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BEFORE THE
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

- - - - - x
IN THE MATTER OF: : Project Number
CREOLE TRAIL LNG AND PIPELINE PROJECT : PF05-8-000
- - - - - x

Holiday Inn Express
102 Mallard Street
Sulphur, Louisiana

Tuesday, April 26, 2005

The above-entitled matter came on for scoping
meeting, pursuant to notice at 7:05 p.m.

MODERATORS: DOUG SIPE, FERC

P R O C E E D I N G S

(7:05 p.m.)

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4 MR. SIPE: Good evening. On behalf of the
5 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission I'd like to welcome you
6 all here tonight. We have a good crowd, which we like to
7 see.

8 This is the environmental scoping meeting for the
9 propose Creole Trail LNG and Pipeline project. The project
10 is being proposed by Creole Trail LNG and Cheniere Creole
11 Trail Pipeline Company. Let the record show that the public
12 scoping meeting began at 11:05 a.m. on April 26, 2005 --
13 what time did I say? I must still be on Eastern Standard.

14 My name is Doug Sipe and I am the FERC project
15 manager for the Creole Trail LNG Pipeline project. Fran
16 Lowell beside me and the gentlemen out there that you met at
17 the front table are Paul Bednarczyk and Ross Hargrove.
18 They're with Natural Resource Group. NRG is a consulting
19 firm assisting us in producing the Environmental Impact
20 Statement that will be prepared for this project.

21 Also joining us here tonight is Mr. Ronnie Duke
22 and Mr. James Little of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
23 They have primary responsibilities under Section 404 of the
24 Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors
25 Act. Mr. Duke will present some info to you a little later.

1 Also we have somewhere in the room John Jacoby with the U.S.
2 Department of Transportation and Pipeline Safety. If you
3 guys have any safety questions for him, he's here and
4 hopefully he can answer anything you have.

5 The FERC is the lead federal agency for the
6 National Environmental Policy Act, which is referred as
7 NEPA. Review of the project and lead agency for the
8 preparation of the EIS. The DOTOPS has responsibility for
9 ensuring that LNG facilities and natural gas line facilities
10 comply with several regulations and standards under the
11 Natural Pipeline Safety Act. The meeting is a NEPA public
12 scoping meeting. The purpose of tonight's meeting is to
13 provide each of you with the opportunity to give us your
14 environmental comments on the proposed Creole Trail LNG and
15 Pipeline project. This is tough. It's a pipeline project
16 and an LNG project, so you've got to get it straight when
17 you say it.

18 We're here tonight to learn from you. It would
19 help us most if your comments are as specific as possible
20 regarding the potential environmental impacts and reasonable
21 alternatives of the proposed projects. Your comments will
22 be used to determine what issues we need to cover in the
23 EIS.

24 If you wish to speak tonight, please be sure sign
25 a speaker's list at the sign-in table. If you do not wish

1 to speak tonight, you can pick up one of the handouts at the
2 sign-in table that provides instructions to make it easier
3 for you to send in written comments to us. Right now I
4 believe we have three people on the speaker's list and this
5 is everyone's opportunity to provide comments to us. You
6 don't have to sign the speaker's list, it's just part of my
7 speech. Dorian will have a microphone walking around if you
8 want to get up and speak. We'd appreciate it because the
9 more comments we get the more things we can address in the
10 EIS to make the project go smooth.

11 When you do speak, stand up, state your name,
12 spell it for the court reporter -- this is being taped
13 tonight so you're all on record. You can't get away with
14 it.

15 On April 4, 2005, we issued a Notice of Intent to
16 prepare an EIS for this project. The comment period will
17 end on May 4, 2005. And let me explain that a little bit.
18 This is the pre-filing stage of the project and once they
19 file an application there will be another time -- FERC
20 always assigns timelines when comments have to be in. This
21 is not the last timeline that you will have to get comments
22 in. This is basically set off the pre-filing stage of the
23 project. Once they file the application, there will be
24 another timeline. Once the EIS is issued, there will be
25 another timeline. So this is not the last time you guys

1 will be able to issue comments on this project.

2 It is during this period we accept written
3 comments on this project. It's not to say we won't accept
4 them at a later date. We will take comments throughout the
5 review of the project. However, we ask that you provide
6 comments as soon as possible in order to give us time to
7 analyze and research the issues. I would like to add that
8 FERC strongly encourages electronic filing of any comments.
9 The instructions for this can be located at our website at
10 www.FERC.gov under the e-Filing link. The handouts at the
11 sign-in table provide additional information about
12 electronic filing of the comments.

13 Regarding our process, we have begun a pre-filing
14 environmental review of the project. A formal application
15 for this project has not been file at the present date.
16 However, the FERC staff has already started a NEPA review of
17 the project to allow early involvement by the public,
18 government entities and other interested parties. The
19 purpose of the NEPA pre-filing project is to encourage
20 involvement by interested stakeholders in a manner that
21 allows for early identification and resolution of
22 environmental issues.

