a geo-thermal heating system in -- because I am
5 environmentally friendly.

6 When I am out there working on people's property
7 I treat it like it is my own okay. Renewables -- just were
8 not feasible at this time we need the natural gas to make
9 the bridge. Thank you for your time and I am in support of
10 the project.

11 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 33,
12 number 33 is Casey Pegg.

13 MR. PEGG: Good evening I'm Casey Pegg. I live
14 in Northumberland County. I am involved with a group called
15 Columbia County Against the Pipeline and I just came here to
16 say that I observed that there is a lot of contention
17 obviously around this pipeline and I want to point out that
18 the reason that I see for that contention is because this
19 project was not put through a process where the public could
20 actually input and people could get together and resolve
21 their differences and figure out exactly what or what not
22 needs to be done and I think that's why so many people are
23 coming out and butting heads.

24 And I just want to convey to FERC that the land
25 owners who are on the proposed route of this pipeline really

1 need a lot more support than they are getting to engage with
2 this process. They need legal support, they need unbiased
3 information and they need emotional support to stand up to
4 the abusive and bullying tactics that the land agents
5 subject them to and if FERC is going to permit this project
6 which means that anyone who opposes it will risk having
7 armed U.S. Marshalls come on their property and take their
8 land by force like what happened to the Hollands -- that is
9 unjust and unethical if there is not support given to land
10 owners to advocate for their own interests and right now
11 that is not taking place.

12 I would like to further request that an
13 additional meeting be held in Susquehanna or Wyoming County.
14 Not doing so is disrespectful to my friends up north who are
15 faced with increased drilling to supply this line and I also
16 ask that you extend the public comment period. The fact
17 that comments may be considered up to a few weeks before the
18 Final EIS is not adequate. We need more time to form our
19 comments and we need a guarantee that those comments will be
20 included.

21 Please convey to the FERC Commissioners that
22 making decisions over the heads of the people who will have
23 to live with this pipeline will not stand. Ultimately it
24 will be the people that decide, it will be Columbia that
25 decides, it will be my friends in Susquehanna, Wyoming and

1 Luzerne that decide, it will be my friends in Schuylkill,
2 Lebanon and Lancaster that decide, it will be Northumberland
3 that decides, it will be us that decide and we say, No
4 thank you.

5 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 34,
6 number 34 is Linda Hartung.

7 MS. HARTUNG: Thank you. I fully support the
8 statements of opposition expressed by the concerned
9 neighbors who have spoken before me. The pipeline proposed
10 by Williams does not cross my farm property but it does
11 cross the property of many of my neighbors and as a
12 long-time resident of Columbia County where I was raised and
13 where I have a property -- I have been a property owner for
14 36 years I am concerned that this pipeline poses a danger to
15 our personal and community safety, decreases our property
16 values and increases the likelihood of future drilling which
17 has already caused serious environmental harm in many
18 Pennsylvania communities.

19 I am concerned that the high pressure natural gas
20 running through this dangerous pipe is most likely headed
21 for overseas export for other's private gain rather than for
22 the domestic use and our own public good and therefore I am
23 especially opposed to Williams gaining the power of eminent
24 domain to pursue this ill-proposed project. I believe
25 Columbia must decide not FERC and Columbia says, No thank

1 you.

2 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 35
3 Mark Fischer.

4 MR. FISCHER: Good evening thank you FERC for
5 holding this event this evening. My name is Mark Fischer,
6 F-i-s-c-h-e-r. My company LW Survey is an international
7 pipeline survey firm based in Minnesota. We have 13 offices
8 strategically located in or near every major oil field in
9 the United States including one in Lancaster County where I
10 am out of serving the east coast.

11 I have been around pipelines my entire career in
12 the oil and gas industry and I can tell you first-hand the
13 safety standards for these lines -- transmission lines are
14 cathodic protection, welding x-rays, hydro-static testing,
15 anomaly checks, automatic shut-off valves and other
16 technological advances and protocols make transmission lines
17 by far the safest method for transporting oil, gas and
18 liquids.

19 With more than 2 and million miles of pipelines
20 in the United States there are about 320,000 miles of
21 transmission lines. Of all of the accidents in the United
22 States since 2003 accidents involving highly regulated
23 transmission pipelines like the Atlantic Sunrise Project
24 account for .03% of those accidents -- almost 0.

25 Spills and releases have declined by 32% in that

1 same time period. For pre-1950 vintage lines accidents have
2 declined by 83%. The amount of misinformation that
3 surrounds new projects, especially in areas where pipeline
4 construction is relatively new is at best misguided and at
5 worst it is fear mongering.

6 Car accidents, plane crashes, train wrecks, even
7 shark attacks and bee stings pose a much greater threat to
8 us than a transmission pipeline poses. Unfortunately those
9 facts don't fit the narrative that the pipeline opponents
10 seem intent on promoting. That we can't live in a world
11 with pipelines and treat our environment correctly which is
12 exactly what the world which we have been living in happily
13 and safely for generations. The Marcellus shale basins have
14 presented Pennsylvanians and Americans as a whole the
15 generational opportunity to once again compete on a global
16 scale. By doing so we increase our national security while
17 ensuring our own energy independent through American
18 technology with American workers using American ingenuity to
19 develop an American resource and pipelines like the Atlantic
20 Sunrise Project are critical components to achieving these
21 very American ideals.

