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FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

SCOPING MEETING

ROOSEVELT ISLAND TIDAL ENERGY
HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT NO. 12611

Community Center
5 River Road
Roosevelt Island, New York

March 28, 2007

7:11 p.m.

P R E S E N T:

THOMAS DEAN	FERC
TIM KONNERT	FERC
KRISTEN MURPHY	FERC
RON SMITH	VERDANT POWER
JIM GIBSON	DEVINE TARBELL & ASSOCIATES

1 PROCEEDINGS

2 MR. DEAN: Good evening,
3 ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the
4 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's
5 public scoping meeting for the proposed
6 Roosevelt Island Tidal Energy Project, FERC
7 Project No. 12611. My name is Tom Dean and
8 I'm the project coordinator employed at the
9 Commission. The other Commission staff
10 members with me tonight are Kristen Murphy
11 and Tim Konnert. Representatives of Verdant
12 Power, the license applicant, are Ron Smith
13 and, well, Gil Sperling in the back and as
14 well Kevin Lynch, he's in the back, too.
15 Assisting Verdant Power is Jim Gibson from
16 Devine, Tarbell & Associates.

17 Here is the agenda for the
18 scoping meeting so you know what to expect.
19 I will start off with some introductory
20 remarks, review the licensing process and
21 explain the purposes of scoping.

22 Ron Smith will then provide a
23 brief history of the project and describe
24 the proposed project facilities and
25 operation.

1 I will follow by identifying the
2 environmental issues and then Jim Gibson
3 will identify the proposed and ongoing
4 studies. During the presentation, we will
5 periodically ask if anyone has any questions
6 about the information presented. At the end
7 of our presentation, we will ask if anyone
8 has any comments, has identified any new
9 issues that should be considered or has any
10 questions before adjourning the meeting.

11 First, I hope everyone signed in
12 and took a copy of the Scoping Document.
13 They're at the end of the table to my left,
14 so please grab a copy, if you would. Do you
15 see the sign-up sheet still there?

16 SPEAKER: It's going around.

17 MR. DEAN: Oh, it's still going
18 around. Okay. Thank you. Continue passing
19 that around.

20 For those of you who wish to
21 speak, we have a court reporter to
22 transcribe this evening's meeting because it
23 will serve as part of the Commission's
24 record. While we want to keep things as
25 informal as possible, we ask that you state

1 your name and affiliation before commenting
2 so the court reporter can accurately
3 attribute the comments to you.

4 Further, so the court reporter
5 can record all your statements, only one
6 person at a time should speak. Please
7 respect the opinions and views of others
8 when comments are expressed by individuals
9 during the meeting.

10 If someone wishes to file
11 written comments, our mailing address is on
12 page 6 of the Scoping Document. Comments
13 should be filed at the Commission by April
14 30, 2007. You can also file comments
15 electronically. Instructions for electronic
16 filing are also found on page 6.

17 We distributed the Scoping
18 Document to everyone on the FERC's mailing
19 list and Verdant's distribution list.
20 However, future mailings from FERC will only
21 include those entities on FERC's mailing
22 list. If you wish to continue receiving
23 paper copies of issuances, please check the
24 list at the back of the Scoping Document,
25 and if your name or address is not there,

1 please follow the instructions on page 17.
2 If you prefer to receive correspondence via
3 e-mail, instructions for electronic
4 registration are found on page 6.

5 That said, I also understand
6 that Verdant Power will try to make best
7 efforts and attempts to keep the study
8 participants informed of any Commission
9 issuances. So hopefully everybody can kind
10 of stay up to speed with what the Commission
11 is doing with this project.

12 This slide shows the major
13 milestones of the licensing process for the
14 RITE Project. Although the Traditional
15 Licensing Process is being used, we consider
16 the licensing process for the RITE Project a
17 hybrid. Normally under the traditional
18 process, scoping would not occur until after
19 the license application is filed with the
20 Commission and before their Ready For
21 Environmental Analysis Notice, that's the
22 REA Notice, is issued. For this project,
23 scoping is occurring simultaneously with
24 ongoing studies. That is why the licensing
25 process is considered a hybrid process.