23 We are working closely with other federal and
24 state agencies and are asking cooperating status with other
25 agencies at the present time. As of now, the Army Corps of

1 Engineers has agreed to cooperate with us in the preparation
2 of the EIS and the Coast Guard is here tonight and they also
3 will be a cooperating agency with us. We have a handout at
4 the sign-in table that explains the environmental review
5 process in more detail. It depicts the various public input
6 opportunities.

7 So now, Ronnie, would you like to say a couple of
8 words?

9 MR. DUKE: Thank you, Doug.

10 Good evening. I am Ronnie W. Duke and seated at
11 the end of the table is Mr. James Little. We're with the
12 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District. On
13 behalf of Colonel Peter Rowan, District Engineer of the New
14 Orleans District, I join with the Federal Energy Regulatory
15 Commission in welcoming you to this public scoping meeting
16 to construct a liquified natural gas import terminal
17 adjacent to the Calcasieu River, approximately 118 miles of
18 two 42-inch diameter, 47 miles of one 42-inch diameter and 6
19 miles of one 20-inch diameter conveyance pipelines.

20 The Corps of Engineers has been granted
21 permitting authority under Section 10 of the Rivers and
22 Harbors Act of 1899, which prohibits the unauthorized
23 obstruction or alteration of any navigable water of the
24 United States and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act of
25 1972, which regulates the discharge of dredge or fill

1 material into waters of the United States.

2 To date, the New Orleans District has not
3 received a permit application requesting the Department of
4 the Army authorization to construct the Creole Trail LNG
5 terminal and transmission pipelines. However, a pre-
6 application meeting was conducted on February 17, 2005 with
7 representatives from Cheniere LNG, Inc. and Cheniere
8 Pipeline Company concerning submittal of a permit
9 application for the proposed terminal and pipeline
10 facilities. Upon receipt of a complete application from the
11 New Orleans District, we will solicit comments from the
12 public via a 30-day public notice advertisement. The Corps
13 will evaluate the proposed work in accordance with other
14 regulations and guidelines and in cooperation with the
15 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and other federal and
16 state resource and regulatory agencies.

17 The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission will be
18 the lead agency in preparation of the Environmental Impact
19 Statement required by the National Environmental Policy Act
20 of 1969. The Corps will be a cooperating agency in the
21 preparation of this EIS. The Corps is neither a proponent
22 nor a opponent of the proposed action. A decision whether
23 to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the
24 probably impact, including cumulative impacts of the
25 proposed activity on the public interest.

1 That decision will reflect the national concern
2 for both protection and utilization of important resources.
3 All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be
4 considered, such as conservation, economics, aesthetics,
5 wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values,
6 flood hazards and the needs and welfare of the people, just
7 to name a few. The EIS process will be used to identify the
8 impacts of the project, both beneficial as well as
9 detrimental.

10 As stated earlier, the purpose of this meeting is
11 to gather information from you, the public, as to what
12 issues you feel are important and should be addressed in the
13 EIS. Your input is important to the evaluation of the
14 proposed action and its potential impact on the human and
15 biological communities. So please feel free to comment and
16 we look forward to hearing from you tonight. If you don't
17 feel like voicing your concerns this evening, you can submit
18 written comments. Please do not hesitate to contact my
19 staff or me for assistance during the permitting evaluating
20 process. Thank you.

21 MR. SIPE: Thanks, Ronnie.

22 During our review of the project we will assemble
23 information from a variety of sources, including Creole
24 Trail, you, the public, other state, local and federal
25 agencies and our own independent analysis and field work.

1 We will analyze this information and prepare a draft EIS
2 that will be distributed to the public for comment. If you
3 want a copy of the draft EIS, there are three ways to let us
4 know. You can send written comment to the FERC or you can
5 sign-up at the sign-in table tonight or you can return the
6 mailing list retention form that was included in the Notice
7 of Intent that we mailed out. You must do one of these
8 three things to ensure that you stay on the mailing list.

9 Now this project is pretty large and just because
10 your neighbor got a Notice of Intent or got some mailing, it
11 didn't mean that were ignoring you. The mailing list is
12 ongoing and it's being updated continually. So if you
13 didn't get something and you're here tonight, don't throw
14 something at me. It's an ongoing problem all across the
15 United States that we have with these projects. It's hard
16 to keep up with the mailing list and we're sorry that
17 certain people don't get the information that they should.
18 But, if you did not get it, make sure you sign up tonight
19 and you will not be taken off the mailing list.

20 If you have an NOI that was mailed to you and you
21 didn't return it or you didn't sign-in, then you probably
22 will be taken off the mailing list. So you have to become
23 involved a little bit with the project in order to stay on
24 the mailing list. We want to mail you everything, but if we
25 don't have your name it isn't going to happen.