22 President Obama's proposed Clean Power Plan
23 recognizes the important role natural gas is going to play
24 in our country's energy portfolio. Under the federal plan
25 natural gas will provide the largest share of power

1 generation by 2030. Considering these facts I encourage the
2 FERC to finalize the Environmental Impact Statement and
3 approve this project, thank you.

4 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up I have number
5 36 but they didn't put their name so I don't know if they
6 are still here or if they changed their mind, were you
7 number 36 ma'am? Alright make sure you state your name and
8 spell it if it is difficult.

9 MS. MENAPACE: My name is Marian Menapace and I
10 live in the suburbs of Catawissa. You know I have done a
11 lot of thinking about this and some research and here's how
12 I understand it. Williams, a company from Oklahoma wants to
13 make a lot of money by running a pipeline to carry gas from
14 Pennsylvania to an overseas port in Maryland and if we here
15 in this county don't want to be invaded our property can be
16 taken by eminent domain.

17 Now what does eminent domain require? It
18 requires that the project benefit the people that are
19 involved. The only benefit I can see is that we will be
20 breathing poisoned air from compressor stations and living
21 on the route of a 183 mile time bomb. Now in this case
22 these are the benefits that I see. When a pipeline recently
23 burst and they do and the longer they stay underground the
24 more they will disintegrate and the more explosions you will
25 have. When one recently exploded in Salem Township

1 people from 2 miles away had to be evacuated and it was --
2 the heat was so intense that it scorched and the siding of a
3 house melted. Now that was only a 30 inch pipeline. The
4 one proposed for here is 42 inches under a lot more pressure
5 and we have a school in southern Columbia, the Southern
6 Columbia School and they are only 6/10ths of a mile from
7 this 42 inch pipeline.

8 Yet Williams claimed they are not in the hazard
9 zone, really? And you know Williams also has the worst
10 record in the business for infractions and negligence. They
11 keep assuring us that this line is safe I don't believe it.
12 For all the years this gas will flow our students will be
13 learning about the Bill of Rights and the individual freedom
14 and democracy in America while in danger from corporate
15 greed, thank you.

16 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you, next up is number 37
17 I believe 37 left just confirming that, number 38 is John
18 Telesco.

19 MR. TELESKO: Hi my name is John Telesco I am
20 from Lancaster County. First of all I am completely aware
21 that this process makes no difference it is a waste of time
22 for both the pro and anti-pipeline people. We know that you
23 have never denied a pipeline permit but none the less we
24 will pretend like there is a chance.

25 The DEIS is such an incomplete document written

1 by a flawed organization. I will just mention a few issues
2 in the geology section 4.1. It states that there are 65
3 abandoned mine lands AMLs within a quarter of a mile of CPL
4 south work space. It does also state that AMLs present
5 issues such as mine fires, mine subsidence, dangerous high
6 walls, open shafts and portals, mining impacted water
7 supplies and other hazards. There are no mentioned remedies
8 for many of these areas at risk.

9 156 sites along the route were also checked for
10 risk of landslide, 13 were high risk, 77 moderate risk and
11 66 low. How can a project continue with even 1 area at high
12 or moderate risk? Doesn't that have the potential for a
13 significant impact? In Lancaster County alone there are
14 16.3 miles of karst terrain 27.8 miles overall. Here there
15 are 4.3 miles of high risks, 7.8 of moderate risk and 15.7
16 at low risks. More potential for significant impact and if
17 this project had to continue on and it won't if we have
18 anything to say about it -- it should be done by our workers
19 from our fine state, not these Texas and Oklahoma guys
20 installing pipe from Turkey.

21 At the very least we ask for an extended comment
22 period. We need more time to sift through this trash you
23 call the DEIS. You have had two years and I know you are
24 not that great at your job but at least give us another 60
25 days. If only FERC wasn't a rubber stamp agency then we

1 could keep our water clean, preserve our forest and farm
2 land, let the animals live in their pristine habitats and
3 keep our families safe from explosions.

4 I know FERC and Williams work together to produce
5 as much gas while causing as much damage as possible to make
6 it the most money that you can. But as the great Bob Dylan
7 says, All the money you make will never buy back your
8 soul. We in Lancaster, Lebanon, Columbia stand up against
9 you and Williams. This project is bad for Lancaster, it is
10 bad for Lebanon, it is bad for PA and it is bad for the
11 planet. This pipeline project is not welcome here, Williams
12 is not welcome here and FERC is not welcome here.

13 This is our county and this is our state, the
14 water is ours, the farms and wood are ours, the decision is
15 not yours, Lancaster, Lebanon and Columbia decide and we
16 say, No .

