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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Docket No.: PF08-14-000

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In the Matter of: :
FLORIDA GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY, LLC's :
PROPOSED PHASE VIII EXPANSION PROJECT :

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Public Scoping Meeting
Tuesday, June 10, 2008
7:00 P.M.

Residence Inn by Marriott
2101 Northpointe Parkway
Lutz, Florida 33558

BEFORE:

DANNY LAFFOON, Project Manager
Environmental Biologist
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Office of Energy Projects
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

1 APPEARANCES:

2

3 STEPHEN T. VEATCH, Panhandle Energy

4 PAULETTE TREPL, Panhandle Energy

5 MITCH SHIELDS, HDR

6 BARRY LENS, HDR

7 SHERRY SWANSON, HDR

8 STEPHANIE THORASIN, HDR

9 BETSY DAVIS, HDR

10 RICK CRAIG, FGT

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

2 (7:05 p.m.)

3 MR. LAFFOON: We're going to go ahead and
4 get started if everybody can take their seat.

5 Okay. I apologize up front, but I am
6 going to have to read from this script because I'm
7 afraid that I will forget something if I don't, so
8 please bear with me.

9 Good evening. My name is Daniel Laffoon.
10 I'm an Environmental Project Manager with the Federal
11 Energy Regulatory Commission or FERC.

12 At the table with me tonight is Mitch
13 Shields with HDR. HDR is an environmental contractor
14 who has been contracted to help in our preparation of
15 the Environmental Impact Statement for Florida Gas
16 Transmission's Phase VIII Project.

17 Barry Lens and Sherry Swanson, Stephanie
18 Thorasin and Betsy Davis are at the sign-in table in
19 back of, behind the room. They are also with HDR.

20 This meeting is being transcribed by a
21 court reporting service to accurately depict this
22 proceeding.

23 The FERC is the lead federal agency for
24 the development of the Environmental Impact Statement,
25 and I want to welcome you to be here tonight. Let the

1 record show that the Lutz Scoping Meeting began at 7:05
2 on June 10th.

3 The purpose of this meeting is to give
4 you the opportunity to provide environmental concerns
5 and comments regarding the Pipeline Project proposed by
6 FGT. In a few minutes I will ask folks from FGT to
7 come up and give an overview of their project. Right
8 now we are early in the process, so the maps that
9 you've seen so far are general and could change based
10 upon your comments.

11 Currently, FGT plans to construct about
12 570 miles of pipeline in 14 segments across Alabama and
13 Florida. Additionally, FGT would construct about
14 207,000 horsepower of compression, including one new
15 compressor station.

16 After this meeting closes, FGT will
17 remain with their maps to answer additional questions
18 that you may have.

19 Now I need to talk about the FERC Scoping
20 Process. That's where we are right now. We are in
21 what we call the Pre-filing Process, or PF Process.
22 The docket number that has been assigned for this
23 project is PF08-14-000. It's included in the notice
24 that I sent to each of you.

25 FGT has not filed a formal application

1 with the FERC at this time. They are using this
2 pre-filing period to help develop the route and listen
3 to concerns and hopefully minimize environmental
4 impacts before they file a formal application.

5 Once FGT files a formal application with
6 the FERC, we will assign a new docket number for the
7 project. The National Environmental Policy Act
8 requires that the FERC evaluate the environmental
9 impacts associated with new interstate natural gas
10 facilities.

11 The term we use for this process is
12 Scoping. So that is what I'm doing at these meetings.
13 I'm talking with agencies, landowners, politicians, and
14 non-governmental organizations to get their
15 environmental concerns.

16 The process started last month when I
17 issued the Notice of Intent that most of you received
18 in the mail. That notice, or NOI, detailed the steps
19 that we're taking here during the environmental
20 scoping, and how we intend to prepare an Environmental
21 Impact Statement for the project.

22 There is an opportunity to mail your
23 concerns or use our website to deliver them. Comments
24 received through the mail or use of our website are
25 weighed equally to those that are spoken here tonight.

1 But, I am here to listen to any environmental comments
2 that you may have.

3 We set an ending date of this Scoping
4 period to be June 20th. We, meaning the FERC's
5 Environmental Resource Staff, HDR, and any agencies
6 cooperating with us in the preparation of the EIS, will
7 take all of the comments that are received into
8 consideration while preparing the Environmental Impact
9 Statement that will be issued in draft form after FGT
10 submits its formal application, which they anticipate
11 doing in September or October.

