

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

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

PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING ON THE
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

JUNE 16, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Lake Lehmon High School
1128 Old Road 115
Dallas, PA 18612

Court Reporter A

- 1 SPEAKER LIST
- 2
- 3 JOANNE WACHHOLDER
- 4 WADE CHANDLER
- 5 KEVIN LYNN
- 6 VETO BARZILOSKI, JR.
- 7 ED GILLETTE
- 8 TAMMY BONNICE
- 9 TOM SHEPSTONE
- 10 CARL MARRARA
- 11 JERRY GEORGE
- 12 BRANDON OITRA
- 13 ALEX LOTORTO
- 14 ROBYN KOCHAN
- 15 CHUCK CLARKE
- 16 RICH WATEROWSKI
- 17 TERRY LANGLE
- 18 WALT KOCHAN
- 19 DAVID HORN
- 20 WILLIAM EMICK
- 21 THOMAS BYRON
- 22 JOAN BRYON
- 23 DUKE BARRETT
- 24 MARY RODRIGUEZ
- 25 KRISTIN EDWARDS

1 SPEAKER LIST
2
3 DORINA HIPPAUF
4 SCOTT CANNON
5 DEIRDRE LALLY
6 ALLISON PETRYK
7 HERB BONNICE
8 DIANE DREIER
9 SIERRA SHAMER
10 ROBERT WILDS
11 JAME TOLOMELLO
12 PETER BUTLER
13 JENNIFER LAPOINTE
14 BILL COOK
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

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 7:10 p.m. on June 16, 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 Dombroskie who is in
20 the back. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is participating
21 as a 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 and Corps representative in a private side
6 room which I will explain in a bit. The speaker's list is
7 located at the back table. For this main room we will use
8 that list to call speakers to the podium tonight. If you
9 wish to speak and have not signed up please add your name to
10 that list.

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

24 The primary purpose of this meeting is to give
25 you the opportunity to provide specific environmental

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

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

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

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

22 If you have comments but do not wish to speak
23 tonight you may provide written comments on the comment
24 forms provided at the back table. You may drop those off
25 with us or mail them at a later date. Be sure to include

1 the Project Docket Number which is CP15-138 and your
2 personal information if you want us to place you on the
3 mailing list.

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

11 Once we have issued the Final EIS currently
12 scheduled for late October it is forwarded to our
13 Commissioners for their consideration. Currently our
14 mailing list for this project is over 4,000 stakeholders.
15 If you received a copy of the Draft EIS in the mail, either
16 the paper or CD copy you are already on the mailing list to
17 receive the final EIS. If you did not get a copy of the
18 Draft and would like to get a copy of the Final, please
19 provide your name and address to the FERC staff at the back
20 of the room and we will make sure that you get a copy of the
21 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 we will oversee the preparation
5 of the EIS for this project. We do not determine whether or
6 not to approve the project. Instead the FERC Commission
7 consists of up to five Presidentially-appointed
8 Commissioners who are responsible for making a determination
9 on whether to issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and
10 Necessity or Certificate to Transco.

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

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

23 FERC environmental staff would monitor the
24 project through construction and restoration performing
25 on-site inspections to document environmental compliance

1 with applicable laws and regulations, the applicant's
2 proposed plans of mitigation and the additional conditions
3 in the FERC certificate.

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

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

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

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

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

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

15 The project as proposed is to construct
16 approximately 183.7 miles of new 30 and 42 inch diameter
17 pipelines, 11.5 miles of new 36 inch and 42 inch diameter
18 pipeline loops, construction of two new compressor stations,
19 additional compression installation at two existing
20 compressor stations and construction of two meter stations
21 and three regulator stations in Pennsylvania.

22 The Baltimore District Corps of Engineers is
23 reviewing only the portion of the project in Pennsylvania.
24 2.5 miles of the piping replacement will also occur in
25 Virginia and involve impacts to waters of the United States

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

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

17 As proposed, construction of the Atlantic Sunrise
18 Pipeline would result in the following impacts:
19 Approximately 48.23 acres of wetland impact of which 6.52
20 acres will be permanent wetland-type conversion type and
21 41.72 acres would be a temporary impact, 329 total water
22 bodies will be crossed resulting in 22,529 linear feet of
23 temporary stream impact.

24 The decision of whether or not to issue a permit
25 will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts

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

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

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

23 Comments received tonight and throughout the
24 comment period will be considered by the Corps as we reach
25 our permit decision. Your testimony this evening will be

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

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

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

18 Whether you verbally provide your comments or
19 mail them in, they will be equally considered by FERC. It
20 is important again that you include the Docket Number in
21 your filings which is CP15-138. The Commission also
22 encourages electronic filing of comments and the forms are
23 at the sign-in desk and provide the web address and
24 instructions.

25 Again this meeting is being recorded by a

1 transcription service. All of your comments will be
2 transcribed and placed into the public record. For the
3 benefit of all in attendance and for accuracy of the
4 transcript I will set some ground rules. When your name is
5 called please step up to the mic over here and clearly state
6 your name and affiliation if any. You might spell your name
7 for the court reporter to insure accuracy if misspelling is
8 likely. Also please speak directly into the microphone so
9 that you can be clearly heard by the reporter, the panel and
10 the audience. Due to the number of speakers that we have
11 signed up we will have to limit each speaker to 3 minutes so
12 that everyone has an opportunity to provide comments. We
13 will set a timer here for three minutes and then when there
14 is 30 seconds left Bart will raise his hand and then at the
15 end of the three minutes it will make a little beeping
16 sound. And I am not going to cut you off immediately I want
17 you finish your thought but just be considerate that other
18 people are waiting their turn too so try not to go too much
19 over please.

20 And along with that let's see when your time is
21 ended please conclude your comments and we will call the
22 next speaker. We will go until the last speaker or 10:30
23 p.m. whichever comes first. One of the other things to
24 remember when you are speaking is that everybody else -- we
25 all need to be quiet so that the court reporter could

1 adequately get the comments and one of my really big rules
2 is that you have to respect the speaker whether you agree or
3 disagree you have to be quiet. There's no cheering there's
4 no booing.

5 Once they are done and they sit down if you want
6 to cheer or whatever you want to do that's fine but during
7 it it takes time from the person's 3 minutes, 3 minutes
8 isn't very long so even if you are on their side and you
9 cheer for 10 seconds that's 10 seconds they have lost so
10 that is going to be a very important rule for me and if
11 people can't abide by that I have had to have people
12 escorted out and I don't want to do that because I feel that
13 you are going to be very respectful of everybody, so I thank
14 you in advance for that.

15 Again if you have detailed comments
16 that you cannot get through in 3 minutes you can give us
17 your full written comments at the table where you came in.
18 Also if you feel that your comments were previously
19 expressed by somebody else you can simply state your name
20 and your endorsement of those previous comments.

21 Lastly before we start as a courtesy to our
22 speakers and the rest of the audience, please turn off or
23 silence your cell phones. As I mentioned in the beginning
24 we have an additional court reporter with FERC and Corps
25 representatives set up out in the hallway so it is outside

1 this door and go left.

2 We wanted to try this different format with the
3 extra option for a number of reasons. First we wanted to
4 offer everyone an opportunity to provide verbal comments and
5 this would allow a greater number of people to do so in the
6 allotted time frame.

7 Second we appreciate that you are spending time
8 away from your other responsibilities to participate in this
9 meeting and if you choose this option it would reduce the
10 time that you would have to wait to speak while still
11 getting your comments in the official record.

12 Third people have indicated at other meetings
13 that they are not comfortable speaking in front of a large
14 crowd and we are trying to be sensitive to this as well.
15 Thank you for your consideration we are now ready to call
16 our first speaker. First up is number 1, number 1 is Kevin
17 Lynn.

18 MR. LYNN: Thank you it's nice to be here
19 tonight. My name is Kevin Lynn I live here at Harvey's
20 Lake. Actually I have a big connection here my wife's
21 father's name is on the gym here at Lake Lehman High School.
22 This meeting tonight is really about the future okay. I
23 mean obviously we are here talking about the Atlantic
24 Sunrise Project but it is really about the future.

25 By the way for the record I am in favor of the

1 Atlantic Sunrise Project. But I know there are lots of
2 well-meaning people here who are against the project and I
3 guess I have a question for all of you myself included,
4 here's the question in five years will we need more energy
5 or less?

6 There's almost no one who is thinking or reading
7 who doesn't agree we are going to need vastly more energy.
8 The cloud is suspended by electricity alright. The cloud is
9 an electric pig and we are going to need more electricity --
10 we are going to need more energy to meet the needs of the
11 future.

12 Tonight there are lots of folks here from
13 industry and the unions and that and they are going to tell
14 you that the Williams Project here and Williams is a great
15 company, the company I work for does work for Williams.
16 They are going to tell you that it is going to provide
17 energy and heat for millions of homes and it is going to
18 drive billions of dollars-worth of business and that's all
19 true but for someone like me and for most of you, you have
20 your own personal reasons to be for or against this thing.

21 I'm a greeny, I'm a Liberal Democrat. I'm about
22 to go out and canvass for Hillary Clinton the way I did for
23 Barrack Obama four years ago. I'm ready to go so my list is
24 slightly different. Here's my list. I want cleaner air and
25 natural gas is at least twice as clean as coal. This year

1 by the way natural gas overtook coal as the number one
2 producer of electricity in this country alright.

3 Number two -- that the U.S. leads the world in
4 carbon dioxide emission reductions alright admittedly we
5 make a lot but we are also leading the world and the reason
6 is because of natural gas and because we have converted over
7 from the much dirtier coal.

8 Number three -- it's cheaper, it's vastly cheaper
9 than oil most of which comes from other countries and that's
10 number three.

11 Number four -- security -- if we can use
12 domestically harvested natural gas we don't have to rely on
13 foreign energy. And as for renewables I know there are a
14 lot of folks out there that would love to see more
15 renewables I would myself but right now they constitute
16 14.2% of our energy that keeps the lights on only one minute
17 out of 7.

18 I say yes to the Atlantic Sunrise Project but
19 before you say no ask yourself will we need more energy
20 going forward or will we need less. I am sure we will need
21 more and I'm sure most of you are too. I want that energy
22 clean. I want that energy abundant and I want that energy
23 domestic. I want gas. Thank you.

24 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 2 oh
25 my, Veto Barziloski, Jr. and please spell that.

1 MR. BARZILOSKI: My name is Veto V-e-t-o
2 Barziloski B-a-r-z-i-l-o-s-k-i it's Jr. Good evening I
3 would like to thank you guys for having these public
4 meetings so we can come and express our opinions. As you
5 know my name is Veto Barziloski and I am the Vice-President
6 of Bennie's Nurseries, Incorporated. Bennie's Nurseries is
7 a family owned and operated nursery and landscaping company
8 located in Tunkhannock.

9 We are now on our third generation as a family
10 business and own several properties in Wyoming and
11 Susquehanna Counties. Some of these properties have been in
12 our family for nearly 100 years. Approximately five years
13 ago we were approached by Williams about leasing ground for
14 a gathering line which would cross one of our older
15 properties.

16 Although hesitant at first and after many
17 discussions with family and with Williams' representatives
18 we felt confident that allowing them to cross our property
19 was the right thing to do. During the whole process
20 Williams was straight-forward with us and abundantly
21 cooperative along with being extremely cognizant of the
22 environment. We were so impressed by Williams that we now
23 host over 1 mile of Williams own pipeline across our
24 properties.

25 While developing a relationship as a land owner

1 with Williams we also saw opportunity to offer our services
2 to them. They, in living up to their commitment to the
3 community were able to use many of our services. After
4 meeting very strict requirements which are demanded by
5 Williams we were able to obtain ambassador service agreement
6 and now serve them in several environmental landscape
7 capacities.

8 This is not only a tremendous boost to our
9 business but it has given us the opportunity to be part of
10 and see how dedicated this company is to insuring a healthy
11 environment before, during and after construction. Having
12 experienced first-hand the environmental diligence that
13 Williams practices we have no doubt that the Atlantic
14 Sunrise Pipeline will in one way or another benefit millions
15 of people in Pennsylvania and with that we would like to
16 encourage the FERC to issue any necessary permits to get
17 this project moving, thank you.

18 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 3 Ed
19 Gillette.

20 MR. GILLETTE: Thank you for this chance to be
21 heard. My name is Ed Gillette I represent Local 542 of the
22 Operating Engineers. We are the equipment operators that
23 build these pipelines. Pipeline infrastructure is as
24 important as our roadways and railways. It is not possible
25 to meet our country's energy needs without natural gas.

1 The Atlantic Sunrise will support over 2300
2 construction jobs and 6,000 indirect jobs. Well what are
3 the faces of those jobs? We live here in Pennsylvania, our
4 kids go to school here and we shop in the local stores. We
5 benefit from the lower electric and heating costs brought
6 about by abundant natural gas.

7 Every pipeline is different and has its own
8 challenges -- that is why we had over 160 pipeline classes
9 last year besides local classes on safety and environmental
10 issues. Large scale infrastructure projects such as the
11 Atlantic Sunrise play an increasing role in the strength of
12 our economy both now and in future decades.

13 Pennsylvania must continue to upgrade and build
14 the necessary infrastructure to safely and efficiently
15 transport our energy resources. There are those that
16 content the project is not needed and this is certainly not
17 true. Not only me but the membership of Local 542 Operating
18 Engineers respectfully asks your consideration in letting us
19 construct this project, thank you.

20 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Next up is number 4,
21 number 4 is Tammy Bonniece.

22 MS. BONNICE: Hello my name is Tammy Bonniece and
23 I am in support of the Atlantic Sunrise Project. I am also
24 the current President of the Montrose Chamber on the Board
25 for Susquehanna County for United Way for 9 years, Director

1 of Montrose Rotary and born and raised in a small town just
2 a little north of here.

3 As President of the Chamber and an active
4 community member and a lifetime resident in this area I
5 deeply care about our environment, our water supply, our
6 economy growth and our future energy supply. As a lifetime
7 resident of the area I feel natural gas industry has been a
8 blessing for this area. I spent my summer on my
9 grandfather's farm putting in hay milking cows and watching
10 him work very hard every day.

11 The farmers suffered the most in this area with
12 prices of milk going down and their feed bill going up.
13 When the gas companies came in they paid the farmers lease
14 money to their land and start drilling farmers now were able
15 to buy new equipment, take much needed family vacations and
16 much more.

17 I wish my grandfather was here to see this. I
18 will never forget the sadness in his eyes when he had to
19 sell off some of his land to pay taxes. My grandfather
20 would welcome the gas companies and the pipeline companies
21 with open arms. I know he would be excited to know we are
22 using the resources that are coming from under our feet and
23 not overseas somewhere.

24 I will say that again -- we have these resources
25 under our feet to use natural gas. The Marcellus shale

1 region is our ticket to a better life it's like our golden
2 child. The wells are drilled, the gas is just waiting to be
3 moved so I ask you please let the Atlantic Sunrise Project
4 go through, give Williams the permits they need to move
5 forward. Let them be able to meet their in-service days.
6 We all know the facts that natural gas is a low-cost, clean
7 burning fuel. Natural gas is American energy it serves as a
8 way of lowering the cost of energy, reducing emissions and
9 creating many jobs.

10 Manufacturing is low in this area. We need
11 manufacturing to be present to make our small real
12 communities survive. With natural gas as an energy source
13 in this area manufacturing will move in giving jobs to our
14 neighbors and to our children in return helping our
15 non-profits grow, our communities grow and our people's
16 lifestyles get that improved.

17 As President of the Montrose Chamber and Board
18 Member of the United Way of Susquehanna County I have seen
19 the Chamber membership almost double in size and our United
20 Way Campaign amounts have gone up which makes it much easier
21 for us to give much more to many organizations. We have
22 benefitted from the natural gas in so many ways I want to
23 see it continue growing.

24 With the Atlantic Sunrise Project going through
25 we will see new businesses move into our towns and old

1 businesses will flourish. We all benefit one way or
2 another. There are so many benefits why wouldn't we want
3 the project to go through? Why wouldn't we want to become a
4 nation that could support ourselves? Why wouldn't we want
5 to be in the driver's seat of our energy?

6 Why wouldn't we want to move forward and build
7 the Atlantic Sunrise Project? I support the Atlantic
8 Sunrise Expansion Project and urge FERC to issue a Final
9 Environmental Impact Statement, thank you.

10 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 5,
11 number 5 is Tom Shepstone.

12 MR. SHEPSTONE: Thank you yes my name is Tom
13 Shepstone I am a consulting planner with 40 years of
14 experience representing businesses in communities in
15 Northeastern Pennsylvania and I also happen to publish a
16 blog supporting natural gas because I see what it has done
17 economically for us.

18 The Atlantic Sunrise should be approved by FERC
19 for the same reason that anti-gas forces oppose it. It will
20 assist natural gas development here while providing clean
21 inexpensive gas to urban areas along the eastern seaboard.
22 The construction impacts of the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline
23 total 1.6 billion but the real value is the economic
24 development at the rural end and the low stable prices for
25 gas at the urban end. Both made possible by infrastructure

1 to deliver that gas.

2 We see with our own eyes the economic impacts
3 here compared with neighboring counties in New York have not
4 been able to develop their resources. Susquehanna County
5 for example now has a higher medium household income than
6 Sullivan County, New York only 20 miles away despite being
7 9.1% lower in 2000, that's what happened.

8 Bradford County had no employment in the oil and
9 gas industry in 2007 and 983 jobs five years later. These
10 economic impacts can only be sustained with infrastructure
11 to move more gas from these rural counties to urban markets
12 where it is needed and performed an economical miracle of
13 another sort there by lowering energy costs.

14 Federal data from the EIA on residential
15 consumption of natural gas in the states of Maryland,
16 Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Virginia all of which will be
17 served by the Atlantic Sunrise shows consumers saved 3.4
18 billion dollars on gas to heat their homes in 2015 and an
19 incredible 16.5 billion dollars since 2008, the numbers are
20 there you only need to look them up.

21 Applying the same analysis to commercial
22 industrial and electrical generation gas use yields total
23 savings of over 12 billion dollars for 2015 alone, that's
24 what natural gas development here in the rural northeast has
25 done for consumers in the urban northeast and why the

1 Atlantic Sunrise Project should be approved post haste,
2 thank you.

3 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 6,
4 number 6 is Carl Marrara.