17 MS. WACHHOLDER: Next up is number 39, number 39
18 is Mark Clatterbuck.

19 MR. CLATTERBUCK: My name is Mark Clatterbuck I
20 am from Lancaster County and I am here in solidarity with my
21 brothers and sisters from Columbia because we are all really
22 fighting the same damn threat. I guess first I would like
23 to add my request to extend the DEIS comment period for lots
24 of reasons, one is obviously the sheer length of the
25 document. Secondly the technical nature of this study that

1 we are expected to become experts in geology and water and
2 noise and I mean all of these sorts of things as we are
3 reading this document it is hard to do in the period that
4 you have given us and as many of people have already said it
5 is the incomplete nature of the studies that you depend on
6 in the document to make your conclusion over and over again
7 the document says the studies that we required of Transco
8 are incomplete yet you come to a conclusion.

9 So I don't understand that it seems to me the
10 study should be complete on which you yourself are saying
11 the study depends before you issue the DEIS conclusions and
12 then we can make comments so. Alright I would also like to
13 tell a story about significant impacts. Last year a very
14 close friend of our family and a neighbor of ours made the
15 painful decision to sell her dream home where she raised
16 their three children when she learned that the ASP was
17 proposed to tear through her orchard about 30 yards from her
18 children's bedrooms.

19 Soon afterward the pipeline was actually
20 relocated across the street from her house in the original
21 proposed path no longer on her property but still easily
22 within the blast zone. Even so she felt compelled to escape
23 the threat of this project that it posed to her and her
24 family and continued with the sale of her house. This
25 life-altering decision in economic, social and emotional

1 terms ranks among the most significant in her life and it is
2 a direct response to the ASP and that is before the project
3 is even approved.

4 Her former dream home has now been on the market
5 for a year. During this time the two most serious potential
6 buyers walked away for one simple reason which in both cases
7 they openly admitted was the sole cause of their decision
8 and that was the possibility the pipeline would be built on
9 an adjacent property -- the possibility of a pipeline.

10 Once again the threat of the ASP before the
11 invasive construction even begins, before the
12 life-endangering gas line gas has even started to flow has
13 had a verifiable, significant, adverse impact on my
14 neighbor. These are the facts on the ground. Facts well
15 documented by land owner after land owner and there are
16 hundreds of these stories along the ASP line. These are
17 real, significant, adverse impacts and yet FERC shamelessly
18 maintains the ridiculous claim that the value of a rural
19 property is in no way adversely impacted by the imposition
20 of an industrial right-of-way containing a 42 inch
21 explosive, high pressure gas line -- a gas line for export
22 no less.

23 It is a right-of-way imposing permanent and
24 significant use restrictions on the land owner's property.
25 A right-of-way that is owned for all practice purposes by

1 the gas industry since Williams would have access to that
2 right-of-way 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

3 A right-of-way that nonetheless the land owner
4 must continue to pay taxes on while Williams makes money off
5 that land owner's permanent risks with the land owner
6 earning zero compensation beyond an initially resisted,
7 coercively negotiated one-time pay out wrangled as we have
8 heard over and over again tonight through misinformation,
9 trespassing and well document pattern of land owner
10 harassment. A right-of-way that will almost certainly be
11 used to build a second, possibly a third pipeline in the
12 near future and yet you say no significant impact. I think
13 the land owners in this county are here to tell you plainly
14 and to your face that you are dead wrong on that assessment.

15 This whole question of significant impact and I
16 will conclude here as again we have heard over and over
17 again tonight it seems to me that your conclusion in the
18 DEIS, preliminary conclusion hinges on the meaning of that
19 word -- significant. Is that a technical term?

20 What does it mean? What does it possibly mean
21 and then I mean you are looking at me and at some point we
22 would actually like to hear FERC explain what does
23 significant mean? Our lives are turned on end, our property
24 values are declining and in the DEIS yourself archeological,
25 architectural, water crossings, wetlands, preserved farms,

1 forests, karst, explosive hazards, you list all of these --
2 I think significant adverse impacts and then at the end you
3 say there are all less than significant impacts. It's
4 meaningless, it's absurd and at some point are you ever held
5 accountable for even defining the very term by which the
6 whole study hinges?

7 I mean am I a lunatic because I don't get
8 something here or at what point will FERC ever say this line
9 -- this is the threshold for significant and once reached
10 the project will be declined or does it just sort of always
11 go up, whatever the risk is significant is a little higher I
12 think that is just outrageous and an absolute scandal, thank
13 you.

14 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 40,
15 number 40 is Peter Tipka.

16 MR. TIPKA: Good evening my name is Peter Tipka I
17 am a resident of Bear Pennsylvania which is in the area
18 that's adjacent to where the proposed ASP -- the Central
19 Pennsylvania South Pipeline would actually traverse through
20 in my area of Northumberland County. When I found out back
21 in 2014 that my property was possibly going to be affected
22 by this pipeline I came to the first meeting here and spoke.