12 Then there will be another opportunity
13 for the public to comment on the Draft Environmental
14 Impact Statement. Those comments will be taken into
15 consideration, and the draft will be revised, and we
16 will issue a Final Environmental Impact Statement.

17 I must differentiate between what the
18 FERC Commissioners do and what I do as part of the
19 support staff. I'm with the Environmental Staff, and,
20 as I've explained, I'm going to be helping develop the
21 environmental analysis.

22 The FERC Commission will look at that,
23 but that's only part of what they review. The FERC
24 Commissioners are tasked by Congress to determine
25 whether or not interstate natural gas facilities are in

1 the public interest. They take into consideration
2 things of a regulatory nature, such as, markets,
3 tariffs, rates, design cost, public need, and they take
4 into consideration the environmental impacts.

5 After considering all of these factors,
6 the Commissioners will decide whether or not to issue a
7 Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the
8 project, that is, whether or not to approve the
9 project. Their decision is not just regulatory or
10 environmental but the whole picture before they decide
11 whether or not to approve any particular project.

12 Are there any questions about the FERC
13 Scoping Process or anything that I have talked about so
14 far? Okay. With that, I'm going to ask Steve Veatch,
15 who is a representative from FGT, to give an overview
16 of the project. Mr. Veatch.

17 MR. VEATCH: Good evening. My name is
18 Stephen Veatch. I'm Senior Director of Certificates
19 and Tariffs for Florida Gas Transmission Company.
20 Tonight I would like to give you a brief overview of
21 Florida Gas Transmission Company and an overview of our
22 Phase VIII Expansion Project.

23 With me tonight are individuals from our
24 Project Management, Engineering, Right-of-Way,
25 Construction, Environmental Groups who will answer any

1 questions you might have at the conclusion of the
2 meeting or after my presentation.

3 Next slide, please. Currently Florida
4 Gas Transmission operates over 5,000 miles of
5 interstate natural gas pipeline. And the pipeline
6 extends from South Texas through Louisiana,
7 Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. Approximately 4,000
8 miles of that 5,000-mile pipeline system is located
9 here in the State of Florida.

10 We have over 282 delivery points on the
11 pipeline system, with 162 of those delivery points
12 delivering gas to local distribution companies, 32 are
13 for industrial users, and 58 delivery points are for
14 electric generation.

15 FGT also has 50 interconnects with other
16 pipelines along the entire system. The current
17 capacity on the pipeline system is 1.95 billion cubic
18 feet per day during the winter, and 2.25 billion cubic
19 feet of capacity during the summer.

20 FGT has expanded over the years through a
21 series of increasing market demand through a series of
22 expansions, those become the FGT Phase I through VII
23 Expansion, and we are here to talk about our Phase VIII
24 Expansion here tonight.

25 Next slide, please. The Florida Gas

1 Market. Currently 85 percent of the natural gas
2 consumed in the State of Florida is delivered for
3 electric generation. Within the last year
4 approximately 4,000 megawatts of proposed coal power
5 plants projects have been canceled. Natural gas is the
6 fuel of choice for new electric generation.

7 The incremental gas demand in the Florida
8 peninsula is conservatively projected to grow over
9 1 billion cubic feet per day by the year 2015.

10 With regards to our Phase VIII Expansion
11 Project, the project we're here to talk about tonight,
12 it's a major scale pipeline expansion project from
13 Alabama to Central Florida and South Florida.

14 We have executed Precedent Agreements
15 with Florida Power & Light Company for 400,000 Mcf per
16 day for a period of 25 years; Seminole Electric
17 Cooperative for 60,000 Mcf per day for 25 years; the
18 City of Tallahassee 6,000 Mcf per day for a 25-year
19 period.

20 We have also executed a Precedent
21 Agreement with Progress Energy. And we're continuing
22 to negotiate with additional Phase VIII potential
23 shippers. And the project will provide up to 1 million
24 Mcf per day of incremental firm transportation capacity
25 into the State of Florida.

1 The Proposed Phase VIII Project
2 Facilities, the project consists of 11 looping segments
3 on the existing mainline and three greenfield segments
4 for a total of 568 miles.

5 The looping segments consist of
6 approximately 439 miles of 24-, 30-, 36-, and 42-inch
7 diameter pipeline commencing at the Mississippi-Alabama
8 border with a final loop segment terminating in Dade
9 County, Florida.

10 The greenfield segments are approximately
11 129 miles in length, and for the project include the
12 Suwannee Lateral, the Manatee Lateral, and a new
13 mainline segment from Arcadia, Florida terminating at
14 the FP&L Martin Power Plant.