1 Verdant Power requested scoping of issues at
2 this stage as a way to expedite the
3 licensing process.

4 Verdant Power anticipates
5 distributing the draft license application
6 to the agencies and other stakeholders this
7 summer. Verdant Power would then file its
8 final license application with the
9 commission this fall. At that time, staff
10 will review the application, and if it is
11 complete, will issue a notice ready for
12 environmental analysis requesting comments,
13 recommendations and interventions. We will
14 then complete our environmental analysis
15 with the assistance from EPA and the Corps
16 of Engineers by issuing an EA in the summer
17 of 2008. A licensing decision or license
18 order would then be issued. There will be
19 at least three opportunities for you to
20 provide comments to the Commission. They
21 are during the current scoping period, when
22 we issue Notice of Application Ready For
23 Environmental Analysis and when we issue
24 Notice of Availability of the issued EA.

25 I did want to have one note

1 about the timing of the issuance of the REA
2 Notice. The Scoping Document shows that the
3 Notice is being issued in April of 2008.
4 The REA Notice could be issued sooner if
5 Verdant Power files enough information for
6 the staff to assess the potential effects of
7 project operation on aquatic species. In
8 other words, the project could be expedited
9 even faster than what we showed in the
10 Scoping Document.

11 Under the Federal Power Act, the
12 Commission has the responsibility to issue
13 licenses for nonfederal hydroelectric
14 projects. You can read more about the
15 FERC's mission at www.ferc.gov.

16 The National Environmental
17 Policy Act or NEPA requires the disclosure
18 of environmental effects of the FERC's
19 licensing actions. The environmental
20 effects will be assessed in a NEPA document.
21 The Scoping Document includes a brief
22 description of the proposed project
23 facilities and project operation, a list of
24 resource issues that will be assessed in the
25 NEPA document and describes the studies

1 currently ongoing or proposed by Verdant
2 Power. The Scoping Document also describes
3 the types of information we are seeking as
4 part of scoping, a time line for processing
5 the license application once it is filed and
6 a proposed outline of an EA. The main
7 purpose of our meeting with you is to
8 solicit comments and input from the public,
9 nongovernment organizations and federal,
10 state and local agencies about new issues
11 not yet identified that need to be
12 considered when assessing potential project
13 effects on the environment.

14 We will present the issues that
15 have already been identified, make sure we
16 understand the issues you raise, ensure that
17 we did not omit any issues that should be
18 included and further define or eliminate any
19 issues where needed.

20 I will now turn the meeting over
21 to Ron Smith so he can provide a brief
22 history of the project and present the
23 proposed project facilities and operation.

24 Well, let me ask you this. Is
25 there any questions about the information I

1 presented so far?

2 SPEAKER: That e-mail address on
3 page 17 is not actually an e-mail address,
4 it's a website address. It's actually not
5 an e-mail address.

6 MR. DEAN: Thank you. Okay,
7 Ron.

8 MR. SMITH: I just wanted to
9 take a minute this evening to kind of give
10 you some background on how we got -- all got
11 to be here this evening. This project, the
12 RITE Project, is a truly indigenous New York
13 project, and as of today it's unique in the
14 world. During December and January, we
15 delivered for the first time live
16 electricity to Gristedes Supermarket using
17 kinetic hydropower turbines in a tidal flow
18 for the first time ever.

19 We originally began this project
20 back in the year 2001 with a proposal to
21 NYSERDA to do this project in upstate New
22 York. NYSERDA turned down that proposal.
23 We went and debriefed with NYSERDA and
24 NYSERDA and the New York power Authority
25 said they were very interested in a new type

1 of renewable energy technology for New York,
2 but that if we were going to do it, we
3 needed to do it in the load pocket in New
4 York City. So we worked with the river
5 keeper and others to identify a site for
6 this project which turned out to be the site
7 here at Roosevelt Island. We wrote a second
8 proposal to NYSERDA in 2002 and received the
9 first award and with that this project has
10 become a public/private partnership with New
11 York State, the New York City Economic
12 Development Corporation and our company,
13 Verdant Power, so we're moving forward in
14 collaboration to do this for the city and
15 state here at Roosevelt Island.