23 I also got involved with a lot of research into
24 pipelines and to some of the possible hazards. In our area
25 there is a lot of coal mining history and there are remnants

1 of the anthracite coal mining operations throughout the
2 lower Northumberland County area and more specifically
3 there's abandoned mine lands and mine fires.

4 I reached out to OSMRE which is the Office of
5 Surface Mining and Reclamation which is a federal agency out
6 of Scranton, I contacted them and then they put me in
7 contact with another individual I believe he was with DEP or
8 DC&R in the state of Pennsylvania but they provided me with
9 maps which I posted in a number of different comments to the
10 FERC website -- that was another question I have and the
11 last speaker I thought brought up a good point.

12 A lot of times the public asks questions but we
13 never get an answer and I posted I don't know at least a
14 half a dozen formal letters to FERC and never received one
15 answer during that whole two year period of time from August
16 2014 until today. And I would really like to know if the
17 government intends on you know replying to me or to all of
18 us really with some type of answers to our questions that we
19 have submitted to you guys.

20 Next I would like to know is the federal
21 government going to go into the anthracite area where those
22 fires are at the Glenburn I have a post or a document here
23 that came from I believe it was DC&R's website it lists the
24 Glenburn Cameron, the Glenburn Hickory Swamp and the
25 Glenburn Luke Fiddler and Coal Run fires. They are all

1 within at least three quarters of a mile -- the furthest one
2 is within three quarters of a mile of the pipeline. The
3 closest one is actually a quarter a mile away from the
4 pipeline. I submitted maps or uploaded them to FERC's
5 website so that you would have them for your review. I
6 brought additional copies here tonight I am hoping that I
7 can submit them again and somebody will actually take a look
8 at them and you know do a comprehensive study, hopefully
9 maybe get OSMRE and other federal and state agencies in
10 there to look at these mine fires to make sure it is not
11 going to be a hazard to our communities.

12 Because I don't know if we have ever had a 42
13 inch gas pipeline explode but it seems to me that would be
14 the perfect location you know in an area where there is
15 underground mine fires burning and if anything happened -- a
16 subsidence and that pipe was to crack at a weld joint or
17 anywhere and it started pumping gas into the mine and all it
18 has to do is find that fire and then you are going to have a
19 cataclysmic explosion on top of that mountain.

20 And I hope that for safety's sake and for our
21 community somebody is going to go in there and not ignore
22 it. I have some documents that I would like to give you and
23 then also you know these fires they are not fictitious and
24 this is out of a paper The News Item which is our local
25 paper in Shamokin.

1 It is dated April 4, 2016 it says helping hands
2 -- it says firefighter walks near burning bush at brush fire
3 on Glenburn Mountain Coal Township Sunday afternoon. Gusty
4 winds blew flames to the northeast away from homes and then
5 there is another picture it says firefighter is shrouded in
6 smoke.

7 These fires burn every year up there it is not an
8 anomaly it happens every year because of the dry leaves and
9 the underground mine fires that are burning and to put a
10 pipeline there next to that is ludicrous and I am hoping
11 that somebody is going to you know take a look at that and
12 see it for what it really is and I thank you for your time
13 and I appreciate your doing this.

14 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you we will definitely
15 take those maps we will and I apologize if you didn't feel
16 that it has been addressed but luckily every comment I
17 received on a Draft EIS will have a response to it so I will
18 make sure my safety expert takes a special look at it.

19 MR. TIPKA: Because I submitted a number of
20 questions and I never received one answer.

21 MS. WACHHOLDER: Yeah our agency doesn't respond
22 to comments -- how it works is everything in the docket that
23 is in the development of our document our environmental
24 documents are supposed to be the responses so we don't write
25 back to people but you know our Draft was supposed to

1 address that and it clearly failed so we will address that.

2 I admit that we didn't address that properly I
3 will admit that to you.

4 MR. TIPKA: So they can hear me. I actually work
5 for the federal government I'm a contract specialist so when
6 the government is trying to do something to procure
7 something they put out a solicitation and then the
8 contractors then will generally send me questions for things
9 and I answer those questions for those contractors before
10 they submit their bids.

11 This whole process here to me seems in essence
12 that you are trying to solicit public acceptance for this
13 and if we stand or the people that you want to contract with
14 for that acceptance when we send you our questions they
15 should all be answered but it doesn't seem like that is
16 happening you know, that's just another maybe analogy and I
17 see it and you know I have to go through this and I
18 understand how tough your job can be and the processes but
19 still I think that you know those questions that everybody
20 submits to your website or even here should be answered.
21 And somewhere there should be a posting of all the answers
22 to the questions for the greater number of these people that
23 have you know had concerns over the pipeline and you know
24 the impacts on their properties and you know neighborhoods
25 and communities, thank you.

1 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. The next person is
2 number 41, number 41 is Bambi Hanson.