5 MR. MARRARA: Hi thank you Carl Marrara, that's
6 M-a-r-r-a-r-a. My name is Carl Marrara and I am the Vice
7 President of Government Affairs for the Pennsylvania
8 Manufacturers Association. We are the state-wide
9 organization representing people who make things here in our
10 Commonwealth generating over 79 billion dollars annually in
11 gross state product and employing 575,000 hard-working
12 Pennsylvanians on plant floors and sustaining millions more
13 through supply distribution and retail networks.

14 I am honored to be here today commenting before
15 FERC to express our support for the Atlantic Sunrise
16 Project. Manufacturers in particular depend on affordable
17 dry and liquid gas to remain globally competitive. Under
18 current market constrictions when there is high demand for
19 gas priority is given to residential and institutional
20 markets leaving industry to find alternative sources, higher
21 pollution and much more expensive. Total natural gas demand
22 is poised to increase by 40% over the next decade according
23 to researchers at IHS Economics and they found that the key
24 drivers of this demand will be in the manufacturing and
25 power generation sectors.

1 Therefore projects such as the Atlantic Sunrise
2 Project are so vitally important to the productive sector of
3 our Commonwealth's economy. With 25 to 30% of Marcellus
4 well's drilled to date still not having pipeline takeaway
5 capacity. Projects such as the Atlantic Sunrise open and
6 expand gas markets sustaining and stabilizing the energy
7 industry that is so vitally important to manufacturers in
8 our state.

9 Scholars at Penn State forecast the Atlantic
10 Sunrise Project to directly employ approximately 2,300 and
11 stimulate the local and regional economies in the project
12 area by supporting an additional 6,000 jobs. More
13 importantly the economic impact of this project will have
14 lasting results, far beyond the construction of the pipeline
15 in the manufacturing sector.

16 According to a very recent study that was
17 released within the past month by the National Association
18 of Manufacturers and ISH Economics I quote, "The close
19 proximity of existing clusters of manufacturing
20 establishments to increase natural gas supplies can generate
21 new pipeline related economic development often because of
22 the availability of direct connections to new or expanding
23 gas pipeline."

24 The study continued, "The manufacturing sector
25 will also benefit economically from the capital expenditures

1 for new electric generating plants and for facilities used
2 to process and store gas liquids." And pay close attention
3 to this key finding as they found the combination of
4 increased access to shale gas and transmission lines that
5 moved affordable energy to manufacturers across America
6 meant 1.9 million jobs in 2015 alone.

7 Pennsylvania's natural gas revolution is giving
8 our manufacturers new momentum with abundant
9 cost-competitive energy. But to fully realize the potential
10 of the shale gas Pennsylvania needs robust infrastructure
11 transmission. We must connect consumers and customers to
12 supply here in Pennsylvania in the greater Northeast United
13 States and there are opportunities that exist to supply the
14 world if we seize this opportunity correct, thank you for
15 your time and consideration.

16 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you, next up is number 7,
17 number 7 is Jerry George.

18 MR. GEORGE: Thank you for letting me speak
19 tonight. My name is Jerry George I am actually a land owner
20 here in Ross Township where the pipeline is going to be
21 coming through and I support the Atlantic Sunrise Project
22 and I believe that the effect of this project on the natural
23 resources such as fish and wildlife habitat, water quality,
24 hydrology and water course and water bodies integrity have
25 been identified and will be migrated -- mitigated sorry.

1 The Federal Regulatory Commission underwent an
2 extensive environmental review to determine the
3 environmental impacts of this project will be minimal.
4 Williams has operated pipeline safely across the United
5 States for more than 50 years taking great care to protect
6 the environment. Williams works very hard to minimize
7 impacts to the land owners and the environment.

8 Since the Atlantic Sunrise was introduced in 2014
9 Williams adjusted much of the original project route based
10 on feedback from land owners and other stakeholders. During
11 the analysis of the potential pipeline routes extra effort
12 was taken to identify sensitive areas of historic
13 significance.

14 Teams of scientists, archeologists, biologists,
15 conducted detailed environmental surveys and evaluations of
16 potential study corridors searching for threatened or
17 endangered species, sensitive wildlife and vegetation
18 habitats, wetlands, water bodies and areas of significance.
19 FERC's Draft Environmental Impact Statement positively
20 reflects Williams' efforts to collaborate and other
21 stakeholders to design this project in a manner that will
22 minimize environmental impacts.

23 I understand the proposed route for the Atlantic
24 Sunrise Expansion Project has been modified significantly
25 from its originally proposed path. For this reason I

1 support the Atlantic Sunrise Expansion Project and urge FERC
2 to issue the Certificate of Public Convenience and
3 Necessity, thank you for letting me speak this evening.

4 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 8,
5 number 8 is Brandon Oitra.

6 MR. OITRA: Good evening my name is Brandon Oitra
7 and I'm from Nanticoke which about 20 minutes down the road
8 from here. I'm from Nanticoke, it's about 20 minutes down
9 the road from here I'm a certified welding inspector by the
10 American Welding Society. I also have papers and two
11 certifications that are current for gas companies up here in
12 Susquehanna County.

13 Since 2011 I have been working here in eastern
14 Pennsylvania in the natural gas industry. I got my start
15 from a friend of mine who was working for a small contractor
16 and I was doing work for the gas company and I took a lot of
17 interest in it because my grandfather actually back in the
18 '50's laid a lot of pipeline here when he was working for
19 the Operators Union so I thought that was pretty neat to be
20 able to do something that my grandfather did some years ago.

21 I clawed my way from the bottom, I started as a
22 laborer as a welder's helper, eventually built my own rig
23 and became a welder and when you are working on a pipeline
24 whether you are welding or you are laboring you constantly
25 have people watching over you whether it is a welding

1 inspector or a utility inspector, coatings inspector,
2 environmental inspector or safety man you constantly have
3 someone making sure that you are doing the job right and
4 that you are doing it safely and I wanted to be one of those
5 guys.

6 So in 2014 I traveled to Georgia and spent a
7 couple of weeks down there and acquired by CWI in code book
8 1104 to inspect on pipelines and pipeline facilities. And I
9 have my parents here with me today and my girlfriend who
10 they can tell you that I bring my work home with me quite a
11 bit and that's because I am passionate about this this is my
12 life but most importantly it is not my life that I am
13 worried about it is the land owners that were putting the
14 pipelines on their property or the thousands of people that
15 drive over the roads that you know we bore under or that we
16 do our road crossings, it's their lives that matter.

17 The most recent job I have been on I was done in
18 Lancaster County this past fall on 11 mile Rock Springs
19 lateral project for Williams and while working there I got a
20 lot of compliments and a lot of thank you's from land owners
21 and neighbors and people in the community who appreciated
22 how much we respected their property in their community and
23 how good of a job we did.

24 So unfortunately since then I haven't worked. I
25 have been laid off and it has been tough and this project

1 and projects like these are going to help guys like me and
2 guys like these guys back here. It is going to employ a lot
3 of people and it is going to help a lot of the small local
4 businesses and it's ultimately going to help boost their
5 local economy and as consumers it is going to help lower our
6 energy costs, I mean it's a no-brainer.

7 I could have sat here and fabricated numbers and
8 went on the internet and found statistics to beat you guys
9 up with but this is real and I'm real and these guys back
10 here are real and I'm sure you can speak to them and say
11 that we need this, thank you.

12 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 9,
13 number 9 is Alex Lotorto.

14 MR. LOTORTO: Thank you, my name is Alex Lotorto.
15 I am going to be speaking about three topics I will be
16 submitting electronically. I have a large filing I would
17 like to make. The first topic I would like to address is I
18 am disappointed that there is not a hearing being held in
19 Wyoming or Susquehanna County. To get here from the top of
20 the pipeline it can take over an hour. Also that's
21 difficult for working families and people who need child
22 care, farmers got their first cut of hay this week, very
23 busy and I think that it is something that we recommended in
24 the first round of hearings.

25 And the scoping meetings did take place at

1 Keystone College and Mountain View High School which is an
2 appropriate location for this so I hope that you schedule a
3 hearing in Susquehanna County or Wyoming County for those
4 land owners. Regarding property rights -- I have been
5 involved forming a coalition of land owners called Concerned
6 Land Owners Along the Atlantic Sunrise.

7 In the summer of 2014 I and some of my colleagues
8 and under-graduate research fellows conducted a survey of
9 land owners from Lennox to Dallas the length of the Central
10 Penn north line. We found 75 land owners interested in
11 joining a coalition and we met regularly for a year and a
12 half in the Tunkhannock Library where land owners expressed
13 many concerns including the use of eminent domain as their
14 biggest concern.

15 My opinion is that Williams' company has access
16 to two gathering lines that leave Susquehanna County and
17 connect to their Transco pipeline in Luzerne County. The
18 first was built by Chief and it was acquired by Williams and
19 the second is PVR it was a pipeline built by PVR -- Penn
20 Virginia Resources that is accessible now because Williams
21 was purchased by Energy Transfer Partners which is also
22 ownership of the Penn Virginia Resources.

23 There are already two pipelines leaving
24 Susquehanna County that connect to the Dallas/Transco
25 Pipeline and the third is owned by UGI which is an industry

1 partner of Williams on a number of projects. But the
2 Central Penn line north is redundant. They don't need a
3 pipeline to come from Susquehanna County to Dallas. They
4 have enough capacity already and for the rest of the
5 pipeline to get it to Lusby, Maryland where there is an
6 export terminal and markets in the Washington, D.C. area the
7 Transco lines connects in Easton, Pennsylvania to the
8 Columbia Pipeline which is a north/south pipeline that
9 delivers to that region.

10 There are already pipelines in place plumbing the
11 gas where they say they need it to go. Eminent domain and a
12 Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity should only
13 be issued if it is necessary and in my opinion the gas
14 pipelines are already in place to serve the markets that
15 they want to serve.

16 The second concern I would like to relate
17 landowner's have -- Wyoming County, zoning for the county
18 prohibits building occupied structures like homes and office
19 buildings within 100 feet of an existing pipeline
20 right-of-way. The Williams proposal is 100 foot wide
21 right-of-way, 100 feet on either side means every 160 feet
22 of linear pipe takes an acre of buildable land away from
23 land owners in Wyoming County and you will hear from some of
24 the land owners who are here tonight about their issues
25 where their highest and best use for their property is to do

1 a building lot it would be significantly higher than the
2 easement offers that Williams is offering.

3 And in my opinion Williams isn't giving them a
4 fair deal and they are using eminent domain threats to
5 threaten land owners to sign sub-par easements that are
6 pitiful for what their land is worth and I don't think union
7 members if their union contract was up for negotiation that
8 Williams would accept an arbitration and a forced deal down
9 their throats, I don't think Williams should be allowed to
10 do that to land owners.

11 And finally I am concerned about Tunkhannock
12 Creek it is a beautiful creek they are proposing to wet
13 ditch cross which I raised the concern -- this is the third
14 time I am raising it to you, they are going to dredge
15 through the creek. I think it is a terrible method for
16 crossing Tunkhannock Creek.

17 They are also going to bore underneath the
18 Susquehanna River. I am going to file copies of the weekly
19 status reports for the last time the Susquehanna River was
20 bored underneath for a pipeline was in 2015 Kinder Morgan
21 attempted a horizontal/directional drill and had a drilling
22 mud spill in a wetland adjacent to the bore.

23 And that happened that summer three times that it was
24 attempted across the Delaware, the Susquehanna and the
25 Weamaconk River in New Jersey and if Kinder Morgan can't do

1 it right Williams is a similar-sized company is going to be
2 hiring similar contractors.

3 I am concerned about our waterways. We have
4 pristine waterway, we will have some other wetland
5 specialists talking about that tonight but in the end I
6 really think that this project shouldn't go through as
7 proposed. There are not enough land owners who have been
8 able to negotiate fairly with this company they have been
9 bullied and the digging across of our streams and wetlands
10 is not acceptable is that my three minutes?

11 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you, next up is number 10
12 Robyn Kochan.

13 MS. KOCHAN: My name is Robyn Kochan it is Robyn
14 with a Y and Kochan with a K and I am a directly impacted
15 land owner. The Draft EIS states FERC must consider all
16 factors before authorizing a pipeline yet the risk to human
17 life was not reported. This April a man was burning alive
18 who lives 1500 feet from a natural gas explosion in
19 Pennsylvania. That's five times farther than the intended
20 pipeline near my home. This proves that natural gas blast
21 kill zone data is inaccurate.

22 For FERC and Transco Williams to ignore reality,
23 intentionally not inform land owners and knowingly proceed
24 with untrue data all for corporate profits is democide.
25 Horrific news of numerous natural gas explosions and lack of

1 accountability expose the instant devastation of a pipeline
2 explosion from 500 feet away.

3 Do the paid supporters want a pipeline near their
4 home? If you are not alive you have no job understand? No
5 life equals no job. The potential impact on life not
6 dollars must be the number one deciding factor for a
7 pipeline. Human decency does not knowingly put the public
8 at risk. Transco consistently disregards land owners and
9 denies responsibility for potential damages which we have
10 verified home owners insurance will not cover. The DEIS
11 states Transco would use toxic herbicides which cause health
12 risks and water contamination.

13 And it may take the rest of our lives for forest
14 vegetation to return to pre-construction levels and that
15 what remains may not survive Transco's cleared right-of-way.
16 Most egregious is positioning our home of 28 years,
17 essentially forcing us to exist in an incineration kill zone
18 all to avoid empty building lots in Goodly Manor.

19 Transco's erosion control or blasting plans are
20 meaningless. We have seen foundation cracks, sinkholes,
21 water re-routing from ineffective catch basins when Goodly
22 Manor blasted and the new flooding and road deterioration in
23 our community from Chief's pipeline erosion control.

24 Goodly, Chief's insurance took no responsibility
25 leaving land owners to correct damages at their own expense.

1 We have no reason to believe that any of these plans are
2 effective when reality exposes the truth and Transco shows
3 no integrity. The DEIS is full of erroneous information.
4 It states, "PHMSA insures that people and the environment
5 are protected from pipeline accident risks" yes Pennsylvania
6 had three explosions within the last year.

7 That averages one explosion every 4 months. It
8 states pipeline weld, material or equipment failure causes
9 the most accidents and that Transco would use specified
10 welding protocol yet that was exactly what was faulty in the
11 2016 explosion. Transco's safety record did not disclose
12 the 2015 Lycoming County explosion. It is untrue that
13 Transco will protect people first and then property when
14 their pipeline places us in the blast kill zone.

15 At 500 feet we would be instantly incinerated.
16 That is not making us safe from actual or potential hazards
17 using more rigorous safety requirements for populated areas
18 and stating our rural lives and clean water are of little
19 value. If Transco's public fatalities average 2 per year
20 for 5 years, who in this room will be those 2?

21 The DEIS states the pipeline has incremental risk
22 to the public and the greatest hazard is the fire or
23 explosion after the rupture. Does FERC not view death or the
24 man burning alive at 1500 feet at the greatest hazard? 2.5
25 million miles of pipeline already exist. Transco must

1 replace its arrogance and rudeness with decency by
2 creatively co-existing their lines, thank you.

3 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 11,
4 number 11 is Chuck Clarke.

5 MR. CLARKE: Good evening my name is Chuck
6 Clarke, C-l-a-r-k-e. I am a resident of Plains Township,
7 Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. I speak on behalf of my
8 fellow brothers and sisters of Laborer's Local 158 Heavy and
9 Highway. I am in support of the Atlantic Sunrise Project
10 which is an expansion of the Williams Transcontinental
11 Pipeline.

12 Natural gas is widely available and burns cleaner
13 than coal. It is no wonder we get 25% of our electricity
14 from natural gas and that percentage is growing. In
15 addition there is the positive impact natural gas on the
16 economy and the environment. According to the Environmental
17 Protection Agency natural gas is also better than coal
18 because it does not produce ash and other particulates.
19 Pipelines throughout the region transport natural gas in a
20 way that minimizes the effect on the environment. And while
21 all other forms of transportation are possible, pipelines
22 are the safest source available for transporting large
23 quantities of natural gas.

24 Natural gas is an important resource in the U.S.
25 and when managed responsibly it can remain the best clean

1 option for energy with the environment and our communities
2 as priority 1. The Laborer's International Union in North
3 America is one of the most diverse and effective unions
4 representing workers in the ever growing construction
5 industry.

6 Laborer's Local 158 members live in every
7 community of northeastern and central Pennsylvania and are
8 at the forefront of providing highly skilled workers for
9 rebuilding and maintaining Pennsylvania's infrastructure
10 highways, bridges and gas pipelines as well as other sectors
11 of the heavy construction industry.

12 Furthermore our members and their families
13 breathe the same air, drink the same water and enjoy the
14 same outdoors, all along the communities of the proposed
15 project. They have a vested interest to provide safe
16 practices in order to maintain the high quality of life we
17 all long for.

18 In closing I request that FERC allow Williams to
19 proceed with the Atlantic Sunrise Project, thank you.

20 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you, speaker number 12
21 Rich Waterowski.

22 MR. WATEROWSKI: Good evening. I thank you for
23 the opportunity to speak here tonight. My name is Richie
24 Waterowski and I am a proud member of the Laborers
25 International Union of North America. I speak in support of

1 the Atlantic Sunrise Project which is an expansion of the
2 Williams Transcontinental Pipeline which has been in service
3 for over 50 years -- 50 years. By increasing capacity to
4 the Transcontinental Pipeline Williams will increase the
5 amount of natural gas to be reliably available to the
6 mid-Atlantic energy markets. Increasing the amount of
7 natural gas delivered to these markets along with increased
8 service reliability will have a positive impact on the
9 overall supply of clean burning natural gas for heating
10 homes and producing electricity.

11 The United States needs to continue developing
12 natural gas resources. More and more customers are turning
13 to natural gas for heating needs and insuring a reliable gas
14 supply should be a priority concern of our Federal Energy
15 Regulatory Commission.

16 The FERC and the state of Pennsylvania need to
17 continue allowing pipeline infrastructure and compressor
18 facilities to be built in order to keep natural gas prices
19 affordable. Furthermore the economic benefits of the
20 Atlantic Sunrise Project will be significant including
21 expanding opportunities for skilled labor of local unions.
22 Williams consistently contracts with several Pennsylvania
23 based employers that employ union workers.