16 The turbines that we are using
17 in the East River were originally developed
18 at New York University in their Department
19 of Applied Sciences in the early 1980s and
20 later vetted through the Department of
21 Energy to identify that technology and those
22 turbines as the most potentially effective
23 technology in the field. So we picked that
24 up, began working with the principals at NYU
25 who had moved on and they are now part of

1 our company, Verdant Power.

2 So in the fall of 2002 -- the
3 fall of 2003, we began the FERC process with
4 a meeting in this room in December to kick
5 off the FERC process for this new
6 technology, and the regulatory agencies had
7 some difficulty with that, so over the last
8 few years we've been working with them to
9 permit this, to put these initial six
10 turbines in, because in order for us to
11 present our FERC license application, we
12 have got to have documented environmental
13 impact effects, and that's what we're doing
14 now and that's what will support this
15 project.

16 Now, over the past few years,
17 since that time, we have been working with
18 local stakeholders to identify and develop
19 the footprint for where these turbines
20 should be deployed, and Jim will talk in a
21 minute about the 11 study groups that we
22 have in place right now, one of which is the
23 navigation and security study group who
24 we've been working with who has helped us
25 define our proposed footprint for this

1 project. That includes the areas that you
2 see here highlighted in red, which is the
3 northern part of the East Channel of the
4 East River right next here to Roosevelt
5 Island as well as the area down around the
6 United Nations where their security area has
7 been defined. The Coast Guard and the local
8 stakeholders, the pilots, the harbor pilots,
9 and others looked at other areas where we
10 had proposed putting turbine, said they
11 won't work there, but these look like good
12 areas that would work for us as well as for
13 us. So the area that we are working with
14 now is here at Roosevelt Island and over by
15 the United Nations. So this is what the
16 proposal will support as we move forward.

17 Here is a picture of the
18 turbines that we deployed in December. We
19 deployed two, one delivering power to
20 Gristedes. When we put six turbines in next
21 month, they will be delivering power to
22 Gristedes and to the RIOC parking garage as
23 we look at the impact and the performance of
24 those turbines and the impact particularly
25 on fish, but also on other aspects of the

1 moving water in the area.

2 We are looking at potentially
3 putting as many as up to 150 to 200 turbines
4 that remains to be identified based on our
5 analysis, which we are currently doing
6 within the next two to three months to
7 support the application, we will have that
8 well-defined in terms of where the turbines
9 will go here on the East Channel as well as
10 over by the United Nations. That's
11 potentially somewhere between 5 to 10
12 megawatts of power supporting potentially
13 3,000 to 5,000 households with electricity.

14 You can see here for the initial
15 six turbines we have a small containerized
16 control room, which is used to connect the
17 turbines and the cables to the grid,
18 Gristedes grid and the Con Ed grid, we will
19 be doing that kind of a process, but that
20 will go away as we build it out with a
21 smaller integrated facility with Con Ed. We
22 have yet to identify exactly where the
23 electricity will be delivered. Again, that
24 will be the part of the analysis that we are
25 doing over the next two to three months.

1 Once we've identified where the turbines
2 will go, the potential power requirements,
3 we will then be talking with potential off-
4 takers of the power and beginning to sign
5 contracts on who will get that power.

6 So basically that's an overview
7 of the project. Our intention is, as Tom
8 has said, to put a FERC application, license
9 application in place this summer, hopefully
10 working with the various regulatory agencies
11 and the FERC to get a license for this
12 project within a year or so, making this for
13 New York City and State the first commercial
14 project of its type in the world. We are
15 excited about it and NYSERDA is excited
16 about it and, you know, it's our intention
17 and certainly our mission to make this
18 happen in a way that works for everybody in
19 this room and everybody in the area.

20 So we will be happy to answer
21 questions when we're through with the
22 presentation.

23 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Ron.

24 In Section 5.2 of the Scoping
25 Document, pages 9 through 11 are the

1 environmental issues and concerns that the
2 Commission staff has identified for analysis
3 in the NEPA document. The list shows the
4 resource issues that have been identified to
5 date that have the potential to be affected
6 by the RITE Project. As you can see, we
7 have identified geology and water, aquatic,
8 terrestrial, threatened and endangered
9 species, recreation and land use, historic
10 and cultural, socioeconomics, aesthetics and
11 developmental resources as issues to be
12 assessed. We are particularly interested in
13 hearing from you whether we have captured
14 all of the issues or whether any new issues
15 or resources should be considered.