3 MS. HANSON: My name is Bambi Hanson,
4 H-a-n-s-o-n. I'm from Montour County as of this moment
5 there is no proposed pipeline in my area but I am here
6 because I support those who are in the line of fire as I
7 will say and I just don't want to minimize anybody's
8 comments here regarding their homes, lives, things of value
9 that they are at risk of losing because of the pipeline.

10 I did however not have time to read both volumes
11 of the EIS and I just opened it to one page and chose that
12 as my comment tonight. I wanted it to be on the record as a
13 point of concern for me. It's on page 5-11 in Volume Number
14 1. It is referencing threatened, endangered and other
15 special status species of plants. This is a quote, Transco
16 plans to transplant all individual listed plant species that
17 are within the work space into a similar suitable habitat
18 that would not be affected by the project.

19 I have so many concerns about this DEIS and the
20 pipeline but have chosen this concern for tonight's public
21 comment. When is the ideal season for these threatened
22 endangered and other species of special plants to be
23 transplanted to best ensure their survival? Who will be
24 supervising each transplanting? Who is qualified to
25 transplant them? Who will be watching and supervising each

1 site where these transplants of -- again threatened
2 endangered and other special status plants is occurring?

3 Also much clarification is needed Transco plans
4 that's rather vague plans to transplant these special
5 plants so either they will or they won't transplant them.
6 Also needed clarification of what a work space is. They
7 state they plan to transplant all of these individual plants
8 that are within the work space. Total project construction
9 will effect approximately 3,905.8 acres of land 71% of that
10 is pipeline facilities which includes 58% construction
11 right-of-way, 13% temporary work space the remaining acreage
12 would be associated with contractor yards and staging areas
13 equally 15% new and modified above ground facilities
14 equaling 8% and access roads for another 8%.

15 So again what is a work space? It sounds like
16 all of the above mentioned areas are work spaces but
17 therefore all threatened, endangered and other special
18 status plants would need to be sought out and transplanted.
19 That sounds very time consuming. Again how will this be
20 accomplished or is it just another plan to protect the
21 environment that will not actually take place.

22 I am very proud to be a part of an ever-growing
23 group of world citizens who say no to fossil fuels and let's
24 keep them in the ground. We do have the capabilities to
25 develop renewable energy it has been thwarted by the gas and

1 oil industry for countless decades and it is really time
2 that we come to our senses and let this take fruition thank
3 you.

4 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 42,
5 number 42 is Carol Parenzan.

6 MS. PARENZAN: Good evening my name is Carol
7 Parenzan, that's P-a-r-e-n-z-a-n and I am your Middle
8 Susquehanna River Keeper. I am here tonight as the licensed
9 voice of our Susquehanna River Watershed, I am an
10 environmental engineer by degree and the former owner of a
11 sub-surface investigation and mapping company that used
12 non-destructive geo-physical tools to locate and map
13 utilities such as natural gas lines.

14 I am not opposed to energy production. I took a
15 hot shower this morning and I actually liked it but when we
16 look at the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline Project it is not an
17 issue of can we build this pipeline -- of course we can.
18 There are hundreds of miles of pipeline crissing and
19 crossing the Commonwealth already.

20 No it's an issue of should we build this
21 pipeline. The Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline is not an isolated
22 project and to hold a public meeting such as this to
23 consider the construction of the 200 mile 30 to 42 inch
24 diameter pipeline as a separate entity is an inaccuracy of
25 the environmental review process.

1 This pipeline is an integral part of a larger
2 pipeline system being put in place to benefit private
3 industry and the cost of this intrusion is being placed on
4 us, the people in this room or those that have remained in
5 this room on the most treasured resources our forests,
6 wildlife, air, streams and rivers and the communities that
7 are connected by this river.

8 For too long the people of Pennsylvania and
9 particularly here in the Susquehanna River Valley have been
10 the victims of energy production and exportation. My family
11 roots lie in Shamokin a devastated coal-mining community not
12 far from here where poverty is rampant, drugs and despair are
13 the headlines of the day and the creeks run orange with acid
14 mine drainage.

15 But this is not the forum to talk about acid mine
16 drainage or water contamination from fracked wells or the
17 disposal issues with nuclear waste. But did you know that
18 for every 1 megawatt of energy that we produce and use here
19 in the Susquehanna River Valley 2 megawatts of energy are
20 produced and exported -- out of the River Valley, out of the
21 state and some out of the country.

22 Traditional energy production, whether it is
23 coal, natural gas or nuclear requires a tremendous amount of
24 water -- we are selling our river, our river valley, our
25 river communities and our children's and grandchildren's

1 future for short-term profit. And with this proposed
2 pipeline we are piping that profit into the hands of these
3 mega companies. What I am here to talk about tonight is the
4 fact that we don't need this pipeline. We don't need more
5 fragmented forests with 100 foot or more give or take
6 right-of-ways through our maple sugar groves, the wild woods
7 of Pennsylvania or our back yards.

8 We don't need the potential for methane leakage
9 from the pipeline and compressor stations. We don't need
10 our streams and river compromised during the construction of
11 this pipeline that involved over 300 stream and river
12 crossings and almost 50 acres of wetlands and most
13 importantly we don't want the companies involved with this
14 project to make any more profit at our expense.