24 Williams also realizes the quality of work our
25 local unions offer. In closing I support the Atlantic

1 Sunrise Project and request that the Federal Energy
2 Regulatory Commission allow Williams to proceed with this
3 project. Again thank you for the opportunity to speak here
4 tonight.

5 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you, next up is number 13,
6 Terry Langley.

7 MR. LANGLEY: Good evening thank you for this
8 opportunity to speak this evening. My name is Terry Langley
9 I am a representative of Pipeliners Local 798. I could talk
10 forever about the economic benefits this pipeline will
11 provide people like me and the people who run the hotels, my
12 fellow welders and I stay at are the places we eat or shop
13 during our significant time in each local area. But the
14 economic benefit not to mention the ripple effect benefit we
15 see natural gas bring to manufacturing and low cost consumer
16 goods are all so clear.

17 I want to focus on the main reason I support the
18 Atlantic Sunrise. I am a hunter, I'm a fisherman, I love
19 the outdoors and I would never do or support anything that I
20 thought for one second compromises the very habitat that I
21 love to explore and enjoy. And while I try and think we all
22 should try to use renewable energy whenever possible -- the
23 fact is there are reliability, affordability and land use
24 limitations that prevent renewables from every meeting 100%
25 of American's energy demand.

1 To incorporate more renewables into the energy
2 mix our country needs access to a reliable, affordable and
3 environmental responsible that provide utilities, the
4 flexibility and reliability that is necessary for them to do
5 so and that fuel source is natural gas.

6 Even the American Wind Energy Association says as
7 much from its website and I quote, "Reliable and
8 cost-effective operation of the electric grid requires a
9 mixture of three types of resources -- energy, electricity,
10 capacity, ability to generate electricity at a certain point
11 in time and flexibility, ability to turn up or turn down
12 electricity generation as needed natural gas power plants,
13 significant amounts of flexibility and capacity."

14 So when this was written presumably prior to
15 natural gas being seen by utilities as much cost effective
16 than coal up to three boxes the Wind Energy Association says
17 need to be checked it states natural gas checked two of the
18 most important ones, flexibility and capacity. Had this
19 been written today the Wind Association would likely have
20 acknowledged that thanks to what's happened right here in
21 this region natural gas is very affordable and given the
22 cost of pollution control necessary to generate electricity
23 from coal it essentially costs less than coal.

24 Thanks to what happened here natural gas is
25 plentiful and will remain affordable for decades to come

1 with electricity utility recognizing this they are
2 increasingly switching to natural gas to meet their
3 customers' around the clock energy demands. This makes
4 natural gas not only fuel that checks all three boxes the
5 U.S. Wind Energy Association states the electric grid
6 requires to operate in a reliable and cost effective manner.

7 So Local 798 supports the Atlantic Sunrise and I
8 ask that FERC approve the permit thank you.

9 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 14,
10 Walt Kochan.

11 MR. KOCHAN: Good evening everyone my name is
12 Walt Kochan I'm from Dallas, Pennsylvania and I am an
13 impacted land owner in the path of this proposed pipeline.
14 Apologies to FERC and its employees, it must be very
15 grueling having to travel so many days and to so many areas
16 to listen to land owner pleas asking to be treated fairly
17 when the decision to grant a pipeline permit has already
18 been made.

19 We may not want the pipeline and we have been
20 willing to work with Transco Williams to develop a
21 less-intrusive route and not to put us in harm's way. We
22 repeatedly asked to be treated honestly and with respect in
23 that process. Instead Transco chose to intimidate, ignore
24 and deceive us and all other land owners around us while
25 spreading propaganda to the public and using FERC as a guise

1 for transparency and fairness.

2 Most supporters of this pipeline hell you guys
3 should be out there campaigning against the Williams company
4 when they are getting their pipe from Turkey, that's where
5 the jobs are being lost. You guys here I see you have your
6 new t-shirts there to show up you probably can't wait to get
7 out and get your six pack after your puppet masters have
8 left. You guys are talking about the jobs that you will
9 have here for a short amount of time -- I'm sure your
10 business agents tell you to get out there and plant the
11 flag, have suck jobs. It's tough without having a paycheck
12 for your family but living next to a bomb on my property
13 should not be the excuse of your lifetime of making bad
14 decisions.

15 I mean learn to do something else instead of
16 putting pipelines which will kill people within 1500 feet.
17 The other thing that all the shills here and supporters of
18 the pipeline aren't talking about is the fact that all of
19 this gas is going to Asia. This stuff is going to Asia it
20 is not for Americans.

21 When the company moves out the gas that you think
22 is cheap today will be more expensive than you are paying
23 today because they are going to sell it to the highest
24 bidder it is just that simple. Learn to pick up a book and
25 you will be able to figure this out guys.

1 MS. WACHHOLDER: Alright everybody remember what
2 I said, no interrupting the speaker even if he is being rude
3 to you which is how you are taking that I understand that.
4 We don't interrupt we don't cheer, we don't boo and he will
5 get more time because I interrupted him and that's not fair
6 either so again that is my rule and I am sticking by it
7 otherwise people have to leave, okay go ahead I'm sorry.

8 MR. KOCHAN: I'm hoping you stopped the clock.

9 MS. WACHHOLDER: Yes.

10 MR. KOCHAN: Thank you. Pipeline destruction of
11 our property for which we can't obtain insurance is not a
12 benefit. Using toxic herbicides on our land is not a
13 benefit but it is a detriment to our well water and our
14 health taking the rest of our lives for the deforestation to
15 regenerate, to return to pre-construction levels and knowing
16 that what remains may not survive after Transco has cleared
17 the right-of-way is not a benefit.

18 Most egregious is that FERC finds empty building
19 lots on an adjacent Goodly Manor more valuable than human
20 lives. We propose several alternate routes -- FERC is
21 suggesting to Williams that they should use Route 10A I'm
22 not sure what should means you know is that a recommendation
23 or is that a demand? FERC doesn't say that in the DEIS and
24 anywhere I have searched on FERC's website or through their
25 offices and phone calls.

1 What we are asking is for FERC to demand that
2 Williams use Alternative Route 10 the proposed Alternate
3 Route 10 rather than Alternate 10A. 10 would pass through
4 less forested land and be a shorter pipeline route in
5 actuality. It would pass through one more empty undeveloped
6 lot in Goodly Manor and prevent the loss of building sites
7 on my 16 acres and more importantly put my bedroom that much
8 further away from the center of the death zone, the blast
9 zone on my property.

10 The DEIS was to identify and assess potential
11 impacts on human environment yet it is not done. It doesn't
12 disclose accurate data in the DEIS regarding the kill zone.
13 Pennsylvania's natural gas explosion in Salem Township on
14 April 29th depicts the true lifetime of devastation of this
15 man burning alive as he ran away from this incident 1500
16 feet from his house -- 1500 feet.

17 A lot different it is three to five times farther
18 than where Transco's Pipeline wants to place the pipe on my
19 land. FERC's websites says that reporting false information
20 to a U.S. agency is a crime and yet FERC allows this
21 industry to do exactly that, it allows industry to post
22 false information or omit critical data.

23 We have already witnessed the ineffective
24 mitigation measures by Chief's Pipeline in our community
25 that resulted in unexpected flooding damages to a wetland

1 adjacent to our property all to be corrected at landowner's
2 expense. What the misinformed supporters need to know is
3 that the industry is above law --

4 MS. WACHHOLDER: I just need to remind you your
5 time was up so please get to your conclusion.

6 MR. KOCHAN: And that they changed the laws for
7 their sole purpose, thank you.

8 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you, next up is number 15
9 David Horn. And again we have to keep the chatter down
10 because it is hard to here then.

11 MR. HORN: Hi my name is David Horn and I
12 represent the Laborers International Union of North American
13 or LIUNA or the skills as we have been referred to recently
14 more specifically Laborer's Local 158 Heavy Highway and
15 Pipeline with members in 29 counties from the northeast
16 through central Pennsylvania.

17 As well trained professionals who have worked on
18 many projects including pipelines I want to clarify one
19 thing. We too care deeply about the environment. We enjoy
20 the outdoors and the beauty that surrounds us. We also care
21 about safely providing energy today and in the future and
22 believe that the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline can do just that.

23 Local 158 members have been building pipelines
24 for more than 60 years. We build pipelines and the safety
25 of our members and the people that the pipeline affects is

1 the cornerstone of all of our training. Each year LIUNA
2 trains about 150,000 workers and invest 100 million dollars
3 in training. This includes pipeline specific instructions
4 and certification.

5 We are committed to keeping workers and the
6 community safe. In the last year LIUNA helped more than 100
7 pipeline operators build and maintain projects and we are
8 enthusiastic supporters of modernizing our existing pipeline
9 infrastructure. Since 2010 pipelines have resulted in over
10 15 million man hours for our members and the pipeline
11 contractors we represent. Depending on the size of the line
12 construction can be from a couple of months to a couple
13 years. Many say that these jobs are temporary you know but
14 all construction jobs are temporary it's a string of
15 temporary construction jobs that helps support our members
16 and their families with good sustaining wages.

17 Growth in the energy industry can create steady,
18 reliable careers for millions of men and women in our
19 country and in this community. More specifically pipeline
20 work is a lifeline for good union jobs with family
21 supporting pay resulting in millions of dollars being
22 reinvested back into the community and local businesses.

23 We work on these projects -- we have seen
24 first-hand the economic benefits but also the rebirth of
25 farms and communities here and across the country. To imply

1 it's either the environment or natural gas pipelines is
2 wrong on so many levels. With the technological and
3 engineering advances training and quality materials used
4 today we are fortunate. We do not have to make a choice
5 between providing safe, clean affordable and locally
6 produced energy with protecting the environment, we can do
7 both.

8 I absolutely support the Atlantic Sunrise
9 Pipeline Project and I ask FERC to do the same, thank you.

10 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you, next is number 16,
11 number 16 is Dale Wilkie going once, oh he did the other
12 court reporter, thank you, thank you for telling me, okay
13 that's great number 17 is William Emick number 17.

14 MR. EMICK: That's William Emick, E-m-i-c-k. I'm
15 a pipeline contractor from Pennsylvania. I'm actually the
16 guy that hires all of these guys and other people throughout
17 Pennsylvania to build the pipelines and compressor stations,
18 metering stations, well sites -- I just have to say that I
19 am for this project, it is going to be a main artery for
20 this state not as far as just jobs but for the whole
21 economic value of it.

22 The environmental regulations I have heard people
23 say well these guys aren't here because there are
24 environmental regulations and they don't know what they are
25 talking about they are just here for their jobs, well I will

1 tell you what I am the guy that has to follow the rules and
2 regulations of these guys when I am in there building the
3 pipeline or building the compressor station and my contract
4 that I signed my name on I'm liable for for over a year so
5 if there is anything that happens on one of these projects I
6 have to go back and fix it and take the money out of my
7 pocket to fix it.

8 So my guys that are hired through me they are
9 going to do the best absolute project they can do to keep me
10 employed as an owner and as a contractor in this state.
11 These projects are highly regulated. FERC's out there, DEP
12 we have inspectors on our jobs daily that walk through and
13 make sure we are doing these jobs properly and doing them
14 right.

15 And most of my guys aren't afraid of pipelines
16 blowing up when we are working on them I mean it just
17 doesn't happen. I would be more afraid to come to this
18 gathering and some asshole comes in here and wants to shoot
19 me with an AK for my rant. You know that's what I am afraid
20 of, I'm not afraid of working on jobs and you know you can
21 get killed driving down the road here, a drunk driver can
22 hit you.

23 If you are that scared of a pipeline you have got
24 some problems. They are damn safe, really safe. But anyway
25 I just wanted to come and say that I am for this pipeline

1 and I am for Pennsylvania.

2 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you, number 18 is Tom
3 Byron and remember quiet in the gallery or else people have
4 to go.

5 MR. BYRON: My name is Thomas Byron, 83
6 Leathertenny Lane, Dallas Township. My wife Joan and I are
7 impacted land owners and interveners of the Atlantic Sunrise
8 Pipeline Project. We occupy land between 23.2 and 24.0
9 miles. My wife and I spent 30 years creating a marriage of
10 private property ownership and public domain use on our 247
11 acre property. We have allowed academic access and study to
12 our undisturbed wetland and old growth forest in close
13 proximity to the Misericordia University Campus.

14 We have an enclosed cross country running course
15 for club, junior high, high school, university level
16 runners, their spectators and hundreds of parents. The
17 Atlantic Sunrise Project will force us to alter our public
18 use of our property. Alternative routes have been proposed
19 and dismissed. We have observed completed pipeline projects
20 on right-of-ways in Wyoming, Bradford and Susquehanna
21 Counties.

22 Several years after completion of the projections
23 the grass cover remains thread bare and sparse. We have
24 observed the head generated by the pipeline's melt surface
25 snow. Our property is considered clean and green by

1 Pennsylvania legislation. We follow all directives of that
2 legislative. We will now have a private commercial
3 development, i.e. a pipeline for private gain who will take
4 our private land.

5 If we as private land owners used our property
6 for commercial gain we would lose clean and green
7 designations. I guess the pipeline industry is special.
8 The current EIS, Environmental Impact Statement a 1300 page
9 document states there are no wetlands or water crossings
10 affected by the current route crossing our property. That
11 statement is inaccurate and incomplete.

12 The transit across our 0.6 miles of un-surveyed
13 land impacts a wetland, actually two wetlands, an old growth
14 forest confirmed by personal observation and inspection by a
15 PHD wetland biologist.

16 The Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline will cut a 100 foot
17 swath through old growth forest, sacrificing centuries old
18 trees. It also crosses a large wetland shared with the
19 adjacent property owner. It will have significant and
20 adverse environmental impacts on our property. Dallas
21 Township, Pennsylvania has become the switching yard for the
22 oil, gas and pipeline industry. There are currently
23 multiple pipelines in use with more proposed. The Dallas
24 School District, grade school, junior high, high school has
25 been evacuated twice for transmission natural gas pipeline

1 issues 1,000 feet from the campus.

2 The Atlantic Sunrise Project will have
3 significant and adverse environmental effects on our
4 property, our land will be permanently scarred, our
5 undisturbed wetland will be disturbed by dynamite and
6 dredging, we will lose thousands of bored feet of old growth
7 forest, the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline bisects our property
8 creating an island of unusable and inaccessible land.

9 It permanently changes our present and future use
10 of our private property. We must live forever with the
11 stress of 1.4 billion cubic feet of gas passing through us
12 on a daily basis. Our peace of mind is permanently
13 affected. You will hear and have heard from numerous
14 pro-pipeline individuals. Their rationale is nearly always
15 economic, either their personal business or their union
16 gains.

17 This is a hearing about the environment and the
18 EIS statement. Somehow from their point of view dynamite,
19 bulldozers, dredging and permanent clear cutting are good
20 for the environment. This country was founded on the rights
21 of the individuals and the common man to pursue life,
22 liberty and happiness.

23 Land owners who represent the common man are
24 confronted with bludgeoned contracts, demeaning land values,
25 bait and switch sales pitches, all to the benefit of the

1 pipeline company. This entire process meaning the EIS
2 statement, the collection of data, follows a hollow
3 political rhetoric, governmental inefficiencies and
4 incompetence and it is in essence a charade.

5 The common man, his or her rights, his or her
6 property values is dismissed and demeaned. This is a sorry
7 state of affairs.

8 MS. WACHHOLDER: Next is number 19 Joan Byron and
9 for people that are trying to help keep time don't because I
10 have it under control, don't worry about it alright.

11 MS. BYRON: My name is Joan Byron and I am a land
12 owner and wife of Thomas Byron. I would like to say to your
13 oil men here if you put in a pipeline and it blows up you
14 have a problem there's no gas. So when you install the
15 pipeline I hope it doesn't blow up, as he said the gentleman
16 said, pipelines don't blow up when we install them, there
17 are no gas in them you know that.

18 MS. WACHHOLDER: Alright can you just speak to
19 the mic so we can get your comments.

20 MS. BYRON: Okay I'll keep this short. I live on
21 mile 23.2 to 24. I was approached -- my husband and I were
22 approached by phone by Williams in April of 2014. I was
23 told that my land was scary and remote by Mr. Bartley who
24 said, "Your mail box is scary I can't put anything in it."

25 He said we were scary and remote but our home

1 sits in the middle it is Central Park Dallas for thousands
2 of people and it sits in the middle of a community of half
3 million dollar and million dollar homes and yes small homes
4 on crowded roads with many people in the death and
5 destruction zone.

6 I say to you and we were told that, "They don't
7 even have to go through you FERC we will get nothing and
8 they will install the pipeline." That is a quote from one
9 of the higher ups on May 10, 2014. So shame on you FERC for
10 putting in your EIS statement that 23.2 to 24.0 miles there
11 is no environmental impact.

12 We have two streams, 80 acres of wetland, to my
13 knowledge after speaking -- sending FERC an email, an
14 e-comment every 2 to 3 months regarding Williams' inability
15 to work with Tom and I because we would not sign. "You have
16 to sign, we will not do an Environmental Impact Statement,
17 we will not check your property unless you sign."

18 I contacted FERC every 2 to 3 months via an
19 e-comment. Now they are saying that, "You made up page
20 whatever -- 23.2 in your EIS statement is fictitious,
21 someone made it up." Okay the gentlemen said we are
22 crossing 239 water bodies well I have got news for them
23 there are three more that no one counted because no one went
24 on our property, no one has inspected our property.

25 So should you agree to this FERC without now

1 having someone do an Environmental Impact Statement who is
2 going to be responsible for 1: the contaminated water that
3 will happen on our property? We have springs and water
4 bubbling out of the ground, who is going to take care of our
5 home which is from 1892 when the foundation cracks and the
6 building crumples? And the blow zone which we are in the
7 blow zone?

8 Briar Crest Road down the street from me has
9 signed a Petition they are probably 30 yards from the blow
10 zone and the death and destruction zone. We will not be
11 able to build anything on our green property within 600 feet
12 of this pipeline on either side because it is solid rock.

13 And in order to drop a well or put in a septic
14 system you have to blast and we are not according to
15 Williams going to be allowed to do that. Our property is
16 being orphaned because we can't even cross this pipeline.
17 There is gas leakage, yes it is proven to be 2 to 7% and on
18 pipelines and environmentally that is not safe.

19 There are other proposed routes in your EIS
20 statement that you should look into as well as the state
21 game lands in Red Rock.