16 Jim Gibson will now present the
17 proposed studies.

18 MR. GIBSON: Thank you.

19 Like Tom said, there's been a
20 number of resource areas that have been
21 identified to be researched as part of this
22 project. In particular, going back to
23 December 2003, we sat in this same room and
24 presented a very similar slide to look at
25 those resources and the proposed studies.

1 Over the course of the last three years, we
2 worked with a variety of resource agencies
3 and stakeholders to take those studies and
4 flush out methodologies. So based on the
5 resources that were shown as Tom and Ron
6 have alluded to, a total of 11 study groups
7 were formed, and what I'd like to do here
8 briefly is just run through each of the 11
9 study groups and give you an indication of
10 what's going on with those studies.

11 One of the biggest issues that
12 were identified were the potential impacts
13 to fish that the project may have, so a
14 number of studies were created. The first
15 study is an 18-month study where we are
16 watching 24/7 fish as they approach the
17 turbines. That's being done through what's
18 called a hydroacoustic system, there is a
19 fixed hydroacoustic system in the water, a
20 total of 24 transducers that as fish
21 approach the turbines we're able to watch
22 them and document what their behavior and
23 movement are. Once again, that's an 18-
24 month study running 24 hours a day, seven
25 days a week.

1 A similar study is a mobile
2 hydroacoustic study where we are going out a
3 total of 10 times before the turbines were
4 put in the water, so that's already been
5 done, and another 28 times after the
6 turbines are put in the water, and you may
7 have seen our boats out there at times where
8 we have an hydroacoustic unit in the water
9 looking for fish. We're looking for fish
10 around the turbines as well as up and down
11 the East Channel. So that's two of the 11
12 studies.

13 The next study is a noise study.
14 We collected data predeployment and we will
15 collect data post deployment in terms of the
16 potential noise being generated from the
17 turbines and how that noise may affect
18 aquatic wildlife.

19 Similar to that, we have a study
20 looking at hydrodynamics within the river.
21 There was a concern that these turbines may
22 turn and cause turbulence in the water which
23 may affect wildlife and fish. So, once
24 again, prior to deployment we went out and
25 took baseline measurements and we will do

1 the same after the turbines are in the
2 water.

3 We're also looking for rare,
4 threatened and endangered species. That was
5 a concern raised by the agencies. So we
6 have a study over the 18-month period using
7 both the hydroacoustic system as well as
8 visual observations to look for any rare,
9 threatened and endangered species that may
10 be in the area such as short nose sturgeon
11 or turtles.

12 Similar to that, there was a
13 concern about birds. Although these
14 turbines are underwater, there was a concern
15 raised that diving birds could be impacted
16 by the turbines. So Verdant Power has hired
17 somebody to watch for birds on a routine
18 basis.

19 A couple other studies here, one
20 being the recreational resources study. We
21 just had a meeting this afternoon for this
22 study in fact. What we're doing is
23 identifying potential recreational users
24 within the geographic area and essentially
25 consulting with them as to what recreation

1 takes place in the area and how this project
2 can co-exist with the recreation, as well as
3 navigation. We've been working a lot with
4 the Coast Guard and working with other
5 navigational users of the East Channel to
6 see how these turbines can coincide.

7 Both the recreational study and
8 the navigation study, they aren't really
9 field studies, we're not out there doing a
10 lot of data collection, it's been a lot of
11 just gathering up the people who use these
12 resources and talking with them, but with
13 the example of the recreation study though,
14 we are out there doing boat surveys.

15 The last couple of studies that
16 are going on here is one is an historical
17 resources survey where we're working with
18 the State Historic Preservation Officer and
19 a number of other stakeholders to identify
20 any potential historic resources that may be
21 under the water in the project area. We're
22 also looking at the bethnic habitat.
23 Although this part of the river seems to be
24 pretty scoured out, we are requested to see
25 what kind of habitat there might be at the

1 bottom of the East River.