15 In addition, FGT will add compression at
16 eight existing compressor stations and add one new
17 compressor station in Highlands County, Florida, for a
18 total of 207,900 horsepower.

19 The estimated cost of the overall project
20 is approximately \$2 billion. Construction of the Phase
21 VIII Expansion will occur in 28 counties with 25 of
22 those counties being in the State of Florida.

23 Next slide, please. This is the Project
24 Map for the project. It's in the handout that was
25 available at the front. As Danny indicated, we are in

1 the Pre-filing Phase with the FERC on the project, and
2 the specific route has not been finalized yet.

3 We have been contacting landowners and
4 asking for permission to survey prior to making a final
5 route determination.

6 To the extent physically possible, we
7 plan to locate the pipeline adjacent or within the
8 rights-of-way of currently existing utilities, those
9 being pipelines, power lines, and transportation
10 corridors in order to minimize impact to the land and
11 to the environment.

12 We are currently working with, and will
13 continue to work closely with, the appropriate federal,
14 state, and local permitting agencies to further
15 minimize any impact to the land and to the environment.

16 A few of the agencies that we're working
17 with, in addition to the Federal Energy Regulatory
18 Commission, on the project are the U.S. Forest Service,
19 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and
20 Wildlife Service, the U.S. Environmental Protection
21 Agency.

22 Here in the State of Florida we are
23 working with the Florida Division of Historical
24 Resources, the Florida Department of Environmental
25 Protection, the Florida Division of Forestry, and the

1 Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

2 Next slide, please. Our Phase VIII
3 Expansion Timeline. We held an open season to solicit
4 interest for the project, and that was completed on
5 February 15th of 2008.

6 We submitted a Pre-filing Request with
7 the FERC on March 6th, 2008, and that was approved on
8 March 18th. As Danny indicated, the docket number for
9 the project was assigned as PF08-14-000.

10 Public Scoping Meetings. We held two
11 Public Scoping Meetings last week and we have two this
12 week. This is our third Public Scoping Meeting that
13 FERC has held on the project.

14 We plan to file our Certificate
15 Application in the Fall of this year. We hope to
16 receive FERC approval for the project in the Fall of
17 2009. And our plans are to commence construction in
18 January 2010, with a targeted in-service date in the
19 Spring of 2011.

20 Next slide. How to get additional
21 information for the Phase VIII Project. We have
22 established the right-of-way office for the project in
23 Tampa, Florida. We have a toll-free number that
24 landowners can call if they have any questions about
25 the project.

1 The mailing address is identified there
2 on the screen. It's also available in the handout at
3 the front of the room. We also have a website that's
4 set up for the Phase VIII Project. We have -- we're
5 putting information on there that's being filed with
6 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

7 We also have a question and answer
8 section on there where people, landowners, can ask
9 questions, and we'll get it to the appropriate
10 discipline and get your questions answered.

11 Thank you very much.

12 MR. LAFFOON: Thank you, Mr. Veatch. We
13 are at the point in the meeting where I will ask for
14 your comments. Because this is being transcribed, I
15 would ask that you speak one at a time and into the
16 microphone at the front of the room.

17 You need to speak into the microphone so
18 that the information can be accurately depicted on the
19 record. Please state and spell your name for the court
20 reporter. The more specific your comments are the
21 better we can address them in our Draft Environmental
22 Impact Statement.

23 Mr. Lens, Barry Lens?

24 MR. SHIELDS: I'll see if we've got some
25 already signed up.

1 (Brief pause in the proceedings.)

2 MR. LAFFOON: Please excuse me if I
3 massacre your name. Fred Krauer.

4 MR. KRAUER: My name is Fred Krauer,
5 K-R-A-U-E-R. I live at 3012 Tanglewild Drive in
6 Land O' Lakes. And our biggest concerns along -- for
7 this gas line are, number one, is the -- Land O' Lakes
8 is full of a lot of sinkholes. Can these pipes handle
9 if the ground caves in underneath them? That's one of
10 our big concerns.

11 The second thing is 50,000 vehicles a day
12 use State Road 54 and 41. Now, with that kind of
13 pounding, will these pipes be able to take that kind of
14 a pounding over a period of time?

15 And the Board of Commissioners is also
16 looking at putting in an overpass or a fly-over across
17 54. Now, will these pipes be able to handle that type
18 of weight, even during construction or after
19 construction, and what kind of pounding can these pipes
20 actually take before they actually break?