1 It's very important that any comments you send
2 include our internal docket number for the project. The
3 docket number is in the Notice of Intent and is included on
4 the handout at the sign-in table. There are also extra
5 copies of the Notice of Intent out there if you need a copy
6 of it. If you decide to send us a comment letter, please
7 put that number on it. That will ensure that I or members
8 of the staff evaluating the project will get your comments.
9 The docket number for the Creole Trail LNG and Pipeline
10 project is PF05-8-000. One more time. It's PF-05-8-000.

11 Once they file their application, that number
12 will change from a PF docket to a CP docket, which is a
13 certificate -- CP. I work with every day and I can't
14 remember what the CP is -- Certificate Proceeding. It will
15 have a CP dash something number, whichever one comes -- it's
16 just like whoever comes in the door next. So a couple of
17 weeks down the road or whenever Creole Trail decides to
18 file, it will change over to a CP.

19 Also I can tell you if you go on our website,
20 www.FERC.gov, and go onto e-Subscription, you can e-
21 subscribe to this project under this docket number that's
22 here now and everything that's filed on the record from the
23 public, from the company, from us -- anything that goes out
24 you will get an e-mail on that. So that's an easy way to
25 keep up on this project. So get our website, www.FERC.gov.

1 I think that's on the handout. It's in the Notice of Intent
2 and go to e-Subscription and you can do that.

3 MS. LOWELL: Right now there's a problem with the
4 e-Subscription for this docket, but they're working on it.

5 MR. SIPE: Okay. There's always a problem with
6 our computer system.

7 MR. ATHERTON: Say that again. Because if you
8 put that docket number in, you get nothing on your website.

9 MR. SIPE: Well, I didn't know that.

10 MS. LOWELL: No. It should come up when you just
11 put in, but you can't subscribe. You're not getting
12 anything even when you type it in?

13 MR. ATHERTON: No, I didn't. It didn't come up
14 at all. See it says "document not found."

15 MS. LOWELL: Oh, you know why? Because you're
16 not suppose to put the two zeros.

17 MR. ATHERTON: I didn't want to waste more paper,
18 but I did. I just put the 8 on there and it didn't come up
19 either.

20 MS. LOWELL: Okay.

21 MR. ATHERTON: So just a point of information.

22 MS. LOWELL: Thank you.

23 MR. ATHERTON: I did follow your instructions and
24 put in Creole Trail and it did bring up the information, but
25 I couldn't make any variation of that docket number work on

1 your service engine. Thank you.

2 MR. SIPE: Okay. Sometimes there are problems
3 with the system, which -- I mean I love. I'm a project
4 manager there and I have a bunch of projects and that's how
5 I keep up-to-date on what comes in. So sorry there's a
6 problem with it, but it'll be fixed, hopefully.

7 After the draft EIS is issued, you will have 45
8 days to review and comment on it. Normally, we schedule a
9 public comment meeting similar in format to this one towards
10 the end of the 45-day comment period. This meeting tonight
11 is scoping on the document. We want to get issues that you
12 have so we can address those in the draft EIS. The meeting
13 after this will be more of a comment meeting on the draft
14 EIS. So you'll have a document and you can praise it or
15 slam it, whichever way you want to do it. Or, if you have
16 comments on it, that meeting is more addressed to commenting
17 on the EIS. This is more of taking your general comments.
18 Now I'm not saying we won't take the general comments during
19 that meeting, but that meeting is more set up to address the
20 EIS. So it's there a difference between scoping and comment
21 meeting.

22 At that meeting, you can give us comments on the
23 draft EIS orally, alternatively you may provide comments in
24 writing. At the end of the 45-day comment periods, we will
25 use your comments and any new information that we've been

1 able to gather to finalize the EIS. The final EIS will be
2 mailed to the people who are on the environmental mailing
3 list. I cannot stress that enough. If you want to be on
4 the mailing list, do something about it.

5 If you receive a copy of the draft EIS, you will
6 receive a copy of the final EIS. After the final EIS is
7 issued, the FERC Commissioners will use our findings to
8 assist in their determination on whether to approve or deny
9 a certificate for this project.

10 Before we start taking comments from you, we've
11 asked Creole Trail to provide a brief overview of the
12 project. Mr. Keith Meyer is here with Creole Trail tonight
13 and he agreed to do that for us. So I'll turn it over to
14 you now.

15 MR. MEYER: Thank you and good evening.

16 I'll go through a brief presentation. I'm Keith
17 Meyer, President of Cheniere LNG. So we're the project
18 proponent here developing the LNG terminal and associated
19 pipeline.

20 Let me go through a brief presentation to give
21 you a little bit of an idea first as to why you're hearing
22 about LNG projects now. I know you folks have heard about
23 this one a little bit and you've probably heard about some
24 other ones in the area. Right now -- where am I not suppose
25 to stand.

1 MR. SIPE: I didn't happen to me.

2 MR. MEYER: No, it didn't, did it.

3 (Laughter.)