2 And, lastly, water quality.

3 We're doing a study to identify any
4 potential sediment that may exist within the
5 study area.

6 So in general, you have 11 study
7 groups, all the studies have been well under
8 way now for a while, some of the studies go
9 back a year and a half, I think the first
10 activity started, other studies started up
11 in the last three months. The plan is for a
12 number of these studies to start wrapping up
13 within the next two to three months where a
14 couple of the other studies like the fishery
15 study that goes for 18 months and the bird
16 study that goes for 18 months, those will
17 continue for the entire 18 months. And like
18 Ron said, if there are any questions, I
19 would be happy to answer those afterwards.

20 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Jim.

21 That pretty much concludes our
22 slide presentation. Are there any federal,
23 state or local elected political
24 representatives in the audience that wish to
25 make a statement about the RITE Project?

1 No?

2 Are there any -- and this
3 question is for all the audience -- are
4 there any new issues or other resources not
5 identified that should be considered or are
6 there any comments or questions that you may
7 have for us?

8 Please stand and if you would
9 say your name and your affiliation for the
10 court reporter.

11 MR. KATZ: My name is Matthew
12 Katz, I am president of the Roosevelt Island
13 Residents Association. We have been kept
14 informed of this project since its inception
15 and have been following it with enormous
16 interest. There seem to be a couple of
17 changes since we met last in January and I
18 wanted to ask about those. Specifically,
19 the area south of the Roosevelt Island
20 bridge on the East Channel now seems not to
21 be part of the plan, that part of the
22 shoreline has been in progress toward a
23 South Point Park, the 13 southern most acres
24 of the Island have been in development by
25 the Trust of Public Land, and do I

1 understand correctly now that those -- that
2 that shoreline, both the East and West
3 Channel shorelines will not be part of this
4 project?

5 MR. SMITH: Yes. That's
6 correct. At this point, we've eliminated
7 that area for consideration for deployment
8 of turbines at this time. Based on that and
9 other uses of the area.

10 MR. KATZ: I see.

11 Second question is do you have a
12 general deadline as to when the six pack
13 will be installed?

14 MR. SMITH: Yes. The schedule
15 right now is to put those turbines in the
16 weeks of April 9 and April 16, so, you know,
17 our plan is to have those installed by April
18 20 or thereabouts.

19 MR. KATZ: Thank you.

20 MR. DEAN: Are there any other
21 questions, thoughts?

22 Your name and affiliation.

23 MR. BOWEN: My name is John
24 Bowen and I am a resident of Roosevelt
25 Island. I've watched this project unfold

1 with great interest and I am very
2 enthusiastic about this. I think it's a
3 wonderful thing and I -- I'm a former
4 resident of Massachusetts and we have some
5 people off Cape Cod that would love to
6 harness wind energy and we have a lot of
7 people who are saying not in my back yard to
8 a massive wind turbine project, and it seems
9 to me very sad that that would happen. I
10 hope the same fate doesn't occur here in
11 this project. I think this is a wonderful
12 thing.

13 MR. DEAN: Thank you for your
14 comments.

15 Anyone else has any thoughts or
16 comments in which they would like to share
17 or put in the record?

18 MR. LITTLE: Hi. My name is
19 Bill Little, L-I-T-T-L-E. Is it okay if I
20 come up here?

21 MR. DEAN: Please.

22 MR. LITTLE: I wanted to make a
23 remark because I came here from the
24 Department of Environmental Conservation and
25 our agency participates in the permitting of

1 a facility such as this and has had a long
2 productive history of working with the
3 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on the
4 licensing and relicensing of facilities that
5 depend upon moving water, hydropower, for
6 generating electricity. Our agency issues
7 what's called a Water Quality Certificate
8 and it is exactly what it sounds like, we
9 look at the quality of the water as it may
10 be impacted by this kind of facility. Here
11 the main resource issues, and I believe you
12 heard Mr. Gibson talk about this earlier,
13 would be the impacts to mainly aquatic
14 species, either resident or migratory or
15 transitory fish species, also the rare,
16 threatened and endangered species, and you
17 may have seen a picture of a sturgeon come
18 by on the slide show. That's possibly one,
19 but there are others involved here, and then
20 generally water quality itself. Mr. Gibson
21 talked about benthic organisms, those are
22 the organisms living on the bottom, the
23 floor of the East River, and we would like
24 to know what the sediments are like. That's
25 sort of an esoteric question here because

1 the river moves very quickly here and that's
2 really one of the unusual aspects of this
3 unique proposal.