15 One watershed over to the east is the Delaware
16 River Watershed. I'm sure that you have heard of it and
17 it's River Keeper my husband Ross and the current legal
18 filings to stop the proposed Penn East Pipeline. As the
19 Middle Susquehanna River Keeper I am part of that same
20 network of water warriors.

21 We are almost 300 strong on six continents and on
22 34 countries. We are not afraid to stand up for our rivers
23 and the people that call this watershed home. I am pledging
24 to the people in this room, my neighbors that I am here for
25 you. Please reach out to me let's put our collective

1 energies together and stop sending our future down the
2 pipeline and into the hands of these corporations.

3 It is time to put people before profits it's time
4 to put us before them, thank you.

5 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. The last one on my
6 list tonight is number 43 Fred Gaffney.

7 MR. GAFFNEY: Good evening my name is Fred Gaffney
8 that's G-a-f-f-n-e-y. I am the President of the Columbia
9 Montour Chamber of Commerce representing nearly 600
10 organizations throughout Columbia and Montour Counties and
11 beyond, the Columbia Montour Chamber of Commerce works to
12 strengthen the region's economy by supporting existing
13 employers as well as encouraging new business development.

14 As such our organization has researched the
15 Atlantic Sunrise Project we have met with representatives of
16 this project and conducted independent research of natural
17 gas pipeline construction and safety in general. This
18 research indicates that modern pipeline technology provides
19 among the safest methods of transporting natural gas.

20 Following a comment period from our membership
21 the Chamber's Board of Directors adopted the following
22 resolution: WHEREAS Pennsylvania's natural gas industry is
23 a major economic driver in the Commonwealth through job
24 creation directly related to gas extraction and
25 transportation, lower utility costs and revenues and WHEREAS

1 Pennsylvania's natural gas reserves are projected to be able
2 to serve current and future demands within the Commonwealth
3 with significant surplus for export for decades and WHEREAS
4 the current infrastructure within Pennsylvania is
5 insufficient for the safe and economical transportation and
6 distribution of Pennsylvania's natural gas supply to all
7 markets including residences and businesses within the
8 Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS state and federal regulatory agencies
10 proclaim modern pipelines to be the safest method of
11 transporting natural gas NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that
12 the Board of Directors of the Columbia Montour Chamber of
13 Commerce supports the expansion of Pennsylvania's natural
14 gas transportation and distribution pipeline infrastructure
15 through the responsibility collaboration with property
16 owners for the benefit of the citizenry and the economy of
17 the Commonwealth.

18 Williams has already supported dozens of
19 community organizations and conservation projects in our
20 area. If allowed the Atlantic Sunrise Project is expected
21 to support 2300 jobs and generate 1.6 billion dollars in
22 economic activity during the construction stage. We believe
23 this project would be beneficial to our region and the
24 Commonwealth as a whole, thank you for the opportunity to
25 comment on this matter.

1 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Alright that's the
2 last person on my list and because it is not yet 10:30 if
3 there is anyone else would like an additional comment they
4 have to make raise your hand and I will go through yes come
5 on up and state your name.

6 MR. WALKER: My name is John Walker I spoke
7 earlier. I used to be on the Board of the Chamber of
8 Commerce. I was Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce
9 and I was the President of the Chamber of Commerce and I
10 couldn't be more opposed to this pipeline and this gentleman
11 just told about what the business community wants to do.

12 They haven't thought two seconds about the
13 dangers inherent. When people -- when gas lines explode
14 people get killed, get badly injured and we are going to
15 keep the jobs -- whatever jobs there are. We are going to
16 keep saying we are going to get jobs, we are going to get
17 jobs we might get some jobs but for Heaven's sake think
18 about the issues.

19 The things I read off at the beginning of this
20 evening all happened. There have been 4 explosions in
21 northeastern Pennsylvania in counties around us. There were
22 3 explosions in 11 months in 2014 and they were examining
23 the Williams Company about that. FERC, FERC said in that
24 period I talked about in the first 15 years of this period
25 they had to look at Williams Pipeline explosion to be

1 certain it could even be operable and if it couldn't be
2 determined that it was operable the pipeline couldn't be
3 used because it wasn't safe.

4 Now that's enough.

5 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you is there anybody else
6 that would like to speak again okay I see you come on up
7 Sierra?

8 MS. SHAMER: Yes I'm Sierra. I have a quick
9 question maybe you can or can't answer it. I make I'm a GIS
10 professional I make maps and I am not sure if there is a way
11 to submit PDF documents on the online e-comment or e-filing?

12 MS. WACHHOLDER: You can submit PDF's you just
13 have to register, you can't use the quick comment one but
14 the e-register thing it's not hard so you can submit maps on
15 there and they are very, very useful we appreciate those.