4 MR. MEYER: I'll try not to move too much, which
5 is tough for me. Right now we as a nation are going through
6 an energy crisis. We've got natural gas prices, electric
7 prices and to some extent, as you guys know, gasoline prices
8 that are too high. They're unsustainably high. Let's focus
9 on natural gas.

10 Alan Greenspan has come out and said in his
11 testimony to Congress that this nation needs new LNG
12 receiving terminals. That means we need new terminals to
13 import natural gas from overseas. The reason he says that
14 is because he recognizes the devastating effect that these
15 high prices have on our economy. This is the history of the
16 natural gas consumption in this country. What you'll see is
17 we had a great growth projectory and then right about here,
18 back in the '70s we hit our last energy crisis. The
19 devastation that followed this drop in demand was basically
20 the loss of our nation's primary metals industries, a lot of
21 our fabricated metals industries, a lot of our automotive
22 manufacturing. They really took the body blow for the
23 country in the crisis. Those big users are gone now.

24 If we look at the big users today in this
25 country, chemicals and allied products. Guess where most of

1 those are? Right here in the Gulf Coast. If we look at the
2 Gulf Coast natural gas demand or if we look at gas demand
3 across the country, this chart shows average daily demand in
4 the country by the coastal states. What you'll see is Texas
5 and Louisiana together are the largest concentration of
6 demand anywhere in the world. It's about 15 billion cubic
7 feet per day. That about 25 percent of our nation's
8 consumption, larger than twice the nation of Japan. So
9 we've got a lot of big gas users right here in the Gulf
10 Coast.

11 Secondly, we've got as a nation a pipeline
12 infrastructure designed to take a lot of gas from the Gulf
13 Coast and move it to different demand areas across the
14 country. So as we think about where to bring in new sources
15 of supply, it makes a lot of sense to bring it to an area
16 where you've got demand and you've got the pipeline
17 infrastructure. So, in other words, bringing it through the
18 Gulf Coast.

19 Cheniere has activities in four terminals now on
20 the Gulf Coast. Two in Louisiana, two in Texas. We've
21 started construction on two of those projects -- the
22 Freeport Project in Texas is under construction and the
23 Sabine Pass Project in Louisiana is under construction. The
24 project we're talking about here now is Creole Trail. We
25 sort of call it a sister to Sabine -- very similar design,

1 both in Cameron Parish, both in Louisiana, both very much
2 needed, not only for this state but for the country.

3 Some design highlights that Cheniere uses are
4 conventional technologies. We have no serial number one
5 pieces of equipment in the plant. So everything we've got
6 in our plant has been tried and true and proven and tested.
7 So we're very safe and very environmentally friendly --
8 closed loop system. A lot of times you're hearing in the
9 press a lot of push back on what's called an "open loop"
10 system. It uses sea water or basically water out of either
11 the waterway or the ocean. We don't use that. It's a
12 closed loop system -- no discharge into the waterways.

13 It's environmentally friendly, previously
14 disturbed site that we've got -- dredge placement areas, so
15 it's had some activity on it. Minimized impact to wetlands
16 -- we like to have a plant designed to minimizing any kind
17 of impact on wetlands area and at a large site remote from
18 population density. These plants are very safe, but they're
19 very large and a lot of people don't like to live next to a
20 very large facility, so we look for a very large site that
21 provides a very large buffer zone.

22 The Creole Trail Project -- here's an artist
23 rendition of the project. It's going to have to docks to
24 handle two ships at a time, three dedicated tugs, and these
25 are going to be pretty state-of-the-art -- tugs z-drive,

1 tugs with greater than 5000 ton bollard -- 5000 horse power,
2 70 ton bollard pole. Did I say that right? About four
3 storage tanks, 160,000 cubic meters. That gives us about 13
4 Bcf of storage, send out capacity is about 3.3 Bcf per day.
5 So if you remember that last picture, the whole state of
6 Louisiana is about 3 and 1/2 Bcf a day. So it's a pretty
7 significant send out facility. And then the in-service date
8 we're looking at 2009.

9 Here we are on a site map. You can see just
10 about 3 and 1/2 miles up from the open water in Cameron
11 Parish on the Calcasieu ship channel. This is an aerial
12 photo. It just shows where we are near the west port there
13 at the north end of that picture. It's about a 1400 acres
14 site. This has the layout of the facility on that site so
15 you can see how it lays across the site. And then we've got
16 a pipeline associated with this as well to take the gas away
17 from this terminal and interconnect with the big pipelines
18 in the area. The pipeline will have about 3 Bcf per day
19 capacity as well. Lots of interconnect with the existing
20 pipes in the area and let me see -- here's the summary and I
21 think this was read before -- about 118 miles of dual 42-
22 inch pipe, 47 miles of single 42-inch pipe and about 1400
23 pound working pressure. And then, like I said,
24 interconnects with the existing pipelines in the area.