21 And with 50,000 vehicles a day, if
22 something catastrophic happens at that intersection,
23 what do you do with 50,000 vehicles a day? Where do
24 they go? There's only really two ways of getting east
25 to west. And, well, three ways. But, one is down to

1 Hillsborough County, the other one is State Road 54,
2 and the other one is State Road 52.

3 If there's something catastrophic that
4 happens to State Road 54, how do we get these vehicles,
5 and how long will this road be disabled until these
6 things can be repaired?

7 Another concern would be if there is a
8 leak in these pipes how -- what would be, what would
9 you call it, on a catastrophic explosion what would be
10 the area that would be affected?

11 And also, on State Road 41 there is also,
12 there's a lot of development going along State Road 41
13 right now, and in the mornings traffic is backed way,
14 way, way, way up.

15 These are, you know, the main thing is,
16 our concern, is the construction, failure, and, you
17 know, how long will this take to actually handle? And
18 that's really basically it.

19 And is there -- oh, here's another
20 question for you. Is there any kind of a guarantee
21 that these pipes won't, won't fail? If they're built
22 to government standards then I feel that they
23 shouldn't. But if they do, is there any kind of a
24 guarantee, and who's going to have to pay for the
25 reconstruction of, of these areas to get everything

1 back to the way it was? And those are my things right
2 now. Thank you.

3 MR. LAFFOON: Okay. We will address each
4 of those concerns in our Draft Environmental Impact
5 Statement. I can tell you that it would, the pipeline
6 would be constructed according to DOT standards. We
7 would require that the pipeline be constructed
8 according to DOT standards.

9 And part of what they require is, for
10 example, under road crossings they would have to either
11 possibly bury it deeper, bury the pipeline deeper, and
12 have a thicker gauge pipe.

13 Would anyone from FGT like to expound
14 upon that? All right. They would also have to do
15 things such as hydrostatic testing to make sure that
16 the pipe -- make sure of pipeline integrity prior to
17 the pipeline going into service. There are several
18 different safety mechanisms that they would have to do
19 prior to the pipeline even going into service.

20 MR. SHIELDS: Question in the back.

21 MR. VEATCH: Danny, he was going to
22 respond for FGT.

23 MR. LAFFOON: Go ahead.

24 MR. CRAIG: My name is Rick Craig. I'm
25 Vice-president of the Phase VIII Project Management for

1 the Phase VIII Project for Florida Gas Transmission.

2 Let me see if I can address some of your
3 concerns from a safety standpoint. Our pipelines are
4 designed under the standards of the federal government.

5 As far as the construction of the
6 pipeline, it won't disrupt traffic during construction
7 of the road itself because we're either going to bore
8 under it or do a directional drill under the road. So
9 the disruption during construction, we won't be
10 shutting down, especially major roads that carry a lot
11 of traffic, we won't be shutting those roads down.

12 From the standpoint of safety of the
13 pipeline, the new technology in pipeline is much
14 advanced over old technology. The pipe is much better.
15 It's a much better quality of steel than some of the
16 past construction may have been.

17 There's a better coating that's put on
18 the pipe. And the pipeline really is designed for an
19 infinite life. And, you know, so the risk of leaks is,
20 is, is very minimal in a pipeline in today's
21 construction.

22 And we have certain monitoring of the
23 pipeline that takes place day in and day out. We do
24 aerial patrols of certain segments of our pipeline on a
25 weekly basis. We do foot patrols on a periodic basis.

1 We have under the, under the new
2 regulatory guidelines that we have, we run tools in the
3 pipeline periodically to inspect for corrosion or other
4 third-party damage to the pipeline. And, quite
5 frankly, the biggest risk to a pipeline is third-party
6 damage; somebody not using the One-call System and
7 striking the pipeline. So they are designed with
8 safety in mind.

9 MR. KRAUER: Well, one question while I
10 have you here. What about the sinkhole situation?
11 Land O' Lakes is notorious for sinkholes. Will these
12 pipes, lines, is there any kind of a geological study
13 being done to make sure that this route is a, the
14 safest route?

15 MR. CRAIG: We will take that into
16 consideration when we're doing the design of the route
17 itself in terms of sinkholes.

18 Now, I personally, you know, before I
19 came to Phase VIII I was Vice-president of Operations
20 for Florida Gas, so I'm pretty familiar with our how
21 our pipeline operates. And I know that in the past
22 we've had some issues with sinkholes, but it didn't
23 threaten the integrity of the pipe, okay?

24 But that's something that will be taken
25 into consideration as well when we do our design and

1 the routing of the pipeline.

