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LAKE PLACID SCOPING MEETING  
HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA

TAKEN ON:               MAY 21, 2009  
                              At or about 7:00 p.m.

TAKEN AT:               HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS  
                              608 South Lakeview Road  
                              Lake Placid, Florida

APPEARANCES:           DANNY LAFFOON, FERC  
                              MITCHELL SHIELDS, HD

REPORTED BY             MICHELLE FOGG, Court Reporter

1           THE COURT: I'd like to go ahead and get  
2 started.

3           Good evening. My name is Daniel  
4 Laffoon. I'm with the Environmental Project  
5 Negotiation with the Federal Energy Regulatory  
6 Commission, or FERC.

7           At the table with me today is Mr. Mitch  
8 Shields with HDR. HDR is an environmental  
9 contractor who's helped in the preparation of  
10 the Environmental Impact Statement for Florida  
11 Gas Transmission Company Phase VIII Expansion  
12 Project. The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and  
13 the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest  
14 Service are cooperating in the preparation of  
15 this document.

16           Betsy Davis, who is at the sign-in table  
17 just outside the room, is also with HDR.

18           Let the record show that the Lake Placid  
19 scoping meeting began at 7:07 p.m. on May  
20 21st, 2009.

21           On April 16th, 2009 we mailed about 3,100  
22 copies of the Environmental Impact Statement,  
23 the ESI statement, to individuals who  
24 requested to be on our mailing list,  
25 government agencies, local libraries and

1 newspapers. Most of you received a copy of  
2 the CD in the mail. Additionally, about 150  
3 hard copies were mailed out to individuals who  
4 specifically requested a hard copy.

5 The purpose of this meeting tonight is  
6 for me to get your comments on the draft EIS,  
7 this document. We are in the midst of a 45  
8 day comment period upon the draft. EIS  
9 comment period ends June 8th, 2009. All  
10 substantive comments that we receive within  
11 the comment period will be addressed in the  
12 the final EIS.

13 We have the sign-up sheet just outside  
14 the room and the request to speak sheet also  
15 just outside the room. After people who have  
16 signed up to speak have commented, I will open  
17 the floor to anyone else who wishes to  
18 comment.

19 We take your environmental comments  
20 seriously. We give equal weight to your  
21 comments whether you decide to speak tonight,  
22 you mail your comments or E-mail  
23 electronically to the FERC website.

24 Be advised the draft EIS, the specific  
25 instructions on how to file written or

1       electronic comments are contained in the first  
2       couple of pages of the draft EIS, hard copy or  
3       in the CD. If you have any questions about  
4       that, you can ask me after the meeting  
5       tonight. I'll be glad to help you as best I  
6       can.

7               The more specific the comments we receive  
8       from you, the better we can address your  
9       concerns. General comments such as I don't  
10      like the project are not as helpful as  
11      specific comments.

12              Our job over the next couple of months is  
13      to revise our environmental analysis based on  
14      the type of comments that we receive.

15              If you received a copy of the draft EIS,  
16      you will automatically receive a copy of the  
17      final. You do not need to sign up again on  
18      another mailing list.

19              Once we finish the final EIS and mail it  
20      out, we will forward that on to our  
21      commissioners, to the clerk. The  
22      commissioners will consider our environmental  
23      analysis along with non-environmental issues  
24      in order to determine whether to authorize the  
25      project. Thus, the EIS itself is one tool in

1 the process. It is not a decision-making  
2 document.

3 The preliminary statements are over now.  
4 It is time for me to turn the meeting over to  
5 you, the audience. Like I said, this is your  
6 chance to make your comments on the draft  
7 EIS. If you have questions about the  
8 environmental review process, I will answer  
9 those. If you have very specific questions  
10 regarding a negotiation or an easement  
11 situation on your property, there are  
12 representatives from the FTT here tonight.  
13 They can discuss those issues with you after  
14 the meeting.

15 We have anybody sign up?

16 MR. SHIELDS: We do not.

17 MR. LAFFOON: So nobody has signed up to  
18 speak. So I'm going to open up the floor to  
19 you all. If anybody wishes to speak, what I  
20 would ask is that you come or stand up, state  
21 your name and spell your name for the Court  
22 Reporter so she'll be able to accurately  
23 transcribe your name. That way your comments  
24 will be in the public record.

25 Is there anybody who wishes to comment

1       tonight? Don't be bashful. Anyone? This is  
2       going to be a very short meeting if you don't  
3       comment.

4             All right. If no one is going to speak  
5       then I'll go ahead and close the formal part  
6       of the meeting.

7             Anyone wishing to keep up with the  
8       official activity associated with the Phase  
9       VIII Expansion Project can use the FERC  
10       website at WWW.FERC.GOV within our website an  
11       eLibrary link where you can type the document  
12       and project CP09-17. You can use eLibrary to  
13       gain access to everything in the public record  
14       concerning the project including all of the  
15       public filings and information submitted by  
16       FTT.

17            As I stated earlier, a representative  
18       from the FTT will stay in the room for awhile  
19       after the meeting if you would like to talk  
20       with them individually about a negotiation,  
21       offer, an easement issue or any other  
22       questions you may have for them.

23            If you would like immediate copies of the  
24       transcript, please, see the Court Reporter  
25       after the meeting.

1           On behalf of the Federal Energy  
2 Regulation Commission, I would like to thank  
3 each of you for coming out tonight.

4           Let the record show that the comment  
5 meeting concluded at 7:12.

6           Thank you.

7           (Proceedings were concluded 7:12 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF HIGHLANDS

I, MICHELLE FOGG, Court Reporter, hereby

certify that I was authorized to and did report  
the

foregoing proceedings, and that the above and  
foregoing

pages represent a true and correct  
transcription of my

stenographic notes taken at that time.

DATED at Sebring, Highlands County, Florida this

1st day of June, 2009.

MICHELLE FOGG,

Court Reporter

PARAGON REPORTING

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Sebring, Florida 33870

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