25 So what that allows us to do -- what this pipe

1 allows us to do is take the gas from the facility and
2 interconnect with the major interstates already existing in
3 Louisiana, so it's a nice pipeline header. It provides a
4 lot of downstreams and optimality.

5 And then, in summary, at Cheniere we're very Gulf
6 Coast focused. These are the only four terminals that we
7 are actively working on. We know these channels. We know
8 this area. We did a study. This activity really started
9 back in the Year 2000. We looked at all the channels from
10 Maine to Mexico and really began to focus on the Gulf Coast
11 for the reasons that I highlighted -- again, conventional
12 technology, third party access. This is something that
13 you've got to appreciate if you're a large consumer. So a
14 lot of the industries in this area are large consumers of
15 gas. They would have the right to take capacity in our
16 terminal and that's a somewhat of a differentiating factor
17 on our business model, but we welcome other people into the
18 terminal. We're not a large producer, so we're not trying
19 to sell gas. We're trying to provide access to the world's
20 gas supply.

21 And then community support is emphasized. We
22 pride ourselves in the work we've done in the local
23 communities. The support we've been able to develop. Our
24 other projects used a slightly different process -- slightly
25 different regulatory process that we did a lot of the front

1 end work with the community before the filing and then we
2 submitted the filing. This process is actually called a
3 NEPA pre-filing, a National Environmental Protection Act
4 pre-filing that has in this forum today actually before we
5 filed. So we have not filed this application yet. We're
6 actually preparing a filing while we're having these
7 meetings. So it's a slightly different process. It has
8 more community involvement while we're preparing the actual
9 application and therefore has these formal meetings. So
10 slightly different, but we pride ourselves in this community
11 support.

12 We're a small company, very focused on LNG.
13 We've said community support is something that must be
14 earned. It can't be taken for granted. We've shown our
15 willingness to walk away from areas that have resisted these
16 terminals and so, again, this process here is to hear your
17 comments. We want to know what the concerns are so we can
18 address them.

19 With that, thank you very much and I'll turn it
20 back over.

21 MR. SIPE: Thank you. Again, thanks, Keith.
22 Good presentation.

23 I'd like to point out to the audience that there
24 are plenty people here tonight to answer your questions. I
25 mean there's a lot of people from Cheniere. We have the

1 Office of Pipeline Safety. We have FERC. We have the Coast
2 Guard. We have the State Department of Wildlife and
3 Fisheries. We have the Army Corps of Engineers. So between
4 us, if we can't answer your questions, we'll get back to
5 you. But I think we'll be able to answer anything you have
6 to ask. So I hope that -- and the company has brought
7 detailed maps and some information about the project. And,
8 hopefully, if it's on your land, they can show and pinpoint
9 where it is and answer anything you have.

10 So after the meeting concludes, we'll be here
11 also for probably about a minute -- just kidding. We'll be
12 here after the meeting is over. If you have any questions
13 and you don't want to do it as part of the formal meeting,
14 that's fine. We'll be able to answer your questions.

15 So now we'll begin the important part of the
16 meeting with your comments. When your name is called, we're
17 going to have Paul here walk the microphone around to you so
18 you can sit down, kick your feet back and speak at will.

19 When your name is called, please take the
20 microphone and your comments will be transcribed by a court
21 reporter to ensure that we get an accurate record of your
22 comments. A transcript of this meeting will be placed in
23 the public record at FERC so everyone has access to the
24 information collected here tonight.

25 So, when you stand up, please spell your name for

1 the court reporter so we make sure we have your name
2 correctly on the record. I'll be up here -- if you have
3 questions throughout, hopefully someone will be here to
4 answer it. Thanks.

5 Speakers -- Fran, could you read off the first
6 speaker?

7 MS. LOWELL: Yes. James Robinson.

8 MR. SIPE: Mr. James Robinson.

9 MR. ROBINSON: Good evening. I'm James L.
10 Robinson -- R-O-B-I-N-S-O-N -- representing the Lake Charles
11 Harbor and Terminal District, which has filed written
12 comments for this evening and we'll defer our verbal
13 presentation, if necessary, until tomorrow night's
14 presentation in Cameron. And we've had ongoing meetings
15 with Cheniere and including a meeting tomorrow morning
16 concerning some of the issues that we have and we'd like to
17 address.

18 MR. SIPE: So we don't get to hear it tonight?

19
20 MR. ROBINSON: Don't get to hear it tonight.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. SIPE: Okay. Next on the list is Charlie
23 Atherton. And, if I mispronounce your name, sorry. I'll
24 try.

25 MR. ATHERTON: Good evening. My name is Charlie

1 Atherton. I live at 122 Vine Street in Sulphur, Louisiana.

2 Really appreciate FERC, you know, giving us the
3 opportunity to provide some comments about the Cheniere
4 project and I have some comments relative to myself as a
5 landowner and as a taxpaying citizen and a resident of the
6 parish and the state and the country.