2 MR. KRAUER: Okay.

3 MR. LAFFOON: In the preparation of our
4 EIS we also look at geological formations in the
5 project area, so that's something that we will be
6 looking at as well.

7 MR. KRAUER: Thank you.

8 MR. LAFFOON: Next I have Gar Urette.

9 MR. URETTE: It's Gar, G-A-R, last name
10 Urette, U-R-E-T-T-E, and I just have a general
11 question. Just, if it's possible to outline the
12 schedule of events as far as studies, filings,
13 construction, I understand there's nothing set yet, but
14 just a general outline of how things could proceed, I
15 would be most appreciative.

16 MR. LAFFOON: From our standpoint or
17 from all the way through?

18 MR. URETTE: All the way from where we
19 are today till the pipeline would potentially be
20 completed.

21 MR. LAFFOON: Okay. Well, I can, I can
22 give you some of that and I'll probably ask Steve to,
23 and Mitch to put back up that slide that has a lot of
24 the project schedule, FGT's schedule in it.

25 But right now we are in the Pre-filing

1 Phase. FGT is planning on filing in either September
2 or October. Prior to that they're going to be
3 submitting Draft Resource Reports. Probably in the
4 middle of July they're going to be submitting Draft
5 Resource Reports.

6 And in those Draft Resource Reports it
7 will have all of the environmental information in
8 those, preliminary information in those and we'll be
9 reviewing them.

10 After, after FGT files their formal
11 application, then approximately, approximately four
12 months after that we will try to be issuing our Draft
13 Environmental Impact Statement. And then we will ask,
14 we will go through this whole process again. We will
15 ask for public comments on our Draft Environmental
16 Impact Statement.

17 After that process, then we will be
18 issuing a Final Environmental Impact Statement. At
19 some point after the issuance of the draft and the
20 comment period, we will issue our Final Environmental
21 Impact Statement.

22 Even after the issuance of that Final
23 Environmental Impact Statement, FGT would not have the
24 right to construct at that time. They would still have
25 to wait for a FERC Certificate. And I can't give you

1 any type of timeline for that. That would be up to the
2 Commissioners themselves.

3 So after that point, the Commission
4 issues their Certificate. FGT still can't construct
5 yet because in that Certificate there will be
6 conditions of the Certificate.

7 Once they meet those conditions of the
8 Certificate, then we would issue FGT a Notice To
9 Proceed With Construction, and it wouldn't be until
10 that point that they could start construction.

11 While FGT has all of these timelines up
12 here, that's their goal. That's their goal of when
13 they anticipate each of those items happening. That
14 doesn't necessarily mean that's when each of those
15 items are going to happen. Does that answer your
16 question?

17 MR. URETTE: Yes, thank you. Can you
18 leave that slide up a little while?

19 MR. LAFFOON: Sam Steffey.

20 MR. STEFFEY: I'm Sam Steffey, Growth
21 Management Administrator for Pasco County. It's
22 S-T-E-F-F-E-Y. I was here when Florida Gas
23 Transmission first came in '92, built their line in
24 '95. One of the Commissioners, Ms. Hillebrand, was
25 here at the same time. Our county biologist was here

1 also was of concern because we knew of future growth.
2 And they upgraded the pipe in that area. They also put
3 in two additional shut-off valves as a safety factor in
4 the populated area of Land O' Lakes.

5 They have talked today before the Board
6 of County Commissioners they are considering doing the
7 same thing in that area because of growth that has
8 occurred.

9 We're just, since it's early on in the
10 system, it's hard for to us react environmentally
11 because they haven't selected the route. We don't know
12 exactly where they're going at this point. We would
13 like to get that information as soon as possible so
14 that we can react to it.

15 I have been talking and the Board had
16 indicated -- you know, it was back in '92 and '95 when
17 construction was going on. I agree techniques were
18 different back then.

19 We actually worked with Florida Gas
20 Transmission to hire an inspector because the welds on
21 these pipes are critical. However, techniques and, I
22 believe, pipe design has increased tremendously.

23 I intend to meet with representatives
24 from Florida Gas to sit down and go over, "Okay, what's
25 new? How have things changed in order to make the pipe

1 safer, to avoid a sinkhole opening up underneath the
2 pipe and it bending, snapping, you know, what
3 techniques?"

4 I know back then we talked about, I
5 guess, encasement in concrete in certain areas,
6 perhaps, you know, underneath 54 or perhaps a heavily
7 used railroad line. I'm not sure if they did that in
8 the Land O' Lakes area or not, but I think they
9 upgraded with the class of pipe which addressed that
10 issue.