22 MS. WACHHOLDER: Could you get to your conclusion
23 your time, the buzzer went off.

24 MS. BYRON: In conclusion that the homeowners
25 policy goes up up to 200% and our home cannot be re-sold and

1 the final statement is has FERC heard of the Bill of Rights
2 and the Constitution? I will be presenting you with a
3 folder of articles as well as this statement from our
4 neighbors.

5 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. We will have one
6 more person before we take a short break so number 20 is
7 Duke Barrett, number 20.

8 MR. BARRETT: Good evening. I have been
9 attending these hearings for the past six years ever since
10 the Chief people tried to sneak in a compressor station just
11 before the Christmas season to put next to the Dallas
12 schools in order to have toxic fumes go out to our children.

13 For any of these pipelines to carry any gas for
14 export to our economic rivals like India and China with
15 China likely to be a military threat as well, this pipeline
16 is not in our community's interest or the USA. It is mainly
17 for the benefit of corporate CEO's for the big money and
18 merely chump change for most of the leaser's another
19 minority.

20 What would be in the U.S. interest would be to
21 ban oil and gas exports to lower U.S. oil in ports down to a
22 realistic 15% an amount that could be made up easily and
23 largely by renewable energy for real U.S. energy
24 independence. In these FERC environmental studies about
25 habitats for plants and animals, one species that keeps

1 getting short-changed is humans. The ones who get poisoned
2 slowly by polluted air and water and threatened by
3 explosions and fires.

4 The gas may burn cleaner but the extraction is
5 dirtier and dangerous. This pipeline is not in the interest
6 of the vast majority of citizens, especially those who lose
7 their property through the corporate feudalism of eminent
8 domain. And the very fact that this pipeline is even under
9 consideration shows how FERC has betrayed its original
10 purpose especially with eminent domain for private gain,
11 thank you.

12 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. It is now about 8:30
13 so about 8:40 we will come back and finish up the rest of
14 the list at that time, thank you.

15 MS. WACHHOLDER: Alright the next person on our
16 list is number 21, number 21 Mary Rodriguez so please settle
17 down so we can hear. Alright everyone settle down I am
18 going to let her get started now.

19 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Hi Mary Rodriguez,
20 R-o-d-r-i-g-u-e-z and I would like to state that I am a
21 resident of Dallas Township, Pennsylvania. The Tulsa,
22 Oklahoma based Williams Partners is the company asking for
23 approval of this pipeline. It is my belief that this
24 out-of-state corporation does not have the best interests of
25 local land owners in Pennsylvania at heart.

1 Each local township and municipality in
2 Pennsylvania has the right to formulate a comprehensive plan
3 for their community. This well-formulated plan is a forward
4 thinking vision by our community representatives for our
5 communities. The unique characteristics of each community
6 are preserved and each new improvement or change in the
7 community is weighed as to its benefit to the community.

8 These comprehensive plans are formulated after
9 multiple public meetings, residential committee meetings,
10 surveys and many man hours of discussion. The comprehensive
11 plans are a plan or a blueprint for the future development
12 of our communities.

13 Now you may ask what relevance does that have
14 here? Well Dallas Township has three Williams' based
15 pipelines already in our community. We have Transco, we
16 have PBR and we have Chief. Now we are talking about
17 Atlantic Sunrise coming in -- another Williams pipeline.

18 We also have Penn East that is trying to get a
19 permit to come into our area, that will be 5 Williams'
20 pipelines in our community. So I ask this question does
21 Williams have a comprehensive plan of forward thinking
22 vision for Pennsylvania and Dallas Township?

23 Does Williams have a comprehensive plan in which
24 the unique attributes of our community will be preserved?
25 Does Williams have a comprehensive plan for clean energy

1 development in our community and in Pennsylvania? This
2 project will include 10,000 miles of lines excuse me that
3 will move gas to utilities and power plants. If approved it
4 will cut through portions of 10 central PA counties,
5 Columbia, Lancaster, Lebanon, Luzerne, Northumberland,
6 Schuylkill, Susquehanna, Wyoming, Clinton and Lycoming.

7 In May FERC and the US Army Corps of Engineers
8 issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement concluding
9 that approval of the project would result in some adverse
10 environmental impacts however that most of these impacts
11 would be reduced to less than significant levels with the
12 implementation of Transco's proposed mitigation and
13 additional measures recommended in the Draft EIS.

14 We, the residents of Pennsylvania do not find
15 these impacts to be insignificant. We, the residents of
16 Pennsylvania took the time and money to formulate
17 comprehensive plans for our communities. We have taken the
18 time to formulate forward thinking plans to protect our
19 community's unique qualities. We the residents of PA do not
20 see the effects of the Atlantic Sunrise as insignificant to
21 us.

22 These impacts will destroy the uniqueness of each
23 and every community they pass. We the residents of
24 Pennsylvania will not benefit from this pipeline. This
25 pipeline is not being built for the common good, it is being

1 built for the profits of a Tulsa, Oklahoma based
2 corporation.

3 Eminent domain use in this case is not for the
4 common good. Eminent domain use in this case will trample
5 the rights of our individual land owners. And in the long
6 run will trample the rights of all the communities who have
7 worked so diligently for form comprehensive plans to
8 preserve the uniqueness of their communities, thank you.

9 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you, next up is number 22,
10 number 22 is Kristin Edwards.

11 MS. EDWARDS: I have permission to read the
12 statement of Kristin Edwards. Kristin Edwards is a
13 veterinarian it is Dr. Kristin Edwards, DVM. She lives
14 adjacent to the previous pipeline by Chief and lives
15 extremely close to the new proposed Atlantic Sunrise
16 Pipeline and her statement references the wetland damage
17 created by the most recent pipeline of two years ago which
18 is 800 yards from our property.

19 The gas company started drilling under the
20 wetlands adjacent to our property in May. This led to an
21 immediate breech of the wetlands. A gas company employee
22 was able to access who I was and where I worked. He
23 interrupted my morning appointments in order to ask if they
24 could have access to the wetlands through our horse pasture.
25 I told him no.

1 I asked him how he found out who I was and where
2 I worked and he told me he was like a head-hunter he could
3 find out anything he needed to about anybody. It was only
4 after I adamantly told him that we would not allow any
5 access that he admitted that he would never be able to
6 restore the pasture or the wetland to what it was before
7 they entered my property.

8 He told me that because we would not allow access
9 it would take much longer to resolve the problem and then he
10 left. Shortly after the breach they set up a large water
11 pump with the generator. These items sat on the edge of our
12 property next to a spring that was always running.

13 They proceeded to pump water up the side of the
14 mountain about 100 feet into a large pillow like receiving
15 bags. The water flowed back out of these bags and down onto
16 our property eroding tree routes, causing trees to fall and
17 creating channels of polluted water on our property which
18 ended up flowing back into the stream.

19 The noise of the generator was unbelievable it
20 ran 24 hours a day for most of their occupation of our land.
21 If it turned off at night usually after dark, they were back
22 at 5 in the morning to start it up again. We could not have
23 a conversation in our kitchen with the windows open, we
24 could not sleep at night with any windows open as the sound
25 was deafening.

1 There were always several men who we did not know
2 sitting at the edge of our property all summer. The
3 children could not play in the stream and were not allowed
4 to be outside without supervision due to the uneasy feeling
5 of strangers' eyes always observing.

6 The contrived attempt to clean the water created
7 stress and chaos all summer. The filtering process did not
8 improve anything with the water -- a steady stream of muddy
9 water exited the site continuously for the duration that
10 remained. We could see the work of developing U.S. natural
11 resources what we disagree with is the disregard for the
12 community neighbors and individuals surrounding these areas.

13 As we look around our area we see the scars left
14 by this process. Typically those who will allow gas lines
15 to cross want the lines as far from their own residence as
16 possible but without regard for their neighbors who might
17 have to suffer more of an impact because of the process.
18 What is left is properties lessened in values, strained
19 personal relationships and distrust of further development,
20 thank you.

21 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you, the next number is 23
22 and he went outside so next is 24 Dorina Hippauf.

23 MS. HIPPAUF: Good evening my name is Dorina
24 Hippauf, I live in Lehman Township and the Atlantic -- the
25 Sunrise Pipeline will be crossing approximately about 3

1 miles from my home. In September, 2014 FERC initially
2 approved the construction of Cove Point export terminal in
3 Maryland. Four months prior to the approval CEO Alan
4 Armstrong of Williams stated in May 2014 in the first
5 quarter financial report and I am going to quote him, "We
6 are excited about the accelerating pace of expansion
7 projects at Transco including the Atlantic Sunrise, Dalton
8 Expansion and our newly announced Gulf Trace Project.

9 The Atlantic Sunrise and Gulf Trace Project will
10 serve as an important infrastructure for future LNG export
11 facilities at Cove Point and Sabine Pass." This is four
12 months prior to the approval of Cove Point that he made this
13 statement.

14 There is a Latin phrase, Que Bono, literally it
15 means who benefits. I ask that now -- who benefits? Do the
16 people in the direct path of this pipeline benefit? No.
17 The pipeline will carry natural gas to Sabine Pass and Cove
18 Point export terminals.

19 Who else benefits? Will the communities where
20 the pipeline will be built benefit? No, the pipeline will
21 carry the natural gas to Sabine Pass and Cove Point export
22 terminals. Will the communities where -- will the
23 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania benefit? No, the gas in these
24 pipelines are headed for export terminals.

25 Will anyone in the United States benefit from

1 this pipeline? No, again this pipeline is headed for
2 carrying gas to the export terminals. So who actually
3 benefits? Williams benefits and that's all. One
4 corporation will benefit. Not one person in the communities
5 where this pipeline is going will see a whiff of gas to heat
6 their homes.

7 Not one person in the communities of Columbia,
8 Lancaster, Lebanon, Luzerne, Northumberland, Schuylkill,
9 Susquehanna, Wyoming, Clinton and Lycoming Counties will
10 benefit. Not one person in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
11 will benefit, not one person in the United States of America
12 will benefit. The fact that we have reached this stage in
13 the FERC hearings process for the approval of this pipeline
14 is a bit shameful considering that this pipeline is headed
15 for export only and benefits not one person of the public of
16 the United States of America, thank you.

17 MS.WACHHOLDER: Thank you, next up is number 25,
18 number 25 is Scott Camon.

19 MR. CANNON: Scott Cannon from Plymouth, thank
20 you. As reported in the Daily Item newspaper from Sunbury
21 this morning at last night's FERC hearing in Bloomsburg
22 Bradford County Commissioner Doug McLinko stated about
23 pipelines in his county and I quote, "We had zero problems,
24 none."

25 Well I did a quick Google search today and found

1 some of these Bradford County pipeline problems. Crews work
2 on ruptured natural gas line for hours in north Towanda,
3 voluntary evacuation -- August, 2013. Harrietville gas
4 compressor station fire injures worker in Bradford County --
5 March 2013.

6 PAD DEP finds pipeline company Appalachian
7 Midstream Service operating in Bradford County who violated
8 Pennsylvania's Clean Streams Law in December, 2011 and
9 currently a lawsuit against Chesapeake Energy over royalties
10 and gathering lines conflict of interest continues to this
11 date.

12 This is the same Commissioner who stated in a
13 video on YouTube by Empire Energy Forum and I quote, "There
14 has never been one freshwater supply ever in the decades, I
15 mean 50 years plus of hydro-fracking ever affected. We have
16 had no issues." But the DEP has 72 cases of confirmed water
17 contamination from Bradford County from 2010 to 2015. I was
18 hoping the Commissioner would be here tonight to address
19 those problems but he is not.

20 The union folks I would like to address but they
21 already left. I would encourage the union folks to Google
22 "Is gas cleaner than coal?" You will be surprised what you
23 find. Google "Pipeline accidents, health issues and
24 property rights" because you folks need to know how this
25 pipeline will affect your Pennsylvania neighbors, thank you.

1 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is 26, number
2 26 is Deirdre Lally.

3 MS. LALLY: Deirdre Lally, Benton, PA. First of
4 all I just want to point out that there has been a lot of
5 time taken up at all four of these hearings where people
6 have talked about jobs and economics but this is
7 environmental and I just would like to point out that
8 perhaps in the future you could have a way to give people
9 space to talk about how this will impact the environment
10 where they live.

11 I have been able to come to some previous
12 hearings this week and talk about the fact that the Atlantic
13 Sunrise is supposed to cross through active and abandoned
14 coal mine fires, which is a disaster waiting to happen. I
15 have already commented on the fact that I live near
16 compressor station 517 but I want to talk about that again.

17 It is already being doubled in size for the
18 Atlantic Sunrise but the Atlantic Sunrise is not permitted
19 and in my -- at my home we have already experienced an air
20 quality violation in February and on top of that the workers
21 who I respect but I just need to talk about what's happening
22 -- have been driving so recklessly down our road that they
23 have hit and killed farm animals in a farming community.

24 And so if the pipeline has not been permitted why
25 is compressor station 517 already under construction and

1 causing suffering in my community? So I would like to put
2 that question on record and get a real answer and I would
3 also like to ask that construction is halted until if and
4 when the permit comes in for the Atlantic Sunrise.

5 I also live just a few miles from another
6 compression permitted for the Atlantic Sunrise it is called
7 compressor station 610 in Orange Township, Columbia County.
8 I would like to go on record opposing the compressor station
9 up to 1300 gallons of water per minute will be used.
10 Hazardous air pollutants including but not limited to
11 nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxides, greenhouse gas
12 particulate matter, methane, volatile organic compounds will
13 be thrown into our air in Columbia County and people will be
14 living with that who will not experience economic gain
15 whatsoever.

16 And all of those chemicals have proven severe
17 health impacts. To speak to that a little bit the 2013
18 Research and Development study on air pollution damages from
19 shale gas -- air pollution in specific has found that
20 damages are already between 7.2 to 30 million dollars in
21 Pennsylvania alone. 60 to 75% of that is from compressor
22 stations so I would like to understand why in Columbia
23 County where I live you are allowing these compressor
24 stations to happen at all.

25 I want to address the people who have said that

1 you shouldn't be afraid of pipelines. I recently had the
2 pleasure of meeting the family of James Baker who was
3 critically burned in Westmoreland County. He is still in
4 critical condition. I would like them to go to his family
5 and tell them not to be afraid.

6 Finally just specific to read, "The highest and
7 best use of each property is not used by Williams to
8 determine the amount they offer." For example Bill and Judy
9 Penchak in Susquehanna County who utilized their forested
10 acreage as a timber farm and processed it after a property
11 with a sawmill will be losing up to 5 acres of trees in a
12 linear path.

13 No plans to control beach brush, spread mighty
14 grasses, not weed or other invasive plants have been
15 presented. A proposed route change is not considered by
16 Williams and the monetary offers do not cover the loss of
17 generations of hard-word forestry that property may support.
18 Quarry rights, produce farming, pasturing, watering ponds
19 and other uses for agriculture are also not considered in
20 the offers. So I don't support this pipeline whatsoever and
21 every single permit should be denied.

22 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. I can speak to one
23 of your questions about the compressor station. If there is
24 anything that is being construction at that station now it
25 is for the use of a different project, nothing has been

1 allowed to start for this one.

2 MS. LALLY: According to the filing at the DEP it
3 is part of the Atlantic Sunrise.

4 MS. WACHHOLDER: She can't hear you on the record
5 but she said --

6 MS. LALLY: Yeah I have done some file reviews at
7 the DEP and it is part of the Williams Transco Atlantic
8 Sunrise Project according --

9 MS. WACHHOLDER: What is proposed will be but
10 nothing that is being done right now except for taking air
11 samples that we required them to do, that's the only thing
12 that they can do right now is to take air samples. Anything
13 that is being constructed or done is based on a different
14 project.

15 MS. LALLY: Well either way it is causing a lot of
16 damage in my community and the Atlantic Sunrise just so
17 happens to be proposed to run right through it and you know
18 what so that's --

19 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you I've got it. Okay,
20 thank you I just wanted to address that that's all, number
21 27 is Allison Petryk.

22 MS. PETRYK: My name is Allison Petryk and for
23 the -- I'm a former educator at the Endless Mountains Nature
24 Center in Tunkhannock along the Tunkhannock Creek where I
25 used to teach stream and river ecology and also witnessed

1 many people utilizing the creek for recreational purposes
2 such as fishing, swimming, kayaking and camping nearby.

3 The number one lesson is that we should
4 appreciate and protect our rivers and streams. The Atlantic
5 Sunrise Pipeline crosses Tunkhannock Creek twice with
6 proposed method wet ditch crossings. The method is the most
7 destructive to habitat. In Susquehanna River, Delaware
8 River and Montague River all three have horizontal
9 directional drilling and suffered drilling mud blow outs
10 causing a mixture of bentonite clay, barium and other
11 material to sink to the bottom after it blew out.

12 After observing these blow outs I caution that
13 horizontal directional drilling can only be done safely if
14 water samples are taken to prove that bedrock is underneath.
15 Without river containing fluids it is certain that the mud
16 will enter its watershed. Susquehanna means muddy river and
17 it is unlikely to provide the conditions necessary for safe
18 crossing of a river.

19 We raised the objection up at the last hearing in
20 this room and you have failed to address that issue in your
21 EIS. On June 13th, 2013 in a report of the Tennessee Gas
22 Pipeline in Bradford County it stated that drilling
23 activities associated with horizontal directional drilling
24 of the Susquehanna River furnished during the reporting
25 period on June 8th the return was discovered on the western

1 side of the river and wetland 0.01 possibly 20 feet from the
2 entry.

3 As per the horizontal directional drilling
4 contingency plan drilling activity immediately ceased and
5 containment and clean-up operations were implemented.
6 Timber man drilled a platform, and the vacuum pump was
7 utilized to treat the run underneath the mats.

8 Pipelines at stream crossings can introduce large
9 amounts of sediment in streams both during construction and
10 over long term after the pipeline is in. Stream peaks of
11 high suspended sediment occur during blasting, trench
12 excavation and back filling as sedimentation greatly affects
13 macro-invertebrates and fish and unhealthy aquatic
14 eco-systems to survive.

15 According to the Delaware River Keeper Network
16 there have been documented reductions in vertebrate
17 densities, changes to the structure of the aquatic
18 communities, fish forging, the food and fish mortality.
19 Additionally erodes a bill for construction and stream
20 crossings increase the amount of sediment and erosion to
21 nearby streams.