16 MS. SHAMER: Okay if I mail them will they be on
17 the website?

18 MS. WACHHOLDER: Yeah I mean sometimes it is
19 better if you upload them yourself because they will scan
20 them and they will scan them in black and white because I
21 don't know why and it kind of ruins them but if you can
22 still do that and if you needed to do you could always send
23 me a courtesy copy and I would make sure that I got the
24 color copy if that was necessary.

25 MS. SHAMER: Okay I have maps of the county

1 natural heritage areas only a few of which were mentioned in
2 the DEIS.

3 MS. WACHHOLDER: Okay.

4 MS. SHAMER: And there is a number of them
5 including the core heritage area and the supplemental and
6 then I have a list of all of the species of concern within
7 those and I also have a map of the mine fires as we
8 mentioned before.

9 MS. WACHHOLDER: Oh that would be great thank
10 you.

11 MS. SHAMER: Thank you.

12 MS. WACHHOLDER: Alright who else would like to
13 go anybody? Alright come up to the mic and then remember to
14 state your name again.

15 MS. TIPKA: My name is Pete Tipka. I'm not sure
16 if I read this before but I just wanted to read it so
17 everybody could hear exactly what this email to me -- but
18 this is from a Tim Alteries and he says in his email to John
19 Mack with OSMRA he says, Occasionally we have had surface
20 brush forest fires due to these over-burning areas, and he
21 is referring to the mine fires in the greater Shamokin area,
22 but we have not done anything significant only site visits
23 in regards to tracking the three fires since they were
24 considered contained by a prior work like Laurel Run.

25 Now Laurel Run is a different mine fire and not

1 in that area and he is just referring to it. It says, It
2 may turn out that one or more of these fires has migrated at
3 depth and extensive exploratory drilling would be necessary
4 for an accurate update and that's from them you know
5 regarding those fires.

6 And I read some other things too where they
7 really don't know these underground mine fires how extensive
8 they are because it is hard to judge. I mean you will get
9 some surface heat or maybe some smoldering Sulphur coming up
10 from the ground but the actual extent underground they
11 really don't know.

12 I mean they could do this boring but a lot of
13 times you look at the Centralia mine fire that's been
14 burning since 1962. The whole city basically got torn down
15 there are a few hold-out people but the government came in
16 and basically has been buying up the properties over there.

17 But that fire still isn't out and that's 1962
18 that was the year I was born and I'm 53 years old and that
19 goes to show you how long these fires burn in the ground and
20 to have one a quarter a mile away from a 42 inch gas
21 pipeline it just doesn't make sense, it just seems like to
22 me like it's asking for trouble.

23 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you, state your name?

24 MS. DIETRICHSON: I hadn't intended to speak
25 again but I'm Linda Dietrichson and I am very annoyed with

1 how many people use this forum to talk about subjects that
2 were not concerning the environment. This is a Draft
3 Environmental Impact Statement that we were to become
4 familiar with and to comment on and talking about personal
5 finances, about the possibility of improved job
6 possibilities is just inappropriate for this forum.

7 All of that is conjecture -- what the possibility
8 of financial improvement to the region is. It's not even
9 significant enough for us to be able to talk about that this
10 evening and I really hope that as the comments are being
11 read and considered that you will put more weight on those
12 people who actually had facts about the impact on the
13 environment and not the proposed impact on the companies or
14 the personal finances of people who think this is one hell
15 of a good thing because most of us do not for the right
16 reasons, thank you.

17 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Would anyone else
18 like to go again? Any hands, no? That being said I don't
19 see anyone else. On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
20 Commission I want to thank you for coming tonight. Within
21 the FERC website www.ferc.gov there's a link called
22 e-library. If you type in the docket number CP15-138 you
23 can use e-library to gain access to everything on the record
24 concerning this project as well as all the filings and
25 information submitted by Transco.

1 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
2 Commission I want to thank you for coming tonight. Let the
3 record show that the Atlantic Sunrise Draft EIS comment
4 meeting concluded at 10:16 p.m. thank you have a good
5 evening.

6 (Whereupon at 10:16 p.m., the meeting was
7 adjourned.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL REPORTER

2

3 This is to certify that the attached proceeding

4 before the FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION in the

5 Matter of:

6 Name of Proceeding:

7 ATLANTIC SUNRISE PROJECT

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15 Docket No.: CP15-138-000

16 Place: Bloomsburg, PA

17 Date: 6/15/16

18 were held as herein appears, and that this is the original

19 transcript thereof for the file of the Federal Energy

20 Regulatory Commission, and is a full correct transcripton of

21 the proceedings.