11 I'm trying to think quickly. Fred
12 covered a lot of the concerns that were raised. As we
13 go through this process, it would be great if you and I
14 could sit together. There will be an independent team
15 that, you know, we could just sit down and just keep
16 everybody informed as to what's happening. Because I
17 know you're going to get a lot of inquiries from, you
18 know, residents in the area what's happened.

19 I think that's about it for now. We're
20 just, you know, wanting access to the information.
21 Even tonight, the transcript for tonight will be on
22 your website, or is there a way to obtain a copy of the
23 verbatim or whatever?

24 MR. LAFFOON: You're getting a little
25 ahead of me. I have all of that information entered in

1 my stuff.

2 MR. STEFFEY: Okay.

3 MR. LAFFOON: But, as for how to access
4 all of the information that is on the, on our website,
5 we have a service that's called eSubscription, and
6 that's on the Notice of Intent that I sent to each of
7 you. It tells you exactly how to go through that
8 process.

9 But any, any -- with eSubscription
10 anytime anything is filed with the Commission under
11 that docket, under PF08-14-000, anytime anything is
12 filed under that docket it will submit a response to
13 your email, and it will give you a brief, a brief
14 statement as to what's been filed.

15 Of course, not everything that is filed,
16 that FGT will file will be public information. There
17 is a few things, such as, landowner lists and some
18 markets and tariffs information that won't be public
19 knowledge. But all of the environmental, pretty much
20 all of the environmental information will be public
21 knowledge.

22 MR. STEFFEY: Okay. That's all I have
23 for tonight.

24 MR. LAFFOON: Okay. The Project Maps,
25 the maps that you see in the back of the room, those

1 have already been filed with the Commission and all of
2 those should be available on our website currently.

3 Also, FGT will be filing their Draft
4 Resource Reports fairly soon, like I said, the middle
5 of July.

6 MR. STEFFEY: Uh-huh.

7 MR. LAFFOON: So those, you should be
8 looking for those fairly soon. But if you have
9 eSubscription, then it will tell you when they're
10 filed.

11 MR. STEFFEY: Okay. And on FGT's website
12 will a similar type of information be there, you know,
13 if they want to contact the Tampa office?

14 MR. VEATCH: Yes.

15 MR. STEFFEY: Okay, thank you.

16 MR. LAFFOON: I will tell you that since
17 the last time the pipeline came through we have
18 implemented an Environmental Inspector Program, that
19 FGT will be required to have an environmental inspector
20 on site during construction.

21 That is all of the people that I have
22 signed up tonight. Is there anyone else that wishes to
23 speak? Can you please come forward?

24 MR. NELSON: My name is Bob Nelson,
25 N-E-L-S-O-N. Hello, I'm Bob Nelson.

1 A couple questions in regards to the
2 easements: And the requirements of the easements I
3 know vary by pipe size, but what functionality can go
4 on in that easement from a landowner's perspective?

5 The other is I understand that the
6 pipelines are 36 inches deep; and where there's an
7 existing pipeline that exists now and your route is
8 going along the same pipeline, that there will be a new
9 pipeline put in place.

10 And then because I live, have property on
11 County Line Road in Lutz that's affected by this
12 corridor, we are in the middle of a development project
13 that, if this pipeline follows that corridor, I would
14 like to know what the setback requirement is from your
15 perspective for a residential home next to the
16 pipeline. Thank you.

17 MR. LAFFOON: Okay. I'll let FGT explain
18 exactly what they will allow to occur on top of an
19 easement, an existing easement.

20 MR. CRAIG: Paulette, do you want to
21 address that?

22 MS. TREPL: Inside an easement --

23 MR. CRAIG: You need to say who you are.

24 MS. TREPL: Oh, I'm sorry. I'm Paulette
25 Trepl. I'm the Director of Right-of-Way for Florida

1 Gas.

2 Inside an easement you may not build any
3 permanent structures. You may not impound water. You
4 can plant crops in an easement. You can in any -- you
5 can graze cattle, anything not -- temporary. No
6 deep-rooted trees, but we have allowed shrubs,
7 shallow-rooted shrubs inside of a, excuse me, a
8 permanent easement.

9 MR. LAFFOON: Okay. You also asked how
10 close can you construct to the easement or to the
11 pipeline?

12 MR. NELSON: To either the easement or
13 the pipeline, whichever.

14 MS. TREPL: You can't build anything
15 over, permanent over the easement. We can't control
16 what you build in a permanent status outside the
17 easement.