22 Pipeline construction also results in the loss of
23 repairing vegetation. Loss of vegetation and foliage with
24 clearing stream banks in stream temperatures, increase
25 stream temperatures and can reduce the quality of habitat

1 for fish and vertebrates population which are food for fish
2 can also be reduced due to a decrease in cycling of
3 nutrients.

4 Additionally the loss of vegetation reduces the
5 natural barrier along the stream bank making it more
6 susceptible to erosion events further degrading our streams.
7 Hydro seed does not replace the quality of existing habitat.

8 MS. WACHHOLDER: Would you get to your conclusion
9 you are about a minute over.

10 MS. PETRYK: Oh I'm done, thank you.

11 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 28,
12 number 28 is Herb Bonniece.

13 MR. BONNICE: Good evening thank you for the
14 opportunity to let me speak. My name is Herb Bonniece I am
15 from Tunkhannock. I am a self-employed dairy and beef
16 nutritionist. I worked with local farms for nearly 30
17 years. I realized when the gas business was coming to the
18 farms that I worked with many of my customers would quit
19 milking cows when they started to receive gas royalties.

20 I still had to make a living with a reduced
21 customer base because that's how I make my living. Because
22 I work with many farms on the crop side also with some
23 planning and research I decided to try to sell grass seed
24 line and fertilizer to the pipeline companies. I research
25 the Pennsylvania Oil and Gas Driller's Manual concerning

1 pipeline restoration, erosion and sediment control.

2 Because I grew up on a river fishing since I was
3 a child then fishing with my children and now my
4 grandchildren, I was also very concerned about the river. I
5 wanted the restoration to be done correctly. How I got
6 started with this business is a long story but now I have
7 worked with nearly all of the major pipeline companies to
8 develop seed mixes that are suited to our area and our soil
9 types.

10 I have taken literally hundreds of soil samples
11 to match the lime and fertilizer recommendations based on
12 the lab results we received from Penn State. The pipeline
13 companies are also very good at accommodating land owner and
14 DEP requests for food plot mixes as well as wetland and
15 repairing and buffer mixes which are supplied by a
16 Pennsylvania seed supplier.

17 My observation is that the river is healthier now
18 than it was 50 years ago based on fish that I catch with my
19 children and grandchildren. The north branch of the
20 Susquehanna was named Pennsylvania River of the Year this
21 past year. Last but not least jobs -- when gas cannot flow
22 from the area land owners do not receive royalty payments,
23 much of which is spent in the local businesses such as
24 machinery dealers, gas stations, home improvement, car
25 dealers and so on the list goes on.

1 FERC pipeline construction many, many local jobs
2 are created and local businesses are supported also by the
3 out of town workers. In closing I support the Atlantic
4 Sunrise Project, thank you.

5 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Next up is number
6 29, 29 is Dianne Dreier.

7 MS. DREIER: My name is Diane Drier, D-r-e-i-e-r.
8 It was reported that the FERC staff concluded that approval
9 of the Atlantic Sunrise Project would result in some adverse
10 environmental impacts. What are the overall adverse
11 environmental impacts of this pipeline project when combined
12 with the many other proposed pipeline projects before FERC?

13 What are the overall adverse environmental
14 impacts of this pipeline project when combined with the much
15 anticipated rush to greatly increase the number of wells
16 producing natural gas that will be shipped to market by
17 these new pipelines? What are the overall adverse
18 environmental impacts of this pipeline project in
19 facilitating greater volumes of fugitive methane emissions
20 from the extraction processing and transportation of natural
21 gas, methane being a much more potent greenhouse gas than
22 carbon dioxide?

23 What are the overall adverse environmental
24 impacts of this pipeline project in a retiring coal energy
25 generation when fugitive methane emissions may actually

1 render natural gas a greater climate change accelerator than
2 coal? What are the overall adverse environmental impacts of
3 this pipeline project as the gas industry expands spewing
4 not only methane but numerous other hazardous and toxic air
5 pollutants that present significant cancer and respiratory
6 health risks?

7 What are the overall adverse environmental
8 impacts of this pipeline project as this rush towards
9 pipeline infrastructure over-building commits our state and
10 our country to the dirty fossil fuels of the past instead of
11 to a clean energy future? What are the overall adverse
12 environmental impacts of this pipeline project when the
13 majority of climate scientists and world leaders warn of the
14 need to quickly transition to clean, renewable energy?

15 Cornell University Professor Dr. Anthony
16 Engraffia said it best when he said, "Natural gas is not a
17 bridge it is a gangplank." How will you as FERC
18 Commissioners answer the questions of your own children and
19 grandchildren when they ask what you did in your official
20 capacity to impede climate change the most pressing issue of
21 mankind?

22 I would like to add on a different note that
23 Williams must be pretty confident of FERC approval. I read
24 in the newspaper where they purchased 2000 sections of pipes
25 from a company in Turkey even though we have four companies

1 who can produce those kinds of pipes in the United States to
2 the tune of 55 million dollars.

3 They are now stored near Lebanon. What does FERC know that
4 all of us here don't know -- I'm sorry what does Williams
5 know about what the decision will be? Thank you.

6 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 30,
7 Sierra Shamer.

8 MS. SHAMER: Alright, hi I'm here for the fourth
9 night in a row to support the land owners and residents
10 along the proposed right-of-way of the Atlantic Sunrise and
11 to state my criticisms of the incomplete and insufficient
12 Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

13 Tonight I am submitting several maps that show
14 the 22 core habitats and 6 supporting habitats that the
15 Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline will impact and that are not
16 addressed in the DEIS. The Central Penn Line north would
17 intersect the Lake Cowanesque in Wyoming County that has PA
18 rare plant species and is already threatened by logging.

19 Perrin's Marsh in Wyoming and Luzerne Counties
20 has PA rare plant and endangered species and rare bird
21 species of concern. Shingle Run natural area in Luzerne
22 County has butterfly species of concern. A full description
23 of all of these areas I will submit tonight. I would like
24 to note that supporters of the project have material
25 interests in its success and are paid to be here.

1 Arguments that this pipeline will increase our
2 energy independence are invalid because the gas in the
3 Atlantic Sunrise will be exported so companies can overcome
4 the current low gas price. This interstate pipeline will
5 not fuel PA residents. This is why the use of eminent
6 domain to secure easement is unlawful. It is not for the
7 public use and it is not a public necessity it is a private
8 desire.

9 Many of the comments made tonight are not valid
10 environmental impacts but about monetary gain. There is a
11 difference between economic impact and economic development
12 which should be long-term and sustainable. Natural gas
13 extraction will have an end but its impacts to environment,
14 public health and safety will last long into the future.

15 The Atlantic Sunrise is destructive an
16 unnecessary and this DEIS fails to prove otherwise, thank
17 you.

18 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Next up is number
19 31, number 31 is Mark Stragney, outside thank you very much
20 alright then number 32, Robert Wilds, maybe no -- oh there
21 you are I didn't see you.

22 MR. WILDS: Good evening my name is Robert Wilds.
23 I represent the International Union of Operating Engineers.
24 I would like to thank FERC and the Army Corps of Engineers
25 for giving me this opportunity to speak. I have heard a

1 couple of comments tonight but this is about environment and
2 that's true and that's what I have chosen to speak about
3 tonight.

4 First off I am in support of this pipeline. A
5 pipeline is the most environmental friendly and safe way to
6 transport any product over rail, over truck just the amount
7 of emissions that will be created by the trucks and the
8 trains transporting it on the road way outweigh the
9 emissions from the pipeline, let alone not to count the risk
10 of accidents involving our children that may be on the
11 school bus when there is a truck or train accident.

12 Any environment during the construction -- I have
13 been in this business since 1986 since then I have seen many
14 changes in the industry and every year and every project the
15 rules get more and more stringent. And the workers out
16 there, the gas companies, the contractors, they all take
17 steps to follow these rules. We do things such as
18 installing silt fence, silt saw, water bars to prevent
19 erosion.

20 You know the jobs of those three things are to
21 catch water, slow it down, get it off the right-of-way to
22 minimize erosion and it stops in the streams. The operating
23 engineers we spend about 4 million dollars this year on
24 our pipeline specific training only and two of the things we
25 key on are 1: safety 2: environment. When I say safety I

1 don't only mean safety of the workers on the job I am
2 talking about safety of the general public in the area where
3 these pipelines are installed.

4 We key on protecting the pipe, protecting the
5 coating that is the integrity of the pipeline, the coating,
6 the corrosion to prevent an accident like happened in West
7 Moreland County on a line that was installed in the early
8 1980's over 35 years ago. Today the methods and the
9 techniques are much more advanced.

10 We take steps to protect the wildlife such as
11 here in Pennsylvania I have worked on some Williams'
12 projects. If we bother a rattlesnake on the right-of-way we
13 get fired, we get run off that was it. If you got caught
14 messing with a rattlesnake. I have no problem with
15 rattlesnakes, some people may but in the Mojave desert I
16 worked on a Williams' project we took steps to protect the
17 desert tortoise. We talked about environment I hear about
18 renewables does anybody in here know the amount of
19 environmental damage that is done to the earth to get enough
20 rare earth minerals extracted to make solar panels? Look it
21 up you will be amazed.

22 Exports -- yeah maybe they are going to export
23 some gas, maybe that will help balance our trade deficit,
24 maybe we need to do that, let's make our world economy
25 stronger, our economy make it lead the world. The United

1 States economy lead the world like it used to do. The world
2 depended on us now we react to them. Let's lead okay.

3 And I have pipelines on my farm I have no problem
4 with that. I farm it, I have no problem with it I am safe,
5 my children, my grandchildren, my animals I have no problem.
6 And to address the gentleman who said about getting
7 something else to do I am a construction worker, I'm a
8 farmer, I'm a volunteer fireman, such as many of the workers
9 in this -- my brothers and sisters, these people are
10 volunteers they work in the community they go to their
11 churches, they are good family people.

12 They live in this community, they buy houses in
13 this community their children go to school in this community
14 my time is up and I want to thank you.

15 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you, next up is number 33,
16 number 33 is Jane Tolomello.

17 MS. TOLOMELLO: My name is Jane Tolomello you did
18 good, T-o-l-o-m-e-l-l-o. I'm from Dallas Township. I don't
19 have a script I never come with a script. I agree with
20 everything that everybody here as says as far as what is
21 happening in Dallas Township and in particular the pipelines
22 the three that we have, the two that are coming they are 700
23 feet from my house.

24 You know you hear a lot about the economics
25 everybody has been going back and forth on that. The

1 problem with the economics and the problem with these
2 gentlemen in having jobs and not having jobs is it is
3 temporary. They get to build their pipelines and they get
4 to go home. People like myself and the other people that
5 are being affected we don't get to go home, we don't get to
6 live the American dream, we don't get to have a safe
7 environment we don't get to sleep at night without any
8 thoughts in our mind. We have to worry about kids, we have
9 to worry about our homes, we have to worry about everything
10 we worked for.

11 We have to worry about everything -- everything
12 you never just get to relax. That's something that should
13 be a benefit of every American, every American who has the
14 opportunity to be able to work and buy a home and work they
15 should be able to do that without fear of constantly
16 worrying about your house shaking at 2 o'clock in the
17 morning and you call the EMA and wake him up at 2 A.M. and
18 he doesn't know why your house is shaking and he has to get
19 up in the middle of the night and go over to the pipelines
20 because you know why Williams doesn't have to tell you.

21 They don't have to tell you because the Transco
22 -- my mind is just blank right now, but thank you Scott it's
23 a public utility so they don't need to tell us. So when
24 your house is shaking at 2 in the morning and it sounds like
25 a jet engine you don't know what they are going to blow up

1 anymore and neither does the man who is on the other end of
2 the phone.

3 He can't tell you that you are safe because he
4 doesn't know either. That prompted a humungous township
5 meeting because no one was notified at that particular time
6 but you are talking about going back to 2011. We are in
7 2016 and we are still having these issues.

8 Another main point is right down the road is
9 3,000 children at a Dallas school district campus, there's 2
10 elementary schools, there's a middle school and a
11 multi-million dollar high school. That school has yet to
12 have an evacuation plan, those kids are constantly in
13 danger, that's not your problem that's their problem I
14 understand but these are the things that are not happening
15 and these are the things that are happening and these are
16 the things that we see every day.

17 We don't get to live in a bubble. We don't get
18 to live thinking that all of this propoganda that you hear
19 and all of these wonderful things and all of the butterflies
20 and rainbows we don't get to enjoy that because we know the
21 truth because we live it every day.

22 So it would be really nice if we could believe in
23 that propoganda. It would be really nice if we could live
24 with that but unfortunately we go to township meetings, we
25 see disasters, we are in touch with people all over the

1 country and we hear and see the same things so it can't now
2 be just a little portion of Pennsylvania or a little portion
3 of Oklahoma, you are talking about everybody complaining and
4 everybody having the same effects.

5 As far as the three pipelines that there as Mary
6 mentioned you have Penn East that already has an application
7 with you and now you have Atlantic Sunrise, you can't just
8 keep adding pipelines. You know you can't say oh well he
9 got one so he has to have one and if we approve him then how
10 many pipelines are you going to put by our homes?

11 How many pipelines? Then you have to fill those
12 pipelines so now you not only have the interstate lines but
13 now you are going to have all of the gathering lines to come
14 in. How much is too much? How much is enough? Before we
15 could have to really -- you know I left, I'm selling my
16 house I can't live it anymore. You people have destroyed my
17 life personally fighting, I'm exhausted, you mentally have
18 broken me and do you know what is the most disappointing
19 thing at all is that our government is allowing this, that
20 is the most disheartening thing out of everything.

21 If somebody says what's the one thing that
22 bothers you the most -- the one thing that bothers me the
23 most is I thought our government was here to protect us not
24 to embellish the profits of an industry instead of the
25 quality of life of the citizens who put those people into

1 office so thank you.

2 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you next up is number 34,
3 34 is Peter Butler.

4 MR. BUTLER: Hi my name is Pete Butler I live in
5 Wyoming County. I am a retired manufacturing manager. I
6 just came because I care about our community and I wanted to
7 make a couple of comments. I am kind of struck tonight all
8 the concerns around the pipeline and I understand those, it
9 is a complex business and there is a lot of safety issues to
10 worry about and there is a lot of things that have to be
11 done to do it right.

12 But it also strikes me that folks seem okay with
13 getting their energy from some other country and let other
14 folks take those risks but when we talk about bringing it
15 here we are willing to use the energy but we are not willing
16 to do the hard work to figure out how to do it safely and I
17 do believe we know how to do it safely.

18 I have worked with pipelines and natural gas in
19 our manufacturing facility for 37 years. We never had an
20 accident. It is very complex you need to know your business
21 but it can be done safely. I am also -- I just want to
22 share that I live about a quarter of a mile from a
23 compressor station it is not particularly noisy it is not
24 particularly onerous. I live near some right-of-ways where
25 pipelines go and they are grassed over, it actually seems to

1 me like the deer come out of the woods and enjoy the grass
2 in the right-of-way so in a way it compliments what we have.

3 I just want to say about Williams in our
4 community. I know a lot of farmers and a lot of folks that
5 have pipelines on their property. Williams seems to operate
6 with integrity. They have a good reputation in our
7 community and I believe they know how to do things safely.

8 I do think it is very important -- I was in the
9 military for four years, spent four years overseas. I think
10 we have a lot of young men that are overseas because we get
11 our energy overseas to protect that. If you want to talk
12 about safety take a trip down to the VA Hospital and see
13 those young men that were injured getting energy for us. So
14 I think we need to take a little risk so that we can bring
15 them home and use our own energy.

16 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. The last speaker I
17 have for tonight on my list is number 35 Jennifer LaPointe.

18 MS. LAPOINTE: I'm Jennifer LaPointe and the
19 rebuttal would be that why would we want to export this
20 precious commodity that we have. Part of our economic
21 problem why we have no money and we have to shut down all
22 the arts programs is because we left all the jobs and
23 everything go to other countries for the product that is
24 being made.

25 If we have this wonderful thing we have to take a

1 chance on poisoning our water why would we ship it out to
2 another part of the world? Why won't we use it here? Can't
3 we comprehend that? Don't we have a brain to think for the
4 big picture? Is Williams the only one that could figure
5 anything out?

6 We can't see the big picture -- connect the dots,
7 why not? We are so worried about the little teeny tiny
8 details we need to think about the big picture and the whole
9 thing and when we are using fossil fuels we are suppressing
10 the new things that are available.

11 And lots of times things are being suppressed and
12 the only way they will not be suppressed is if we demand
13 them we have to demand them. What is available? We can't
14 let them shut it down because less time we are lied to and
15 you have to go out and you have to hold them up, hold them
16 accountable point it out. That's it.

17 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Like I said I don't
18 have anyone else signed up so anyone who would like a second
19 turn I have a hard time seeing so who wants to go first, I
20 see a hand right there okay and again please re-state your
21 name. And again when you come up restate your name for the
22 court reporter or he won't have it accurate otherwise.

23 MS. BYRON: It's Joan Byron, B-y-r-o-n. A couple
24 of comments I have a friend who is a farmer. Williams put a
25 pipeline in his yard and two years later they have not

1 restored the land and he can't run his tractor the rocks are
2 so big he can't even farm his land. He is older and has
3 contacted them time and time and time again and they do not
4 respond because you know what -- Williams doesn't respond to
5 anyone.

6 You can ask them over and over to work with you
7 and they do not. They have not worked with us. I don't
8 think we did ask any of these pipeline installers how many
9 of them have pipelines in their yard but I can tell you they
10 would refuse. The head of the watershed in Luzerne County
11 who I spoke to said, "I don't want one of these pipelines in
12 my yard."

13 I was explaining about the Kunkle wetlands being
14 compromised which he sort of knew about but felt that there
15 were only two chemicals left after 18 months and they were
16 doing a little better but he said, "I can tell you one thing
17 I don't want a pipe line in my yard."

18 We had one well put in the Greater Dallas Area,
19 it was a fracking well 10 million dollars and 2 years later
20 it is only leaking 2 of the 32 or 30 toxic chemicals left.
21 They have spent 10 million which company was that --
22 Chesapeake -- the Chesapeake Company after 2 years and 10
23 million dollars have stopped 30 of the chemicals but 2
24 chemicals are left which are a secret. No one know what
25 these chemicals are because if we give them our secret

1 formula they will be able to frack.