4 What our agency does is focus on
5 regulatory issues because of those
6 environmental resources, and for us it's the
7 regs, it's the potential to write a permit
8 that we focus on. We do not become a
9 proponent for the project itself, but we
10 work with FERC, with Mr. Dean, with the U.S.
11 Fish and Wildlife Service, with the U.S.
12 Army Corps of Engineers, all of whom have
13 been, whether you know it or not, coming and
14 going through this process, examining the
15 facility proposed, looking at the resource,
16 looking at the shoreline of the Island and
17 things like that, so there's been quite a
18 bit of examination already for the last
19 couple of years. I think the last time I
20 was here was two years ago, three years ago?

21 MR. SMITH: Three years.

22 MR. LITTLE: Three years. This
23 is not a typical proposal as you can tell,
24 it's new technology and there's a certain
25 amount of excitement just because of that.

1 I wanted to note though that the studies
2 that are needed are really required, as you
3 see in the scoping proposal, because we need
4 to comprehend how it works, how it fits in
5 to its environment and how many -- how it
6 may impact species in the aquatic
7 environment and those to the department are
8 also the unique aspects about this. We will
9 provide written comments, I had a few other
10 remarks though, just to give as highlights
11 about how this agency, how DEC is thinking
12 about what's being proposed, and these
13 remarks go to the studies that have been
14 described just earlier. We're looking
15 forward to further discussion about the
16 transition from implementation of the study
17 units, the six pack, and the subsequent
18 studies on the six pack to the deployment of
19 the full field that you heard described
20 here, and I think Ron described that there
21 may be -- there are two fields now and two
22 locations and up to perhaps 200 or more
23 turbines.

24 For water quality purposes and
25 for the NEPA purposes that Mr. Dean spoke

1 about, DEC needs to make sure that the
2 monitoring system will provide sufficient
3 and accurate information to determine the
4 impacts of the turbines on aquatic
5 resources. Another unique aspect of this is
6 that it's underwater obviously. There was
7 an analogy made by the gentleman over here
8 to wind and to the Cape wind proposal. You
9 can actually see wind turbines and if you
10 want to find out whether there are impacts
11 to avian species, you can actually walk
12 around the wind turbine. You can't do that
13 here. You can't actually stand next to one
14 of these turbines and see the impact, so
15 there have been some very sophisticated
16 proposals presented on how to look into this
17 and look into the potential impacts, and one
18 of the questions is, for us, and I believe
19 should be for everybody, is when you use
20 these sophisticated methodologies such as
21 hydrodynamic models or the hydroacoustics
22 that Mr. Gibson mentioned, how do you
23 extrapolate from that or can you extrapolate
24 from that to these larger build-outs. We
25 understand that there is a pressing need for

1 renewable energy and certainly there has
2 been necessary needed funding to enhance the
3 development of that, and so we're willing to
4 look very closely and carefully and work
5 with the proponents to see if this type of
6 study can be performed.

7 We mentioned the migratory
8 species. We've talked in earlier comments
9 about learning more about species
10 composition. The East River moves so very
11 quickly that there isn't or until recently
12 hasn't been much known about the species
13 that go through here in a migratory way or
14 are resident here. I think Mr. Tony DiLerna
15 was intending to come here tonight, but he
16 runs Rocket Charters, a commercial charter
17 that uses the area here, he is very
18 concerned about the impacts on species here.
19 There is actually, you know, a business that
20 several fishermen come here with clients, so
21 we need to look at that as well.

22 Uniquely there will be a
23 requirement for post deployment studies.
24 That's an aspect of the wind turbines that
25 we were talking about before.

1 Lastly, I just want to point out
2 that the study plan presents the
3 methodology, and I'm reading from the
4 scoping announcement, the notice, the study
5 plan presents the methodology to evaluate
6 fish distribution and behavior in and near
7 the footprint of the six study units and to
8 characterize baseline fish distribution and
9 passage throughout the larger project area.