18 If we own a 50-foot easement, we control
19 that 50-foot with permanent easement, excuse me, with
20 permanent structures. Beyond that you can build right
21 up to the edge.

22 MR. NELSON: Can I asphalt over it?

23 MS. TREPL: I'm sorry?

24 MR. NELSON: Can I asphalt over the
25 easement?

1 MS. TREPL: That's not something we would
2 like to have done. Have we made exceptions?
3 Absolutely, under certain conditions. And an
4 Encroachment Agreement will be required.

5 MR. LAFFOON: Does anybody else have any
6 comments? Will you please come to the front?

7 MS. BOWMAN: Good evening. My name is
8 Sheryl Bowman, S-H-E-R-Y-L, B, as in boy, O-W-M-A-N.
9 My mailing address is P.O. Box 1515, Lutz, Florida
10 33548. And I currently reside at 21841 East Willowbend
11 Parkway in Land O' Lakes, 34639.

12 I come representing two facets: One of
13 them is my own property in Land O' Lakes, and the other
14 for my employer. So I'll start with my own situation
15 since we currently have the gas transmission line going
16 through our driveway on our property.

17 I have several questions regarding that
18 and some comments. First of all, when the transmission
19 line was put in, it came on a curve in my neighborhood
20 to avoid my neighbor's home. That home is no longer
21 there and the neighbor is no longer there. So I want
22 to know is alignment having to stay in the same place
23 or will it be co-located with other utilities as the
24 statement was made in the introduction tonight?

25 Second, in regard to the passage of the

1 pipeline through my neighborhood, I do a lot of
2 watching and monitoring of environmental impacts,
3 especially in wetlands. And I followed the original
4 environmental impact statements on this project
5 closely.

6 For one of the wetlands right down the
7 street from my home that crossed County Line Road, we
8 were told there would be directional drilling, or it
9 was indicated in the Environmental Impact Statement
10 that it would go underneath. But when the construction
11 occurred, all the vegetation above the ground was
12 cleared and replanted with small trees. There was also
13 on at least one wetland mitigation area that was
14 planted on the neighboring property to ours.

15 And what I'd like to know, I understand
16 the permits went through the Department of
17 Environmental Protection, but I have concerns about the
18 success of the replanting and the wetland mitigation.
19 Because when I called the Department of Environmental
20 Protection about the status of these mitigation areas
21 they didn't even know that they existed and wanted to
22 know if I could supply them with photographs of where
23 they were.

24 So, as you might imagine, the success
25 criteria of that plant -- those plantings were not very

1 good. A couple of trees survived and the areas were
2 quickly choked with invasive exotic plants. Therefore,
3 I would hope that anything that is constructed this
4 time would have a little bit more stringent criteria as
5 far as percent survival of the plantings and, you know,
6 a program to remove any invasives so that the natives,
7 or whatever is deemed suitable for planting, can
8 survive.

9 One of the wetland mitigations in the
10 Hillsborough County side is choked with cogongrass,
11 which is one of the most invasive species in the world.
12 And my observation of the transmission line in this
13 area is that there isn't any to very little invasive
14 species control, even just as far as maintenance area
15 and just routine maintenance.

16 When there's going to be further
17 construction, those species will be spread. And
18 they're starting to come up on my personal property and
19 in the nature preserves that I manage in the area. And
20 so I'm concerned about that, and I believe it needs to
21 be addressed.

22 As far as my professional affiliation
23 here -- I'm going to change hats. I'm sorry if this
24 offends anybody, but I also work for Hillsborough
25 County Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department,

1 the mailing address 14940 McMullen Road in Riverview,
2 33569.

3 The existing pipeline goes through the
4 Cypress Creek Nature Preserve. I'm not sure if this is
5 destined to hit any of the other portions of preserves,
6 but I believe from looking at some of the maps that it
7 might. So I'd like to coordinate with the staff about
8 any of those areas and what the impacts will be to the
9 preserves. And that was all I had. Thank you for your
10 time.

11 MR. LAFFOON: Okay. Well, we will
12 obviously be looking at wetlands and mitigation in our
13 Environmental Impact Statement. We will -- as a
14 cooperating agency, we have asked the U.S. Corps of
15 Engineers to cooperate with us in the preparation of
16 our Environmental Impact Statement, as well as the U.S.
17 Forest Service. Both of those agencies will cooperate
18 with us in our preparation of the Environmental Impact
19 Statement.