2 Well this is wrong because yes as this gentleman
3 said we humans do matter and we do count and we will have to
4 sell as Tolomello, Mrs. Tolomello is selling her home and my
5 husband and I after thinking as American citizens who have
6 yes represented our country for years for free for our
7 people all over the world are now being persecuted to a
8 point by our government and yes FERC that we will have to
9 sell our home.

10 And I would agree with the statements of why are
11 they working on the compressor station now? Why have they
12 ordered pipelines? I was given word by several people they
13 know they have approval and that all we are doing here is
14 just really just getting upset and growing old and miserable
15 as you pointed out, it is just devastating that we don't
16 have any rights and that Constitution means nothing and the
17 Bill of Rights is garbage.

18 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you.

19 MR. LOTORTO: Again my name is Alex Lotorto and I
20 didn't get a chance to really make a personal statement
21 about why I said what I said. In working with land owners
22 in Susquehanna and Wyoming County for a number of years now
23 and the economic circumstances that bring us to this point
24 include a company named Procter & Gamble. I just want to
25 tell a story about Bill Pensick who is a land owner on the

1 right-of-way, has not signed an easement, is facing eminent
2 domain.

3 He was a forester for Procter & Gamble when they
4 sourced their hard wood for their paper mill locally and he
5 was laid off because Procter & Gamble decided to outsource
6 their raw material to Southeast Asia for eucalyptus which
7 they said is more pure than our hard woods. For generations
8 and I am originally from Pike County, where Gifford Pinchot
9 is from he was the governor during the Great Depression
10 brought the Civilian Conservation Court where rural
11 communities paved roads, he was the father of American
12 forestry and conservation.

13 So we shouldn't exploit the environment more than
14 we can sustain over generations to come and Bill is an
15 example of a modern day forester and a practice of
16 conservation and when Williams promised that he would
17 benefit from this they were originally proposing it across a
18 field on his property.

19 This is on Station Hill Road, I don't know the
20 mile marker in Susquehanna County and then without telling
21 him after he allowed the survey, they moved the survey
22 stakes into the forested acreage and it is going to ruin --
23 it's a lot that he wanted to build the cabin on for his kids
24 for guests and things like that. It's just a real
25 heartbreak because he has worked his life -- I mean his

1 livelihood off of caretaking the land and not exploiting it
2 and it breaks my heart because he was union and Procter &
3 Gamble and some of the workers here you know sound like they
4 had worked with him alongside.

5 You know and they are calling for him to lose his
6 property for a pipeline that he would never want in the
7 first place and I find that time and time again and I guess
8 the other example is that in Susquehanna County recently
9 Williams led a company called Constitution Pipeline Company
10 where they were using eminent domain to access the people's
11 properties.

12 And I watched this company take the Holland
13 family who I have been working with since 2012 advising them
14 -- to federal court for a contempt charge against their
15 eminent domain order and Judge Mannion who is an Obama
16 appointee ordered a dozen U.S. federal marshals on to their
17 property with assault rifles. Walked on to their property
18 with the tree crews while we stood and took pictures. When
19 I asked the U.S. Marshals why are you here with those guns
20 can you put them away is really the fact of the company that
21 you want to show and I said that to the Williams
22 representative too and they said this is for the safety of
23 the pipeline.

24 I said nobody here -- we are just standing here
25 taking pictures and monitoring the tree cutting, there are a

1 handful of us. I was surprise to see that in my own country
2 it was on Super Tuesday and I said to myself you know these
3 land owners said everything they could within their rights
4 to oppose this pipeline.

5 They went through the courts, they came to every
6 public hearing it was like these land owners were -- and
7 democracy was alive and well in all the states voting that
8 day it was dead in Pennsylvania. And I'm tired of
9 Pennsylvanians being stepped all over by these companies
10 when they have existing pipelines to pipe their gas and move
11 it where they need to go. Haven't we given enough?

12 Why do rural Pennsylvanians -- we gave for coal,
13 we gave when we clear cut 98% of our forest and Gifford
14 Pinchot said to stop you know now we are here with gas and
15 haven't we given enough? If Washington, D.C. wants this gas
16 for their homes maybe they should you know support those
17 politicians should support off-shore wind and other
18 opportunities for themselves -- stop coming to Pennsylvania
19 and asking us to sacrifice our quality of life to benefit
20 others.

21 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Next I see you sir
22 come on up and then you will be after him, so 1 - 2.

23 MR. CANNON: Again my name is Scott Cannon. I
24 have a study here that I found online a little while ago
25 that disturbs me very much. As U.S. Russia is to build gas

1 lines, failure rates of new pipes has spiked and according
2 to this study and it is from the Pipeline Safety Trust, a
3 federal data, "New pipelines are failing at a rate on par
4 with gas transmission lines installed before 1940's."
5 According to this pipelines built in the last 10 years are
6 having higher failure rates of pipelines that were built 50
7 years ago. That's a very disturbing fact, thank you.

8 MS LAPOINTE: I guess that collateral damage can
9 be James Baker and sometimes things are so horrible that our
10 mind blocks them. We are so used to watching TV sometimes
11 we can't tell the difference anymore between reality and
12 fiction and the kids that are at the Dallas school that are
13 close to these large amounts of natural gas we can't even
14 comprehend.

15 As soon as you would even starting thinking of a
16 fireball over there you shut your brain down, you will not
17 think of it, that is your human brain if you have a normal
18 brain that's what you do and the risk is there and is it
19 worth it? And it is not just this year or anything like
20 that it is for a long time.

21 Like the guy said in the newspaper article that
22 got burnt on 75% of his body he is still in critical
23 condition and they might not be taking care of him. I would
24 like everybody to watch what's going on with this person,
25 keep a close eye on it because I did hear that they were

1 having fundraisers to try to help with the medical bills, or
2 whatever with the family.

3 Wouldn't you think that would be covered by
4 whoever owned that gas line? Wouldn't you think that he
5 should have no problem? What are people doing under these
6 situations you know.

7 MS. WACHHOLDER: Okay who else would like to go
8 raise your hand oh I see someone coming, come on down.

9 MR. COOK: Good evening my name is Bill Cook I
10 live in Kingston, Pennsylvania and I have enjoyed the
11 opportunity to listen to both sides of the conversation
12 regarding this issue. I would just pose one question in
13 general regarding the safety of the pipelines. I have to
14 wonder how comfortable the folks in California felt before
15 the recent pipeline explosion and compression station
16 explosion that has affected the environment of California
17 significantly in the last few months. The last I heard they
18 haven't even figured out how to shut that off yet.

19 This is modern technology being used in probably
20 the most legislative and environmentally aware state in our
21 nation. The rules and the laws that are in place in
22 California to protect the environment I have to think are
23 better than what we have here in Pennsylvania and when they
24 see an opportunity or situation like this occur and they
25 have no recourse and the governor says you know we just have

1 to figure out a way to work through this, that's nice except
2 for all of the people who are being affected and the
3 environment that is being affected short-term and long-term.

4 I just hope that you will take into account the
5 comments that have been made this evening both for and
6 against and at the end of the day realize that you have the
7 responsibility to look beyond just the current needs and to
8 look towards the future and my hope is that you will find
9 the common sense to regulate this situation as best you can
10 and I hope that the ultimate decision is that the pipeline
11 is not approved so thank you very much.

12 MS. WACHHOLDER: Anybody else? Do I see any
13 other hands? Come on up.

14 MS. LALLY: I am going to talk about compressor
15 station 517, Dierdre Lally, I'm going to talk about
16 compressor station 517 a little more. I know you said it is
17 part of a different project. I can you know try to find the
18 DEP files and send them to you but I do feel that you are
19 probably paid more to do that than I am so it might be in
20 your best interest also.

21 Because it is like hours and hours of work -- but
22 there have been 42 inch pipes being trucked to that station
23 for many, many months now. Residents who are friends of
24 mine who live right next to the station who moved last month
25 moved because all during the February when there was

1 construction going on and the air violation having their
2 home smell like gas all the time and they had colds that
3 they couldn't kick -- when they are constructing I got
4 outside of my house and one side of my house I can't see the
5 stars anymore because of all the lights and I live in the
6 middle of nowhere.

7 So I do believe the construction is premature and
8 it is part of the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline.

9 MS. WACHHOLDER: Okay thank you. Alright anybody
10 else? One more opportunity here before we call it a night,
11 all right going once, going twice seeing none alright. With
12 that in mind on behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
13 Commission I want to thank you all for coming tonight.
14 Within the FERC website www.ferc.gov there is a link called
15 the e-library if you type in the Docket Number CP15-138 you
16 can use e-library to gain access to everything on the record
17 concerning this project as well as all the filings and
18 information submitted by Transco.

19 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
20 Commission I want to thank you for coming tonight. Let the
21 record show that the Atlantic Sunrise DEIS Public Comment
22 meeting concluded at 9:50 P.M. Thank you very much.

23 (Whereupon at 9:50 p.m., the meeting was
24 adjourned.)

25

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

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15 Docket No.: CP15-138-000

16 Place: Dallas, PA

17 Date: 6/16/16

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

23

24 Larry Flowers

25 Official Reporter

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

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

PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING ON THE
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

JUNE 16, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Lake Lehmon High School
1128 Old Road 115
Dallas, PA 18612

Court Reporter B

1 SPEAKER LIST

2

3 DALE WILKIE

4 RICHARD STERN

5 SCOTT KUCHARSKI

6 DR. BARRY BERNSTEIN

7 WILLIAM BERNOSKI

8 LORRIE BERNOSKI

9 TOM WILLIAMS

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

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

2 COURT REPORTER WILLIAMS: Yes sir your name?

3 MR. WILKIE: My name is Dale Wilkie and I live in
4 Dallas, Pennsylvania and I have approximately an 80 acre
5 farm and the reason why I am here of course is because the
6 pipeline wants to go through my property. I was inside of
7 the meeting and I was told to come out here if you want to
8 get in and out I like that option.

9 They also said it is an Environmental Impact
10 Statement which is really what I want to talk about and I
11 know it is important it is one of the most important things
12 but there should be also an economic impact statement on the
13 land owner. And just for the record I support the gas
14 industry and the oil industry and it is obvious America
15 needs the energy, the world needs energy.

16 I also take a position of free market economics
17 and this is the problem I am having is that this pipeline is
18 not a fair market framework process it is really crony
19 capitalism we all know what that is it is the mutually
20 advantageous relationship between a business and the
21 government and the gas industry is going to take our land,
22 our land owners take advantage of us for their business and
23 the government of course is going to get their tax money out
24 of this, that's obvious what it is.

25 I applaud our neighbors to the north of us and

1 the countries they were very hard working people, farmers.
2 Most of them have been scratching their whole lives up there
3 and they made a lot of money up in there and good for them.
4 The gas pipelines need to make their money too it is very
5 important everybody needs to profit I see there is a bunch
6 of union people here and pipeline people and I spoke to many
7 of them and they are very nice people and they need to make
8 their money as well.

9 The government is going to get its tax profits
10 but here is the issue it is going to have to go through my
11 land, pay me hardly nothing, really in comparison, trinkets
12 and beads compared to what all of these other industries are
13 making and I invested a lot in my farm my whole life,
14 everything I have in that and it is going to be taken away
15 from me and that's a problem I really do think it's a
16 problem.

17 They have to transport their commodity to
18 markets, that's obvious but there is no reason why we can't
19 all work together on this. I mean I hope everyone sees the
20 insanity of this. FERC should not with the government grant
21 these pipeline companies and gas companies the right to
22 eminent domain, you threatened land owners with that. They
23 should negotiate directly with us.

24 Most people are reasonable and if they can't --
25 if a land owner doesn't want it to go through their property

1 re-route it, if you can't re-route it buy them out it is as
2 simple as that. And not buying out at these ridiculous
3 prices I am seeing. What they want to say what is their
4 fair market value from their appraisers, real fair market
5 value.

6 Lastly the lack of transparency you know on the
7 gas industry and FERC for that matter it seems you can't get
8 answers and it has caused unnecessary expenses and delays of
9 this project. If everyone worked honestly with each other
10 this pipeline probably would have already been built and we
11 would all be making money.

12 And you know there should be a benefit to all
13 Americans. So do you want me to run this project I can get
14 it done in a year for you. That's my last statement, I just
15 threw that in, that's all I have to say.

16 Okay Dale Wilkie is still on record here. I
17 forgot one important thing from my farm I can see the
18 pipeline the Chief had put in and they did it pretty rapidly
19 they didn't have the power of eminent domain, they worked
20 with the land owners and it seemed to work very well. That
21 is what we should be doing right now is just don't threaten
22 it just gets so much bad blood and bad taste with people.
23 You can negotiate these things and that's really all I have
24 to say, that's it.

25 I mean how does that pipeline get on and we can't

1 get this pipeline to be easy. I mean I don't understand why
2 there is so much resistance and problems with this and
3 really it gets to these land men that come in and it really
4 -- I mean I have been through a whole --

5 COURT REPORTER WILLIAMS: Your name?

6 MR. STERN: Richard Stern, S-t-e-r-n and I am
7 with the Teamster's National Pipeline Labor Management
8 Cooperation Trust or LMCT. I wanted to reiterate something
9 about the people working. There's a misnomer especially
10 with the anti-pipeline people who keep saying that they
11 bring in all outsiders and that might be true if they do the
12 work non-union but Williams has promised that this job will
13 be 100% union and our collective bargaining agreements
14 stipulates at least half the people have to be from the
15 local union, at least half.

16 So that's not correct what they say. What they
17 do they see the license plates of the equipment and a lot of
18 the contractors are domiciled in other states and they are
19 bringing their equipment here but it is who is driving and
20 operating the equipment is what matters and it is local
21 people and I have a steward report that our stewards give us
22 and there's a job here by Contractors Rentals, out of 9
23 people 8 are local Pennsylvania people so I just wanted to
24 bring that up again.

25 Now the other issue is the anti-pipeline people

1 have been bringing up about the pipe coming from Turkey and
2 that is true and that was brought about by the Steelworker's
3 representative because he wanted this pipe to be built in a
4 U.S. Steelworker's Representative steel mill and we support
5 that.

6 We would rather have it done by a union brother
7 than sent from Turkey. However, I have been in this
8 business 32 years not once has the Steelworkers ever come to
9 me or any other unions and asked us for our help in getting
10 the pipe done at one of their mills. And if they would have
11 came to us at any time we would have tried to help them and
12 assist them in any way possible because we support that.

13 The other thing is we get these reports on jobs.
14 You can't ask two three weeks before the job that you want
15 union pipe because there is a long lead period so this
16 project here is by Dunberry Resources and it is in another
17 state that is going to be in Colorado but they have lead
18 time. The job is not going to kick off until June of 2021
19 so you have basically a five year lead time, now is the time
20 for them to get involved to try to get the pipe made
21 domestically with one of their mills and they should invest
22 in this data base it is a little over \$10,000 a year and it
23 follows all of the pipeline work from the planning stages
24 from the very beginning all through until it is completed.

25 The other thing is the lead time on the

1 manufacturing of and the quantity of pipe for the Williams
2 job is enormous and it has got to be milled long before they
3 even get FERC approval because once you get FERC approval on
4 the permits they want you to start.

5 So they have to put out the money in advance and
6 a long time to order the pipe. Orders like this have to be
7 placed well in advance of a year or more. There are only
8 about four mills in the U.S. capable of producing an order
9 of this size. Again, our preference is domestic and
10 union-made pipe.

11 Unfortunately the union mills couldn't handle it
12 they have such a back log. There's a lot of pipeline going
13 on in this country especially in Texas so the mills are
14 really booked up with back log and they couldn't accommodate
15 Williams at that time. So that's why a lot of it is coming
16 overseas but a lot of the work on the pipe is so it can be
17 domestically done, the coating and so forth I believe will
18 be done domestically.

19 So again Williams I think did all they can and
20 the Steelworkers should do -- ask for our help in advance,
21 get a data base if you want so you have lead time and I
22 appreciate the opportunity to give my view thank you.

23 COURT REPORTER WILLIAMS: Your name?

24 MR. KUCHARSKI: Scott Kucharski,
25 K-u-c-h-a-r-s-k-i and I am President and Business Agent of

1 Teamster's Local 401 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania and I
2 would like to take this opportunity to affirm my support for
3 the construction of the Atlantic Sunrise Project. This
4 project is projected to drive more than 1.6 billion in
5 regional economic activity.

6 It will directly employ approximately 2300 people
7 during the construction phase. I feel this is an incredible
8 opportunity for the state and our Teamster members who live
9 in the areas where the project will be built. To that point
10 I would like to clarify a myth that most if not all of the
11 workers on these projects are from out-of-state and bring
12 nothing to the local economy and have no regard for the
13 local environment.

14 This is simply not true. As union members the
15 National Pipeline Agreement guarantees at least 50% of all
16 employees will be local hands. On many larger jobs the
17 number in favor of local hands are much greater than the
18 50%. In addition most sub-contractors used are usually the
19 local union-recommended companies that have signed on to the
20 National Pipeline Agreement.

21 Detractors will often point to out of state
22 license plates on equipment and assume that drivers and
23 operators are from in fact other states. This is also a
24 myth in that although the company brings equipment from and
25 registers vehicles in its home state, at least half of the

1 drivers and operators are guaranteed contractually to be
2 local residents.

3 The jobs created by this project will pay high
4 wages, offer ample overtime opportunities and provide high
5 quality health insurance to all employees. Workers, both
6 local and travelers will spend a good portion of those wages
7 in the local businesses in the area of the project --
8 businesses such as restaurants, grocery stores, hotels and
9 construction suppliers to name a few will directly benefit
10 economically.

11 Union workers are highly trained in their
12 respective fields. The IBT provides ongoing training
13 courses and certifications throughout the year to ensure the
14 highest trained safest employees of the industry. Many
15 local union employees who I represent have worked in
16 construction in the pipeline industry in excess of 20 years
17 and since they are local residents they have a vested
18 interest in being as safe and economically conscious as
19 possible since they will be living here long after the
20 project is complete and that's all I have.

21 I would like to thank everyone for the
22 opportunity to express my thoughts.

23 COURT REPORTER WILLIAMS: Your name?

24 MR. BERNSTEIN: Dr. Barry Bernstein of 63 I Town
25 Road and this is in Dallas, Pennsylvania 18612. I am a

1 land owner.