10 A matter that is currently under
11 discussion with our agency and with Verdant
12 and the other agencies is the ability to
13 draw sufficient conclusions like this from
14 the studies that will be conducted. So to
15 the extent that there will be more meetings
16 like this that you may wish to attend, we
17 welcome your input on that, but we will be
18 following this and participating in this
19 very quickly and I'm here with a gentleman
20 named Kevin Kispert back there in the blue
21 shirt, and if you have any questions about
22 this process, please feel free to ask us.
23 And, I'm sorry, I probably took up more than
24 my share of time.

25 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Bill.

1 MS. SMITH: Hi. I'm Margie
2 Smith with the Residents Association and
3 it's really just a comment. I want to thank
4 Verdant Power so much. We have gone through
5 lots of development on this island, lots of
6 projects and programs and the residents very
7 rarely got kept informed and you've been so
8 terrific from every step of the way keeping
9 us informed long before you had to start the
10 process where you had to follow the rules
11 and regulations, you've just been so
12 wonderful explaining everything and
13 including us in it, that we really want to
14 thank you very much and, again, offer any
15 assistance we can give you on our end while
16 you're here.

17 MR. DEAN: Are there other
18 comments? Any further questions?

19 MR. EDELMAN: My name is Lee
20 Edelman. I am a resident on the Island. I
21 just have one question, Jim. Of the current
22 11 studies, you mentioned two that are 18
23 month long-term studies. I am just curious
24 when those studies are scheduled to
25 conclude, the longer ones, the longer term

1 18-month ones.

2 MR. GIBSON: I think the actual
3 dates technically would be June 2008 because
4 they technically started on December 11,
5 2006.

6 MR. EDELMAN: Great. Thank you
7 very much.

8 MR. DEAN: Any other questions
9 or comments?

10 MS. MARCUS: Hi. My name is
11 Nurit Marcus, and I also want to add to what
12 Margie said. I am also a resident of
13 Roosevelt Island. I think in the time that
14 you've been here, it's not only that you
15 informed us, you also got us involved.
16 Everything was very transparent, we know
17 about your actions, you send us e-mails,
18 we're informed, we get all your reports, and
19 moreover than that, we walk around and we
20 see you and we can talk to you and we can
21 exchange opinions and we can also interact
22 with you, and that's a very big deal for us
23 and we do want to thank you for that.

24 MR. DEAN: Any other thoughts,
25 comments, questions?

1 Yes, sir?

2 MR. BAUER: Thank you. My name
3 is Andy Bauer, I'm from Portland,
4 Connecticut, I chair a Clean Energy Task
5 Force in my Town. I'm impressed with all
6 the studies that you've done and I know it's
7 not the domain of this process to do what
8 I'm about to ask, but whenever I see
9 proposals for expanded nuclear power or coal
10 or any type of nonrenewable power
11 generation, I don't see anywhere near the
12 impact studies that it seems like you folks
13 have had to do. I'm not averse to impact
14 studies, but I think fair is fair, and it
15 may be if you could just take that general
16 comment with you possibly back to FERC, I
17 think this stuff is really the wave of the
18 future, no pun intended, and, you know, the
19 faster we do this, the better. If we could
20 rack up all the environmental, public
21 health, national security issues into our
22 approach to energy projects, this one is
23 going to win hands down.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. DEAN: Anyone else?

1 I just want to remind you before
2 we conclude that your written comments are
3 due to the Commission by April 30, 2007.
4 Transcripts of this meeting will be
5 available on the Commission's online records
6 information system, that's called eLibrary,
7 no sooner than ten days from now. You can
8 access eLibrary from the commission's
9 website at www.ferc.gov.

10 Thank you for attending and
11 participating in the Roosevelt Island Tidal
12 Energy Project and this meeting is
13 adjourned. Good evening.

14 (Time noted: 7:52 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, ROBIN LaFemina, a Certified
LiveNote Reporter and Notary Public, within
and for the State of New York, do hereby
certify that I reported the above proceedings
on March 28, 2007, and that this is an
accurate transcription of these proceedings.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
set my hand this day of , 2007.

ROBIN LaFEMINA