20 In that document we hope to outline the
21 construction methods for each of the wetlands that will
22 be crossed. And we will document in there each wetland
23 that would be crossed by the project, and it will have
24 construction procedures, how we anticipate that these
25 would be crossed.

1 Also, for invasive species we do have
2 guidelines that FGT will have to meet after, after
3 construction to ensure that invasive species are
4 consistent with the surrounding areas.

5 We obviously can't make them maintain
6 their right-of-way to a higher standard than the
7 adjacent areas because it's just not going to work.
8 They are going to migrate back in over time anyway.

9 Does anyone else have any concerns or
10 comments? Please come to the front.

11 MR. SHEFFEY: I just have a follow-up
12 question. Sam Steffey. My follow-up question was I
13 know there was reference to federal and state
14 environmental agencies, DEP and things like that.

15 What about any community that has a local
16 environmental, say, department for that, are there any
17 local regulations that need to be followed also or
18 addressed at least within the process?

19 MR. LAFFOON: The company would have to
20 follow the local regulations with the exception, with a
21 rare exception, such as, zoning ordinances.

22 MR. STEFFEY: Uh-huh.

23 MR. LAFFOON: Sometimes zoning doesn't
24 match up exactly with where the route would go. So
25 that would be the rare exception.

1 MR. STEFFEY: Well, within Florida all
2 the communities have to also adopt Comprehensive Plans
3 that have mandate of law. Is there compliance with
4 that? Because there are environmental sections within
5 each Comprehensive Plan.

6 MR. LAFFOON: That I'm not sure.

7 MR. STEFFEY: Okay. Thank you.

8 MR. LAFFOON: Okay. Does anyone else
9 have any comments?

10 MR. HOLLINS: Yes. My name is Dixie
11 Hollins with the Hollinswood Ranch in Citrus County,
12 Florida, and I've met with some of you representatives
13 here tonight. I am a recipient of your, if that's the
14 right word, of your gas line back in 1992-'93, and I'm
15 in support of this gas line.

16 I just wanted to bring in the public
17 record that I'm in the mining and timber business. And
18 prior to, when they put the gas line in before, they
19 did at minimum a 60-inch cover, because I'm in the
20 mining business and timber business and the original
21 coverage was going to have great impacts on either side
22 of the gas line on what I could do with my future land
23 use.

24 Another thing I've talked to you
25 representatives, that Progress Energy is building two

1 nuclear power plants in Levy County. And they're going
2 to be using the water, as I understand, from the
3 Cross-Florida Barge Canal, and they're also going to be
4 delivering two 56-inch pipes, as I understand, down the
5 canal or under the canal, or on the north side or the
6 south side of the canal. And we already have one
7 boring of your gas line underneath the canal and just
8 wanted to get on public record that you all need to
9 coordinate that.

10 And other than that, you all have been
11 very cooperative in the past with my family and my land
12 holdings, and I look forward to doing the same in the
13 future. Thank you very much. And I hope somebody
14 makes a power plant there. That would be a good
15 choice. Thank you.

16 MR. LAFFOON: There are any further
17 comments? Anyone? Okay. Well, with that, if not I
18 will close the public part of this proceeding. The
19 folks from FGT will stay if you want to ask them more
20 project-specific questions or look at some maps.

21 As I said, this is on the public record.
22 There's going to be a transcription that's going to be
23 published in a few weeks. If you would like to
24 purchase an advance copy of the transcript within the
25 next ten days, please talk with court reporter who is

1 making the transcript.

2 The FERC website can be used to access
3 information about this project at www.ferc.gov. At
4 this website you can click on the eLibrary link and
5 type in the docket number PF08-14 and download all the
6 information that is on the public record for this
7 project, that means anything that FGT has filed with
8 the FERC or anything the FERC has issued with regard to
9 this project that's on the public record.

10 There is also a helpful tool from the
11 FERC website that's called eSubscription. If you enter
12 your email address, anytime something is filed or
13 issued you will receive an automatically generated
14 email that will link you to that filing.

15 On behalf of the Federal Energy
16 Regulatory Commission I want to thank you all for
17 coming here tonight. Let the record show that the Lutz
18 Scoping Meeting concluded at 7:51 p.m. Thank you very
19 much for coming.

20 (Whereupon, the meeting was concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

I, LYNDA J. MILLS, Registered Merit Reporter, certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the foregoing proceedings, and that the transcript is a true and complete record of my stenographic notes thereof.

I further certify that I am not a relative, employee, attorney, or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties' attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

DATED this 12th day of June, 2008.

LYNDA J. MILLS
Registered Merit Reporter