2 COURT REPORTER WILLIAMS: Barry I want to make
3 sure that I know how you spell your name.

4 MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh I do apologize, B-a-r-r-y
5 B-e-r-n-s-t-e-i-n, like the conductor. So I think I split
6 the difference when I was first approached the comments from
7 the land people were actually one of the most friendly nice
8 people to the people, the man. I looked at him working and
9 exhibiting of course a function of employment and we spoke
10 to that actually they said we are the friendliest people in
11 the whole line.

12 A couple of months ago the tide changed. They
13 have never responded, they kept on telling me the check is
14 in the mail and stuff -- not figuratively the check but the
15 response of the lawyers getting back to us. We were just
16 asking what are you guys going to do and from the get-go I
17 asked him for one thing -- it's fair and equal.

18 I don't want the pipeline through my property.
19 Why? No one can say it is not going to affect our land and
20 no one is going to say that it is not going to limit my
21 ability to use the land as an investment. Nobody buys a
22 large property land if you are not considering it as an
23 investment or possible investment.

24 I am a physican, I'm a surgeon I lose my hands
25 I'm worthless, there's not much you can do with what I do

1 and the problem comes in we don't know what's going to
2 happen. My uncle died and I inherited property. The
3 property has been in our family since the early 1800's. Our
4 family we exist back to the Wyoming Massacre and we are sons
5 of the Revolution. Since then we have pretty much
6 contributed to almost every military conflict.

7 We have always been an acting kind of person. My
8 first beer was I think when I was in my third year of
9 medical school. I'm not the most cool guy but I'm a very
10 compliant, nerdy type guy and I'm very in to the environment
11 and stuff. I'm not like what you would say a tree hugger
12 type but I really do appreciate it.

13 So I split the difference because I understand
14 commerce. Man I would love to see every one of those guys
15 employed there. I would love to see them shitting excuse my
16 profanity three times the amount of money but this is my
17 home and there might be a ton of them in there and only a
18 few of us land owners left.

19 Because this is what is going on is tons of the
20 land owners have been paid off with small property, 100 foot
21 variance et cetera like this and they were giving us a
22 litany of different reasons why land should be considered
23 different as the comment is apples and oranges.

24 All someone has to do is walk on our property and
25 the two neighbors that actually are sandwiched between a

1 section of my land and look at my land. And there is no way
2 unless you are plausibly drink all of Kool-Aid possible to
3 see that there is a comparison of the equitable wealth of
4 the property hence they are sandwiched between a section of
5 my land. We have taken care to maintain this land for a
6 long time. It means a lot. My uncle died, he was like a
7 father growing up, he taught me how to shoot, hunt, wood
8 work, metal work, just all the crazy things you could
9 imagine.

10 My grandmother existed before that and she was
11 there when I was a kid. We spent every summer there. We
12 were very sort of clean cut my dad is an accountant so you
13 can't get more boring and clean cut than that. He had a
14 large firm of about I think 62 people he employed and he
15 never had a lawsuit. Myself, amazingly enough I just
16 actually won an award for the 98% of physicians of my
17 specialty in the whole country.

18 I am not a bad guy, pretty boring -- I think my
19 most radical thing is when I decide to use wet flies or
20 streamers rather than dry flies you know. But we are
21 actually very clean cut people, we are very pro-American and
22 patriotic and I get the thing, definitely.

23 Everybody's job every FERC and everybody else has
24 a job via this thing but don't let them railroad the very
25 few of us left and what they are doing and they have

1 announced and they have actually been bragging about this to
2 us in front of my lawyer and everything that they are going
3 to railroad me, they have been saying it for months, they
4 have been saying it actually for a year.

5 And again I was considered one of the friendliest
6 people to these people coming in asking them to come down
7 and sit down, being away from home down south and have a
8 beer in the back lawn and hunt some wood chucks and hang out
9 because I feel like these guys were away alone.

10 There are other things I did for some of the guys
11 that went way above just to be a friendly nice guy. But
12 when I actually found out where we are at here is that they
13 have actually bragged that they are going to get FERC and
14 basically railroad what we are going to be given for our par
15 value. This isn't so much about money. I'm a weird guy. I
16 just like respect and I know that doesn't mean anything
17 anymore and obviously I see how things are going politically
18 as well as this venue in here. It is all these paid people
19 who are all making money via this project.

20 But lowly me the only people who are sacrificing
21 in this project is the land owner because there are very few
22 of us left. All of the small properties were given a large
23 good solvent amounts and they actually are red bagged, they
24 get them cheap and they give them out in large amounts to
25 get the numbers out so they can appeal to FERC to give them

1 the numbers to give them legitimacy about everybody
2 accepting this pipeline.

3 They have actually directly stated that what they
4 are going to do with the larger land owners and most of the
5 people left are larger land owners they have substantial
6 nicer properties. And of course they don't want to pay for
7 that so what they are going to do is take it, get eminent
8 domain, take the properties and they have directly said
9 this, "They have this bogus amounts of monies from these
10 guys and my dad just researched the three properties around
11 me and said what the equitable wealth of my property is on
12 just the sales of the other properties, weren't even close
13 to my property they are three of those properties that equal
14 mine, I am 100 plus acres.

15 And their guy from Texas they never sent us to
16 tell us they were going to arrive to do an assessment on our
17 property and it was hundreds of thousands, well away from
18 what they gave to our property. They are offering me almost
19 \$5,000 less than a guy who has 100 feet of property. I'm
20 around 2100 linear feet let along the full width plus they
21 are taking about a 30 acre field for storage as well.

22 And they are saying that I am equal to that
23 amount and that it is apples and oranges we can't consider
24 the properties next to them as an equivalent base value for
25 our property. And it sounds greedy and money and that's why

1 my dad told me not to speak because he says they will think
2 it sounds like money.

3 I understand the project and I understand there
4 are good Americans in there and they want money but we are a
5 minority and we are not being represented. We are getting
6 railroaded because everybody else took cash. All the guys
7 that were land owners that said it was great well of course
8 they are getting paid. These guys give them a little side
9 contract, made their business profitable because like they
10 actually offered -- I know they offered I just had two guys
11 call me -- they have offered monies as well as them to speak
12 to say how much they like it if they sign off on it, will
13 you speak for us and say how great we are.

14 But there is a lot more underhanded stuff. I
15 could actually say things but I just don't want to screw
16 somebody but offers to go along with a project and it is
17 just not right and the railroading, the use of FERC as a
18 tool against us to railroad us and say we are going to take
19 you to court and ram more money -- and the comment is all
20 you are going to go to is lawyers and spend a ton of money,
21 we are going to give you the amount anyway you are going to
22 get FERC to condemn your property, all you are going to do
23 is waste money and this is the threat.

24 I thought we are in a capitalist society all of
25 those union guys all those guys get to bid in numbers and

1 bid for the numbers and fight for their numbers like this.
2 I have nobody. I have to buy an attorney I am at 15 to
3 20,000 dollars in lawyer fees right now okay and they are
4 not going to remunerate me but I didn't ask for this attack.
5 I didn't have to ask and if I didn't go to a lawyer I'd be a
6 God-damn moron and they have not addressed certain issues, I
7 have not seen any representation of what they are going to
8 do with the streams.

9 I am actually very cognizant of the environment.
10 I'm not an average person. I'm a complete nerd, I'm really
11 an environment -- I mean ask me I can bore anybody believe
12 me I am not the most entertaining person in the world unless
13 you are a complete bio-nerd you know. But I mean I love the
14 environment. I love the property.

15 My grandmother -- she taught me to paint there,
16 my great grandmother we go back to the early 1800's and it
17 is not like I'm a greedy guy -- I'm not against the idea of
18 for the people but what I have understood is that this gas
19 is actually not really going for the community. I have
20 heard rumors that it is going outside of the country and
21 everything so the greater good I really fail to see that,
22 you know.

23 Helping these other guys have jobs our neighbors
24 upstream, my uncle gave land because somebody screwed up on
25 the development of the property and they couldn't pump fuel

1 upstream or next to the stream fuel -- septic lines so he
2 gave up property to them because basically somebody really
3 did a crap job on the development made everything too close
4 together.

5 Right now the cemetery found out that a big
6 section had a bunch of indigent poor people buried in these
7 areas that they were selling off as lots. They dug down
8 they knew they were there now this thing is going to be
9 bankrupt so that they can reclaim that land and so I am
10 donating a couple of acres. I'm not a greedy guy but what
11 is insulting isn't so much the money -- I actually do well.

12 I'm not a very flashy person so I don't need a
13 ton of money but when you are railroaded and threatened and
14 pushed and you are told that you are going to get a lesser
15 amount it is really with me and I get mocked because I guess
16 people think I'm stupid because what bothers me is that I
17 can get railroaded from the government, being used as a tool
18 against me.

19 To have that jammed down my through it is out of
20 honor, it is really important. I mean 39 years of martial
21 arts, I'm not just a standard type, a quite intense school
22 honor is a very important thing to me and it is really
23 irritating and it is very disturbing about this thing.

24 I see the photos where the guys with the AR15's
25 with that place up in the maple syrup plant this is my

1 freaking home. And if it has to come to that I find offense
2 and a very large conflict of a guy who is a very quiet,
3 nerdy, pretty boring damn guy but I comply, I've never had a
4 speeding ticket in my whole life and this is how boring I
5 am.

6 You probably want to slap a beer in my mouth and
7 have me go out drinking and loosen me up but the truth is I
8 believe in following the law so I am conflicted where I am a
9 very law-abiding person and I am getting housed and bullied.

10 And FERC just says hey give them the same
11 equivalent but of course they are going to re-evaluate the
12 lands but say listen you know, treat them fairly. Not use
13 this game, we can't even see what the other people are
14 getting for the land. Nobody knows everything is mysterious
15 they are using it as a tool.

16 So if we are going to have a federal agency,
17 anoint them this power there is nothing on our end to
18 restrict their bully-ism and what they are able to use the
19 strict capitalist and business tool against it. I see a
20 conflict there it doesn't make sense you know and that's the
21 problem.

22 Getting bullied is a very disturbing thing.
23 Being a very clean cut person and standing by this is the
24 difficulty. My parents gave me this land, I inherited it, I
25 didn't even have 8 months I didn't even unpack my underwear

1 okay and then they were telling us that the par value of --
2 par value of the land okay and they indicated well you are
3 doing this and this with the land so it is only worth this
4 much.

5 I didn't even unpack my underwear before I even
6 had a chance to know where it was going to land and they are
7 on my doorstep saying we are going to do this project. You
8 know besides an investment in your land you don't know what
9 you are going to do with it but now we are going to have a
10 complete restriction on my land.

11 I didn't even have a chance to know what to do,
12 my uncle died of cancer -- people came in and robbed our
13 property before I even had the chance to get in there and
14 smash our property. No one did anything, I took over the
15 property, I am battling other entity problems all around my
16 perimeter of large building and things that are going to
17 endanger and damage the watershed and it found a few out.

18 I have been overwhelmed, I feel bullied and I am
19 angry but it is difficult for somebody who is really a
20 boring, clean cut guy to get angry. And what do you do,
21 hire a lawyer spend a ton of money, basically they say they
22 are not going to remunerate you even when you are settled
23 because I didn't have to go to a lawyer but what did I do.

24 Because I am attacked, it is nothing I asked for
25 to jam this down but I am not supposed to hire an attorney

1 and I am supposed to eat it this is just ridiculous. It's a
2 bullying. It's really hard for me to understand. I would
3 never do this to someone. I'm boring so I probably should
4 be more exciting I probably should screw more people and
5 play the game, I'm not that good at it and unfortunately
6 people like me are going to get hurt in this and I am
7 probably going to lose my faith in America and I know this
8 sounds like nothing and I'm a nobody but this is where I am
9 at and it's a very big conflict.

10 If you knew were our heritage goes, John Captain
11 Deitrich Hewitt fighting a massacre. My mom's maiden name
12 was Hewitt that's how far we go back and pre that as well.
13 To have one of our family members have a very break of faith
14 and what we feel about this is a significant thing for our
15 family.

16 Most people think it's nothing. Most people
17 don't even care about paying taxes and would screw the
18 government. My dad they just walk by, makes me pay probably
19 more than my share in taxes because he never wanted us to
20 ever be caught doing anything wrong. You are taking an
21 American that is very faithful and it is being broken right
22 now. I don't feel well about this and I don't know if this
23 matters and I do apologize for wasting your guys times but
24 we are outnumbered in there.

25 They paid off all the small properties, the

1 majority of the people are stacked against us and they are
2 going to take the big properties and railroad us it is a
3 very slick game so maybe they are good and they are going to
4 win and they are better than me obviously. I don't have the
5 resources to beat them.

6 My wife and I are just trying to save up for
7 infertility so we can go in vitro because we have been
8 trying. We are in our 40's and we are people with limited
9 resources against a big company and huge people with large
10 numbers of money. They are all for them and why because
11 they are making a ton of money. The only people that are
12 sacrificing is us.

13 Everybody else is making money on this so of
14 course they are for it, holy hell you know. I would like to
15 see somebody not making money up there that is actually for
16 the project and tell me if you see that you know, so.

17 I apologize for wasting your time and it's a
18 minority we are going to lose and I know what they are going
19 to do. I know what my lawyer is going to eventually tell me
20 and that's where it is at. It is not about money so much
21 for me it is very difficult to be -- and you know where the
22 money is going to go if I do get anything try to work on
23 this restoration I'm working with a consulting group I'm
24 trying to get what used to be native brown trout that's a
25 brook trout that were down there.

1 My grandmother had pictures in the back of her
2 old Scottish bible that's originally from Scotland
3 pre-revolution. To everybody else normal bible, even if
4 they have pictures in there like this we have five fishing
5 people and my grandmother with her skirt where the hem clips
6 up catching brook trout in the back of there. That's what I
7 want to do if they are going to dirty up half of my property
8 then the other section that was salvaged actually that is
9 what was my dream so it wasn't like I am just going to go
10 spend it.

11 I'm a very conservative guy. I get a new
12 woodworking tool I get all excited so I am not like the
13 typical doctor that you see. I'm driving a 1989 old truck
14 out there and I restored it because I actually like
15 restoring trucks. I'm not this snotty-floitty doctor you
16 typically see. I am actually very against that type of life
17 and I give a lot of charity more than people realize.

18 So you are probably not looking at the typical
19 means of why and what. I truly want to see this -- I am
20 taking care of this property for the next couple of
21 generations and to see it just repetitively scarred -- the
22 tree line that it is actually going through was actually
23 planted to have a varied color change of multiple different
24 trees, a lot of them are older like this and now I am going
25 to look at this giant patch through it you know and

1 permanent just scarred for its life because you can't
2 rebuild like this.

3 And if anybody went out to our property to take a
4 look a lot of it was deliberately done that was for my
5 great-grandfather for hunting reasons, everything that was
6 planted was for a reason and this is going to be a permanent
7 swath.

8 You know and I'm not against it I would love to
9 see these guys employed. I would like to see everybody just
10 doing well hell yeah and infrastructure of the United States
11 if somebody endangered us I would die for the United States
12 although right now I am questioning because I feel like a
13 fool, that's what I feel like. I feel like I have been
14 taken advantage of I feel like a fool.

15 It's difficult for me you know, it's not the
16 money screw the money just treat me with respect and that's
17 the problem. I don't do well getting railroaded it's a
18 really difficult thing. And that land means a little more
19 than people realize it goes back a long way you know.

20 So whatever you guys can do at least maybe
21 control them but a mandate against them and say fine let it
22 go through and employ those guys have them a good life it is
23 better for the economy great, I have nothing against that.
24 I'm probably more of a unique guy straddling both sides but
25 put a mandate you cannot use it against them for the money

1 and using it as a bully tool and that is what they are
2 doing. They are laughing about using you guys as a tool,
3 I'd be insulted. I'd be pissed if I were you guys and it
4 has been directly said in multiple ways in front of my
5 attorney, myself on multiple occasions and that I can't
6 believe you guys would stand for it.

7 I think to best honest I think you guys would be
8 pissed and I am sure my attorney could qualify those
9 statements you know but I'm sure he is also going to bill me
10 so he is actually sitting today in the audience so I will
11 tell my wife we will have to forego a baby for another
12 couple of months so that's it, I'm sorry for wasting your
13 time.

14 COURT REPORTER WILLIAMS: Alright.

15 MR. BERNOSKI: William Bernoski, B-e-r-n-o-s-k-i.

16 MS. BERNOSKI: Lorrie, L-o-r-r-i-e Bernoski,
17 B-e-r-n-o-s-k-i. Well we would lie to start by saying that
18 we are not totally against the pipeline. We are for the
19 energy in the future however as it pertains to the pipeline
20 going directly through our property we are opposed to that.
21 We never wanted it, we still don't want it, we don't want it
22 in the future, we have tried to work with the land man.
23 Williams' people are strong-arming us and we don't
24 appreciate that. We just want to do anything to get the
25 pipeline off of our property.

1 We don't care where it goes if it has to be here
2 that's fine, for everyone's future but we don't want to have
3 anybody lose their jobs, we want people to obtain jobs in
4 the future but we want something in the future too. We have
5 a child who is 30 years-old going to be getting married,
6 starting a family.

7 We only have 12.64 acres -- Williams is proposing
8 to take 20% of that and the money is -- we can't put a price
9 on our lives if there is a problem, a fault with the
10 pipeline. Paying the taxes as you know all of the pros and
11 cons and I see nothing but cons because it pertains to my
12 property.

13 We never asked for this. We saved our money all
14 of our life to get this little bit of heaven that we live at
15 right now. I thought that we were going to turn it over
16 generation to generation this is our haven and we are not
17 going to be able to even afford it. We have to get
18 attorneys because we are going all the way -- so I don't
19 know where we are going to come up with finances, the
20 burden, the stress that this has caused us the past couple
21 of years.

22 I mean I could just go -- everything is negative
23 for us. Other people in our neighborhood might be for it.
24 A contractor is our neighbor he has 100 feet of the
25 pipeline, he wants it because it is his job. He wants the

1 money that the pipeline is going to pay him but the pipeline
2 is 150 feet from my home. How am I going to sleep at night
3 if something happens.