7 I would like to make just a couple more
8 observations about the website -- you know, like I said, I
9 tried various scenarios to do the search and had a little
10 problem with that. But, as just an individual landowner
11 looking for information, I ran into several instances where
12 it says that I don't have the permissions to access this
13 document. So in almost every case where I thought I was
14 going to get some actual, useable information, you know, for
15 tonight it said I didn't have access to it or permission --
16 didn't have permission and it couldn't find the file. So I
17 would suggest that, you know, for whatever individuals need
18 that you do whatever it's necessary to work with to provide
19 the information because it doesn't look like you're going to
20 get -- as an individual, going to get any detailed
21 information from your website.

22 And, again, tonight I appreciate, you know, the
23 opportunity to speak to FERC about some issues of concern
24 and just realize that, you know, my information or knowledge
25 about certain issues is limited, but of great concern to me

1 personally, especially on my property. And I would ask that
2 FERC not approve this pipeline right away or certify the
3 pipeline until all of the pipeline right-of-ways are secured
4 from all of the landowners. You know, don't do like Sempra
5 did and grant the certificate, you know, before they even
6 really talked to the landowners or secured the right-of-
7 ways. The right of eminent domain, to me, is nothing but
8 legalized stealing of personal property to allow
9 corporations to make money.

10 And these pipelines are not like highways or
11 other infrastructures where the public can enjoy the
12 benefits for free. These pipelines are to make corporations
13 richer at the individual landowner's expense and I don't
14 want to be put into a position like any other landowner
15 where my property can be taken away from me. So until FERC
16 approves the projects, we landowners don't have a problem.
17 And everybody knows the value of property is location,
18 location, location. And, if a corporation wants property
19 bad enough, then they should have to pay for it just like
20 they do for an office building in downtown Houston, Dallas
21 or New York and not allowed to use eminent domain.

22 Personally, I prefer not to have any pipelines on
23 my property and I didn't buy the property north of me when I
24 had a chance because it had pipelines on it. I asked
25 Cheniere's Richard Keyser for a detailed proposed pipeline

1 drawings of the proposed pipeline crossing of my property
2 and I received those drawings this morning and I really do
3 appreciate Mr. Keyser for his help and for Cheniere, you
4 know, in trying to answer questions and providing the
5 information to me.

6 It appears, though, that since my 38-acre farm is
7 a recognized government farm, that I'm being penalized
8 because my farm is cleared raise rice, soy beans, milo or
9 graze cattle and Cheniere would rather cross a bare field
10 than to cross several acres of tallow trees along my west
11 property line or go into rich people's property west of me.

12 When I look at detailed drawings of the proposed
13 pipeline right-of-way across my property, it is clearly
14 visible that the pipelines north of me turn sharply to the
15 east going deeper into my property. And, once the pipeline
16 cross my property, to the south it turns sharply back to the
17 west and goes south. It appears that the pipeline could be
18 about 200 feet onto my property from my west boundary line.
19 We were told initially that on the west side of my property,
20 along with other people's property, there's an abandon rice
21 water channel and we were told that, you know, the pipeline
22 would follow that route. But it doesn't -- it appears
23 they're like 200 feet away from that.

24 And also, again, it appears that the pipeline
25 just veers into my property, and I'm really making an

1 assumption, but I assuming, you know, it's to avoid a bunch
2 of tallow trees. But I would think that locating pipelines
3 west of me through several acres of tallow trees would
4 qualify Cheniere as environmental heroes on in my book for
5 destroying tallow trees. So I would ask that, you know,
6 they don't worry about the tallows and go to the west.

7 My property is some of the only pipeline-free and
8 industry-free land available for residential development in
9 the area and the entrance roads to my property are through
10 well-developed residential neighborhoods, and if Cheniere
11 pipelines are forced on me, I want my personal gas tap on
12 the pipeline so I have access to the gas, you know, just
13 like the Yankees will.

14 One of the most obvious environmental impacts of
15 this project is the erosion of the banks on the ship channel
16 and I didn't find erosion of property to be addressed in
17 this Environmental Impact Statement. The statement did
18 discuss spoil disposal areas for dredged material, but not
19 how to stop or minimize erosion of landowner's property that
20 ultimately gets dredged up after it's washed away from the
21 landowners. With ship traffic expected to soon double, we
22 has FERC to recommend sheet piling of the ship channel as a
23 FERC recommended mitigation measure. Sheet piling would
24 address the erosion of private landowner's property, improve
25 the water quality, reduce turbidity and reduce dredging

1 cost.

2 Since channel users entitles differential safety
3 issues, we as FERC to recommend ship movement mitigation
4 measures to take the politics out of ship movements. We
5 believe that political pressure from channel users will
6 ultimately compromise public safety and the environment. In
7 the event of a hurricane, we ask that all critical equipment
8 for Cheniere be set at 20 feet or higher as the last
9 hurricane threat predicted water in excess of 15 feet over
10 the proposed site. The storm surge is a concern.