22

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24 Larry Flowers

25 Official Reporter

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ATLANTIC SUNRISE PROJECT
(DOCKET NO. CP15-138-000)

PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING ON THE
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

JUNE 15, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Bloomsburg University
Haas Center for the Arts - Mitrani Hall
400 East Second Street
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

Court Reporter B

1 SPEAKER LIST

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3 DARL D'VENDITTI

4 KATRINA COLVIN-STILTS

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

2 COURT REPORTER WILLIAMS: Yes ma'am let me have your
3 name.

4 MS. D'VENDITTI: Darl D-a-r-l D'Venditti,
5 D-V-e-n-d-i-t-t-i.

6 COURT REPORTER WILLIAMS: Alright yes ma'am go
7 ahead. Tell us what you would like to tell us.

8 MS. D'VENDITTI: Well first of all I want to know
9 why they can liquefy the gas and ship it out of the country.
10 Okay I also think when these people take the property from
11 the owners they pay very little if anything, they use it all
12 they want to pay is -- they just want to give any amount of
13 money that they say. They just pick an amount, they should.

14 My theory is they should pay what the person paid
15 for their property. When they finish their project and they
16 are selling it they should issue those property owners
17 preferred stock for the difference of the purchase price and
18 what could be the sale price. That's all I have to say. I
19 don't have to say that when they make money you make money
20 that would be understood. So I guess that's putting it all
21 together. I don't know.

22 COURT REPORTER WILLIAMS: Alright yes ma'am.

23 MS. STILTS: Katrina Colvin-Stilts, K-a-t-r-i-n-a
24 Colvin C-o-l-v-i-n hyphen Stilts S-t-i-l-t-s and I am with
25 Leatherstocking Gas Company. I would like to clarify for

1 the record that Leatherstocking Gas Company is in no way
2 directly involved in the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline Project.

3 Presently we connect to the existing Williams
4 Pipeline in three separate locations two of which each serve
5 a single municipality for a combined total of 284 customers
6 in Susquehanna and Bradford Counties, Pennsylvania. The
7 third is a single large commercial consumer. I am here
8 tonight to share with you our professional statement
9 regarding the benefits of our own experiences with Williams.

10 My intention is to offer evidence of the
11 betterment of local communities within the proximity of such
12 pipeline infrastructure as we have seen in northeastern
13 Pennsylvania. Despite sitting atop one of the largest
14 deposits of natural gas in our nation 13.4% of Susquehanna
15 County's residents are living below the federal poverty
16 level.

17 The distribution of natural gas is a benefit to
18 any community but presents a multi-fold value to the
19 residents of this county. First it offers a domestic lower
20 cost fuel alternative to imported petroleum-based sources
21 such as number 2 fuel oil and propane whose costs have
22 historically been far more volatile than those of natural
23 gas.

24 Research has shown that during periods of high
25 oil prices natural gas customers have saved 40 to 60% on

1 their annual heating cost in comparison to their former fuel
2 sources. These savings can be reinvested in an infinite
3 number of ways.

4 Second commercial applications of natural gas can
5 reduce overhead assisting existing businesses and their
6 economic viability and long-term sustainability. Third it
7 encourages new manufacturing operations to re-locate to the
8 area. With direct access to natural gas large manufacturers
9 are able to reduce not only overhead expenses but in the
10 carbon emissions resulting from these manufacturing
11 processes.

12 Additionally these operations are prime
13 candidates for natural gas fired cogeneration plants to
14 create their own electricity supply reducing load on the
15 electric grid yet another added benefit to the area as a
16 whole.

17 In fact the Times Tribune, a local newspaper in
18 Susquehanna County ran an article just last month in May of
19 2016 stating that an un-named developer is currently looking
20 at a site in New Milford with the intention of building an
21 incinerator, an industrial park in 2018.

22 Such large scale operations will undoubtedly
23 create new employment opportunities adding an additional
24 boost to the local economy. All of the aforementioned
25 attributes will increase the local tax revenues that can be

1 utilized to support and improve municipal roadways a benefit
2 that even those who don't have a direct connection to
3 natural gas can appreciate, bring a new level of general
4 prosperity to an economically depressed area.

5 And none of these opportunities would be a
6 possibility without the creation of pipeline infrastructure.
7 The advantages I have already mentioned are not in mobile
8 parts of an isolated phenomenon. They are components of a
9 viable and transferrable model that can be adapted anywhere
10 -- anywhere a pipeline exists.

11 The Atlantic Sunrise Project will provide
12 reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible energy
13 up to 7 million homes on a daily basis, will drive 1.6
14 billion dollars in regional economic activity and will
15 directly employ approximately 2,300 people during the
16 pipeline construction phase.

17 It will increase the potential for a greater
18 supply of renewable energy by giving utilities better access
19 to lower cost reliable natural gas off-setting higher costs
20 and reliability issues that are sometimes associated with
21 renewables and it will help to further reduce carbon
22 emissions.

23 With the discovery of shale gas this country has
24 the opportunity to further reduce its dependence on foreign
25 oil and its price volatility. As a nation we need to move

1 forward to responsibly develop infrastructure projects to
2 transport and distribute this domestic and relatively
3 economically stable fuel source throughout the states,
4 offering prosperity to those who can benefit from it the
5 most.

6 The Atlantic Sunrise Project is just one more
7 step toward achieving that goal, thank you.

8 (Whereupon at 10:16 p.m., the meeting was
9 adjourned.)

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