4 MR. BERNOSKI: And that's scary.

5 MS. BERNOSKI: It's very scary.

6 MR. BERNOSKI: After just what happened in the
7 last year with the two pipelines in Pittsburgh and Muncy and
8 not to say they are going to be taking about 200 trees plus
9 down, exposing our whole property.

10 MS. BERNOSKI: Yes I didn't get into that the
11 privacy. I -- we were raised very private people. We don't
12 talk about our finances to other people, we don't talk about
13 what we have, what we don't have, we found this property and
14 we put our house right in the middle of the 12.64 acres
15 because we like the privacy. We don't want anybody to come
16 and see us.

17 The pipeline will be going through directly in
18 front of the front porch length or width of 150 feet and
19 taking down all of the trees exposing us to everybody
20 underneath us, anybody driving up and down the road will now
21 see us.

22 MR. BERNOSKI: There's only 43 feet of a boundary
23 of trees between our neighbor and I, 43 feet.

24 MS. BERNOSKI: Another issue that we have is a
25 sand mount. I'm sure you know what a sand mount is the

1 elevated -- okay we have a how many gallon?

2 MR. BERNOSKI: Well we have 1,000 gallon tank
3 down there.

4 MS. BERNOSKI: The pipe proposed is going about
5 20 feet from that sand bound.

6 MR. BERNOSKI: And around it.

7 MS. BERNOSKI: And around it. Now if something
8 faults on that, now we paid \$15,000 to put this in and we
9 had it inspected and we did it the right way. If something
10 faults on this and we are on a 70% grade my neighbor has a
11 pond, anything is going to go right into his pond from our
12 sand mound. I don't want to be liable for that. I didn't
13 ask for this.

14 We just want to be left alone. We just want to
15 work all day, go home and sit on our porch and be by
16 ourselves. Now when people were trying to come and do
17 surveys again I'm in my yard, I'm thinking that I am all
18 alone in the middle of these woods, I'm playing with the
19 pond, I'm doing yard work and there's people walking through
20 my property. I don't want that. I don't want anybody
21 bothering us.

22 MR. BERNOSKI: Right but now getting back to the
23 survey the land man came to our home when I was at work and
24 told her that they were going to do a one shot deal from a
25 satellite survey, nobody would be coming on our property.

1 Well she came them authorization to do it and they were
2 there every week, every week until we had to seize it. We
3 filled out a paper saying that you know we don't want
4 anybody up there anymore.

5 MS. BERNOSKI: And that's when I said they
6 strong-armed us. The man came into the driveway and he told
7 us right out that we don't have enough money to fight
8 Williams because they have bigger and better lawyers than we
9 could ever get. So they, they were two, they more or less
10 called us country bumpkins, we are uneducated and we don't
11 have money and this insults us.

12 MR. BERNOSKI: And again we are not against this
13 project just like my wife said in the beginning. All we are
14 asking and we have been asking since March of '15 is if they
15 can try to go around us, move the pipeline away from us I
16 don't want it down 150 feet from my home. I want to be able
17 to sleep at night. In our home -- we are in our 50's our
18 home is our investment for our retirement. What is our home
19 going to be worth? Will anybody want to buy it?

20 You know right now it is worth a fortune the way
21 it is set up. I wouldn't want to buy it you know and
22 honestly to me it seems like -- and my wife talked about
23 this they wanted to do the bat studies, they wanted to do
24 the artifact -- Indian artifact studies, you know, they
25 wanted to do the deciduous plants, they are not worried

1 about our life, they are not worried about like if there is
2 an explosion do you know what I mean? I know they are
3 saying in there that it is safe and it probably is but like
4 that lady says there are probably two people -- who are the
5 next two people that are going to die. I mean that's scary.

6 To us that's scary a 32 inch pipeline with I
7 don't know how many cubic billions or millions of natural
8 gas going through there it's just not right that they could
9 do this to people like us you know. Like she said my
10 daughter she would want to maybe build a house up there we
11 have enough land, and is not going to be able to now ever.
12 I don't know it's just not right. We don't think it's right
13 and again all we are asking is just to move the project
14 somewhere else there has to be another way around you know.

15 Like that lady down there she's saying 500 feet
16 she is away from it, we are 150 my God we don't stand a
17 chance you know and then my wife shows me on the satellite
18 when she comes home because I'm not a computer guy and she
19 shows me what is the fire zone.

20 MS. BERNOSKI: Hazard zone.

21 MR. BERNOSKI: The hazard zone, our house is
22 right smack in the middle of it.

23 MS. BERNOSKI: Our house will be gone.

24 MR. BERNOSKI: Who is going to want to buy it you
25 know, it is just ruining our life, it really is and all the

1 money in the world doesn't matter because we just don't want
2 it. The trees are irreplaceable you know. We looked, like
3 she said, we looked for this piece of property -- we owned a
4 house about 20 miles away for 17 years we were there and we
5 looked for a little piece of land like she said a little
6 piece of heaven you know for us to build a house some day
7 you know our dream home and we finally found land which we
8 got lucky and we built a house in the middle of it and
9 everything worked out perfect and now we are dealing with
10 this at this point in our life you know.

11 It's done to us -- we are always fighting it's
12 terrible, it is just a terrible situation and all we are
13 asking for is if they would reconsider moving it somewhere,
14 there's lots of fields out there by us.

15 MS. BERNOSKI: I've written letters, I am on the
16 e-website on the e-file. I read those every day. I don't
17 know how much of an impact that's going to have with the
18 decision on canned letters that people are sending in that
19 are for it versus individuals who are opposed who have to
20 take time out of their work schedule and their family life
21 to write a letter.

22 And on another subject with that EIS what is it
23 the Environmental -- I haven't had time to get a tenth
24 through it. I tried to get to the section where Wyoming
25 County where we are. I don't know how true that report is

1 unless I'm reading it wrong. It is showing that there was a
2 bat study done on our property right around our -- and I
3 know that we wouldn't let anybody in so unless I'm reading
4 the map wrong but it clearly has a picture of bats.

5 MR. BERNOSKI: Also one thing that our neighbor
6 is very concerned about is like Lorrie said our property is
7 at a 70% grade from our sand mound to the edge of our
8 property there's the 43 feet that they want to leave the
9 trees and then they are well beyond the sand mound and they
10 are going around it because they supposedly need room to
11 work.

12 And he has a pond a nice size 1 acre pond down
13 there a beautiful pond that is just naturally fed from our
14 property and he is concerned about that being damaged you
15 know who is going to be responsible.

16 MS. BERNOSKI: So the spring is on our property
17 feed our neighbor's one acre pond. If the pipeline goes
18 where it is proposed right now on our property the spring
19 will definitely be affected and Williams told us that they
20 will fix it. I don't know how I'm not an environmental but
21 --

22 MR. BERNOSKI: And they have attempted several
23 times to try to contact us to give them permission to go
24 back in there and survey that because they want to bring
25 maybe several engineers, whoever because in my mind or in

1 our mind they are not sure about it now because of how tight
2 it is between the sand mound and his pond and we haven't
3 given him any permission to come back.

4 MS. BERNOSKI: Even the trees -- Williams says
5 you know we can sell the trees. We cleared one acre of our
6 property of trees for our home, ourselves. I learned how to
7 work a chain saw with him and cut down trees every single
8 day after work, every Saturday he was at work and I was up
9 there by myself clearing this property. If we wanted more
10 trees down to sell the trees we would have done it but we
11 don't want it.

12 We left them all virgin woods for our privacy and
13 now they just want to -- again we just have to keep
14 stressing privacy, the amount of money that they want to pay
15 us, there's no paycheck that is going to make us satisfied.
16 We didn't ask for it, we will never be for it.

17 MR. BERNOSKI: Those trees to like when we first
18 bought the land most of those trees it was infested with
19 like grapevines and this and that and I spent literally
20 hours and hours every single summer just going through them
21 and cutting grapevines so that the trees wouldn't die, hours
22 and I can't tell you how much time that I have invested in
23 doing that and to try to save them and now they are just
24 going to go anyway it just breaks our heart you know, it
25 really does.

1 MS. BERNOSKI: They say they will replant we will
2 never see a 100 foot tree in our lifetime. They could
3 replant all they want and that privacy is never going to
4 come back. We just had the Emerald Ash Board come through
5 and we had to pay to take a couple of dangerous trees down.
6 We didn't want to do it, we left them around the house on
7 purpose when we built the home.

8 And we had to pick and choose these only because
9 they were infected. We don't want any more down.

10 MR. BERNOSKI: And we are trying to save the
11 trees because we have a lot of ash around our house and we
12 are trying to save the ones there even though it is probably
13 an exercise in futility but we are trying. That's how much
14 we like the trees.

15 MS. BERNOSKI: So I hope we hit everything. I
16 hope that you know our concerns are valid for FERC to take
17 into consideration our plea.

18 MR. BERNOSKI: Again like Lorrie said they are
19 just trying to strong-arm the land owners they really are
20 and it is really not right because they are doing a good job
21 of it. You know the guy that came to our house, the land
22 man was an older guy you know she will tell you what I would
23 have done to him in my kitchen because it is terrible how he
24 treated me and disrespected me in my home and told me what
25 they are going to do regardless of what we decide. We have

1 no decision and basically they are saying, "You take this
2 money".

3 Okay actually by today's date or you are going to
4 get this amount, you are hardly going to get anything and
5 again there is not enough money to buy us out of that we
6 just don't want it. That's not what we saved our money for
7 you know to do this you know this is our dream and they are
8 trying to take it away from us and it is honestly making us
9 mad.

10 It is making me so mad it is stressing me right
11 out that you know that they should be allowed to do that to
12 us as a land owner. I'm a taxpayer this is my property you
13 know and for them to just come in and take it, it is just
14 not right and it is not right.

15 Thank you for your time, those are our concerns and like I
16 said we are very concerned and like I said my wife is always
17 after me to come to the meetings and then I never really
18 want to come to the meetings because I think the meetings
19 are a waste of time okay because I feel in my mind that the
20 decision was already made and you know we are trying to make
21 a difference and here I am but hopefully it will have some
22 kind of an impact.

23 Like I said if they could just find another way
24 around this, that's all -- we've tried to even get some
25 people you know everybody is against it up around us but

1 trying to get people to come out and support the cause you
2 know like with the group that we used to go to every month
3 up in Tunkhannock you just can't get people to come and
4 support it because of like their work schedules or whatever
5 you know, so. Thank you so much.

6 MS. BERNOSKI: Thank you.

7 COURT REPORTER WILLIAMS: Alright you can start
8 your name please.

9 MR. WILLIAMS: My name is Tom Williams. I have
10 property in Dallas Township it's approximately 1200 linear
11 feet of pipeline. I am not opposed to a pipeline I grew up
12 with a pipeline in my back yard. I don't have a problem
13 with the pipeline I do have a problem with being treated
14 fairly and that's why I am here.

15 There are just some things that have happened
16 throughout this process that have not left a real great
17 taste in my mouth. As I said I grew up with a pipeline in
18 my backyard it was the Williams pipeline and it is actually
19 -- the portion of the pipeline in Ross Township where they
20 are adding to the existing like okay -- so they are adding
21 another pipe.

22 My first experience with this current situation
23 is with my mother who still lives on our property in Ross
24 Township. They came to her looking for and she's in her
25 70's looking for the additional footage to add the

1 additional pipe and they made an offer to her and at one
2 point they pulled out an agreement that was signed in the
3 late 1950's by my uncles, my mom's uncles rather and they
4 said, "Here we can only pay you this amount but out of the
5 goodness of our hearts we are going to pay you 20-some
6 thousand dollars" which my mom -- a little old lady was
7 happy to take that offer but the one thing she requested was
8 a new agreement.

9 Why not? Everybody else along the pipeline
10 especially the new section is going to have 2016 agreements
11 and they said, "No take the 20-some thousand there is no new
12 agreements being negotiated here." Which that was kind of
13 bothersome to me because I have 1200 linear feet on my
14 property in Dallas Township -- someday I am going to have
15 the property in Ross Township and now I am going to have two
16 different agreements that I am going to be dealing with with
17 the same pipeline company.

18 So the whole idea was to try to bring her
19 property up to a 2016 agreement so that when her heirs end
20 up with the property it would be the same agreement. So
21 that was my first experience obviously they did not
22 entertain any thoughts of basically they told her, "Well if
23 you don't like this money and you want a new agreement we
24 are just going to go and enforce the old agreement," and it
25 was like a dollar per something or other.

1 It was rates from the 1950's so that was not
2 good. So then I started dealing with them on my property
3 and they did an appraisal on my property and the appraised
4 amount of damages so to speak was worth \$60,000 in their
5 estimation. They offered me \$69,000 as my offer.

6 So I have an attorney and the attorney has other
7 clients and he said, "Oh that's funny one of my other
8 clients was appraised at \$6,000 and was offered \$60,000 for
9 much less linear footage." Ten times -- so that's where I
10 am coming from is like let's be fair here and I don't expect
11 ten times what my appraisal was, I don't expect that but at
12 least don't insult me.

13 And so then they sent a letter around to my
14 attorney basically saying that I needed to take the \$69,000
15 otherwise if it went to condemnation all I was going to get
16 was \$60,000 which that's not true. It goes to -- from what
17 I understand, it goes to a county board of review I present
18 my appraised value, they present their appraised value, the
19 County Board of Review picks and creates so don't lie to me.

20 And I mean I have the letter it is very
21 misleading it says that if you don't take this then when the
22 FERC approval is granted you are only going to get \$60,000.
23 They are crossing 6 acres of commercial property that I have
24 right on a highway and in reading through their appraisal
25 there are a lot of things that are very, very misleading.

1 As a matter of fact and they are crossing 6 acres
2 of commercial as well as about 11 acres of residential land
3 that I have. So one thing that I found extremely
4 inappropriate I think was in the appraisal they attached a
5 study to the appraisal that was done on the effects of a
6 pipeline passing through a residential development on real
7 estate values.

8 And they cited a place in Dallas Township the
9 name of it is escaping me now but it was another Williams
10 Pipeline that was put in and they cited this study that they
11 did on the property values and as I was ready the study I
12 noticed the author's name and I was like wait that name
13 seems familiar and I looked at the front of my appraisal and
14 the author of the study was one of the two gentlemen who did
15 my appraisal.

16 Now you guys deal with this all the time is that
17 appropriate for them to cite my real estate value is not
18 going to be harmed based on this study when the guy who did
19 the study is the one who is creating the real estate value
20 in the first place on my property?

21 So like I said I'm not opposed to a pipeline, I
22 want to negotiate in good faith with them. They gave me
23 this number, they said well give us a number and so I gave
24 them \$400,000 they said, "Oh we are not even going to talk
25 to you anymore". And my attorney became irate and said,

1 "Well then don't talk to me about any of my other clients
2 either."

3 So then they came back and said, "Well okay our
4 new number is \$70,000" they went up by one thousand dollars
5 I mean are you kidding me? Let's negotiate just be fair and
6 I don't -- and they are holding the FERC approval over my
7 head that once this goes through then they are going to get
8 their way. You know they are saying take the 69 or once we
9 get FERC you are only going to get 60 which I find that --
10 you know they are basically using FERC to be the heavy for
11 them in creating an attitude to try to get me to sign.

12 So I find that very distressing that you know
13 they are assuming they are going to get FERC approval and
14 they are then trying to threaten me that if I don't take
15 what they are offering now and I think they are trying to
16 low ball I mean what about those who have larger tracts of
17 land -- they've settled with a lot of smaller land owners in
18 our area with decent -- I know another one 100 feet they got
19 \$40,000. I know another one was offered their appraisal was
20 \$17,000 they got \$70,000 so don't throw 60 at me.

21 Oh and then they went to my attorney and they
22 wanted me to sign the papers because they need basically my
23 property looks like this, then there is another triangle
24 here and then so there's a road here, there's a road here
25 and there's a road here. Okay when they originally showed

1 me the drawings in the beginning they were going to cross
2 over here, they were going to cross this property here and
3 then by the way my land then is over here as well.

4 So right now the line is going to go across here
5 and then it is going to go along this edge here and then it
6 is going to cross onto me again. Okay so they came to my
7 attorney and said, "This is a state highway right here, this
8 is a state highway right here." They wanted me to sign
9 papers because they now need occupancy permits or driveway
10 permits or something so that they can exit the state highway
11 on to this land, exit this land on to this highway and then
12 exit this road on to my land.

13 So they need three state highway permits and they
14 wanted me to sign because I as the land owner have to sign
15 the application. Well I think they are starting to realize
16 that it is going to take a while to deal with Penn-Dot it's
17 not you know, even if they applied now they may not have
18 those permits until well after FERC renders their decision
19 in October or whenever it happens.

20 So my attorney and I said I'm not signing
21 anything until we have an agreement in place, so let's work
22 this stuff out and then you know if I have any leverage --
23 they need my signatures so they tried to -- went back to the
24 attorney and tried to get him to have me sign them without
25 having the agreement.

1 Which again it is the deception that I really
2 didn't like -- they basically said, "Oh it's no big deal you
3 just need to have your client sign these papers there so
4 that we can get the highway permits going and then we can
5 work out the rest of the details" -- well again if you are
6 an up and up company then be up front.

7 And this piece of property here this is
8 commercial it is on the Harvey's Lake Highway, this is a
9 commercial acre here and there's a business right in front
10 here and so in their appraisal this property here is 1 acre
11 and it is land-locking this piece of land right here between
12 the pipeline and this boundary there is nothing that can be
13 done with that -- that sliver.

14 So you take that sliver plus you take the
15 right-of-way it leaves me with about .4 acre left that I
16 could do something with but I have also got a set-back here
17 and I have got a set-back here so they are basically
18 rendering this 1 acre piece of commercial land.

19 Well has anyone tried to buy an acre of
20 commercial land in the Back Mountain? They are offering me
21 this for all of this when they are virtually rendering that
22 piece completely unusable which I was okay with it when it
23 first came through when they were going to go this way you
24 know but for some reason and again -- I am not opposed like
25 I just if this land isn't going to be useable for anything

1 other than maybe like a used car lot or something above
2 where they don't have to put a basement in or anything like
3 that then at least compensate, that's all.

4 So I don't know that's my thoughts.

5 (Whereupon at 9:50 p.m., the meeting was
6 adjourned.)

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

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

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15 Docket No.: CP15-138-000

16 Place: Dallas, PA

17 Date: 6/16/16

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

23

24 Mike Williams

25 Official Reporter