11 We would also like FERC to require some kind of
12 contingency plans if for some reasons the Gulf of Mexico was
13 to breach the intercoastal canal. Because according to NOAA
14 that is a concern and we'd like to have a contingency plan
15 addressed.

16 We've heard the explanation of the impact to the
17 community of the storage tank fractures and we believe the
18 impacts will be much worse than predicted. And we ask FERC
19 to review and minimize all on-site potential ignition
20 sources.

21 With ship traffic expected to soon double, we ask
22 FERC to require that LNG companies proposing to locate on
23 the Calcasieu River waterway to fund studies to identify and
24 eliminate ship navigation congestion and vessel delays.
25 We're concerned that the proposed collective number of

1 proposed LNG ships using the Calcasieu River waterway could
2 block or limit the ability of our local refineries to
3 receives needed crude oil, feed stock to run the refineries
4 at maximum capacity or to ship finished product.

5 We're not willing to sacrifice our refineries,
6 the jobs they provide or the economy of Southwest Louisiana
7 for a few LNG jobs to provide natural gas to the Yankees,
8 Midwesterners or anybody else. We believe that very little
9 of this LNG will actually be used in Calcasieu, Cameron
10 Parishes. We ask FERC to implement or to require an
11 implementation of a Calcasieu River waterway vessel delay
12 reporting system to document all vessel delays as a FERC
13 recommended mitigation measure relative to ship navigation
14 congestion.

15 And I understand -- I believe it's the Army Corps
16 has like 75,000 -- matching money for a study to identify
17 the causes of navigation congestion, and we believe that
18 Cheniere and Sempra should contribute to the study.

19 We ask for a thorough review of all LNG ship
20 berthings along the Calcasieu River waterways so that
21 protective escort tractor tugs are not required, thus,
22 putting an extra cost on crude ships or on regular cargo
23 ships. It's my understanding that the ships passing the
24 Sempra docks may require tractor tug escorts to protect
25 berths Sempa LNG ships and at that the Sempra docks are not

1 large enough to allow for docking of the larger LNG ships.
2 We don't want the current users of the Calcasieu River
3 waterway to have to pay for tractor tug escorts passing into
4 your docks.

5 It's my understanding that currently there are no
6 tractor tugs operating on the Calcasieu River waterway or
7 tugs capable of providing safety escort service. And,
8 again, these are some of the concerns I have as a
9 landowner and as a citizen that just reads the newspaper and
10 tries to pay attention to what's going on and, you know,
11 nothing against the project, but you asked for comments and
12 concerns of things to be addressed and we appreciate the
13 format that you're going through because it's much better to
14 get the issues on the table and begin addressing them so
15 that the EIS is better prepared, you know, with informed
16 input from the citizens.

17 And, again, I appreciate the time that you've
18 provided here today for the public.

19 MR. SIPE: Thank you for your comment.

20 This is pre-filing and the pipeline route that is
21 chosen now by Creole Trail that -- the route may be adjusted
22 like on your property. If you have a concern, it can be
23 moved one way or another. Not saying it will be, but it can
24 be. You know, environmentally we look at certain things.
25 Economically, we look at certain things and we look at a lot

1 of different ways to move a pipeline project. And like you
2 have concerns -- if you have concerns with those trees that
3 you want taken out, well, maybe Cheniere will do that for
4 you.

5 MR. ATHERTON: Well, what it is, is that --

6 MR. SIPE: Hold on a second, sir. If you want to
7 speak, we have to get you a microphone because this is being
8 recorded. It's just the cross talk we can't have. I'm not
9 being like a "Mr. School Teacher," but it's being recorded
10 and he'll throw something at me.

11 MR. ATHERTON: As I indicated, Cheniere provided
12 a map for me to look at and I'm not sure who would be the
13 appropriate person here tonight just to have him take a look
14 to understand the concerns. And the concern is that the
15 pipeline -- obviously, I would prefer that it not be on the
16 property. And if you look at it, it looks that if it was
17 straighten out through the tallow trees that it wouldn't --
18 that it wouldn't even go on the property. But to go 200
19 feet on my property or about that, I would prefer that not
20 happen.

21 So, if you could direct me to someone tonight,
22 I'll just -- after this meeting, you know this guy was
23 whining about a pipeline, but has anybody looked to see
24 exactly what he was talking about so that when you look at a
25 map later, you know, it'll make sense.

1 MR. SIPE: Someone here from Cheniere will
2 definitely be able to address -- whoever can do this stand
3 up. There you go. Talk to him.

4 MR. ATHERTON: Thank you.

5 MR. SIPE: Yeah, thank you. Thank you for your
6 comment. I don't know why you're so hard on the Yankees.

7 (Laughter.)

8 MR. SIPE: So next we have Captain Mike Miller.

9 MR. MILLER: Good evening. Captain Mike Miller,
10 President of the Lake Charles River Pilots. I'm going to
11 sit down so I can flip through my notes.

12 I stood before these FERC scoping meetings
13 before. I spoke on behalf of Trunkline LNG when they did
14 their Phase I and Phase II expansions. I spoke on behalf of
15 Cameron LNG during their scoping meetings. I'm here tonight
16 to speak from the pilots perspective on the Creole Trail LNG
17 project.

18 The pilots met early on with the Cheniere
19 management team to discuss the terminal location. The first
20 location was rejected by the pilots because of severe
21 traffic congestion near the jetties. The second and present
22 location proved to be a very desirable area to build on.
23 The pilots worked with Cheniere to design the berthing
24 facilities to each other's satisfaction. Two Lake Charles
25 pilots dedicated themselves to work with Cheniere on their

1 off duty time to model and simulate inbound, outbound
2 transits, docking and undocking maneuvers and allicin
3 studies of LNG tankers up to 250,000 cubic meters.

4 These simulations were conducted at the Army
5 Corps of Engineer Research and Development facility in
6 Vicksburg, Mississippi. The simulations were successful,
7 and with the proper-sized tractor tugs promised to the
8 project, the Lake Charles pilots feels that the Creole Trail
9 LNG project will be a safe and efficient facility.

10 We ask FERC to approve the permitting of this
11 facility. Thank you very much.

12 MR. SIPE: Thank you, Captain Miller.

13 That's the last speaker I have noted here. So do
14 I have to do back flips and jump up and down to get people
15 to speak? We'd like to hear your comments or your
16 questions. It doesn't have to be a comment. If you have a
17 question, please ask it if you would like it on the record.
18 If your question goes on the record tonight, that means you
19 don't have to file a comment letter and it will be on the
20 record and it will be addressed. So if anybody would like
21 to -- and, like I said, we're going to be here for probably
22 about a minute after the meeting is over, so if you have any
23 questions we can -- sure.

24 MR. MILLER: I'll stick around. I could probably
25 answer a lot of the traffic congestion and pilot issues that

1 Mr. Atherton has addressed earlier, but I'll be glad to
2 stand by and answer some of these questions.

3 MR. SIPE: That would be great.

4 Just state your name, please.

5 MS. PERKINS: I'm Meredith Perkins. I'm a
6 property owner. Mr. Atherton commented about he had trouble
7 finding a detailed map of the pipeline area that's proposed.
8 How can we find that? Locate it? He couldn't get it
9 online. How do we get a copy of that map?

10 MR. SIPE: Maps will not be online because it's
11 considered critical CEII information, which stands for
12 critical energy infrastructure information and that's due to
13 September 11th. So you won't have a map of a pipeline
14 facility -- well, you know what. With just the pipeline
15 project, you may be able to get that online. See,
16 obviously, we're having trouble with that. But someone here
17 tonight will be able to give you any map you want or send it
18 to you.

19 MS. PERKINS: Or what person to contact to see if
20 it's actually going through your property sideways, which
21 way or whatever?

22 MR. SIPE: Yes. Cheniere is here tonight and
23 they can give you a map and they can show you, if it's on
24 your property, how it's proposed now to go through on your
25 property.

1 MS. PERKINS: The proposal at this time.

2 MR. SIPE: The proposal. Correct. And a
3 proposal is a proposal. It's not a done deal.

4 MS. PERKINS: Okay. Thank you.

5 MR. SIPE: I can shout. How's that? Okay. It's
6 about over because no one wants to speak. Oh, right beside
7 you here.

8 MR. ATHERTON: Could we get maybe the Army Corps
9 to give us a little bit of -- you said the Army Corps is
10 here. Maybe they could answer if they're going to do
11 anything with the matching money relative to the study for
12 ship navigation congestion on the waterway or that's a
13 different section?

14 MR. DUKE: A different section altogether. Yes,
15 sir.

16 Yes, sir. I'm not familiar with the study you're
17 talking about. It comes out of a different section and
18 we're working with regulatory permitting. So I'm not sure
19 where that's coming from. We can check with our navigation
20 group to see what studies might be going on and maybe
21 provide you some information. If you give me your name,
22 number or address, we can surely find out and give you that
23 information.

24 MR. SIPE: Any other speakers? All the food must
25 be eaten in the back before anybody can leave.

1 (Laughter.)

2 MR. SIPE: So we will be here after the meeting.
3 I'm going to shut the meeting basically down.

4 Without any more speakers, the formal part of
5 this meeting will conclude on behalf of the Federal Energy
6 Regulatory Commission, Cheniere, the Army Corps of
7 Engineers, the Coast Guard, the state and OPS, I would like
8 to thank you all for coming tonight.

9 Let the record show that the Creole Trail LNG and
10 Pipeline Project public scoping meeting concluded at 7:52
11 p.m. Thank you.

12 (Whereupon, at 7:52 p.m., the above-entitled
13 matter was concluded.)

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