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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Texas Eastern Transmission, LP

+ Docket No. PF10-17-000

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LP

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NEW JERSEY - NEW YORK EXPANSION PROJECT

Public Scoping Meeting

Thomas C. Brown School
80 Maple Parkway
Staten Island, NY 10313
Tuesday, August 3, 2010

The public hearing, pursuant to notice, convened at 7:15 p.m, before a Staff Panel:

- KARA J. HARRIS, Office of Energy Projects, FERC
- KAREN GENTILE, U.S. Department of Transportation
- LARRY BROWN, Natural Resource Group

With:

EDWARD GONZALEZ, Texas Eastern Transmission, Inc.

LIST OF PUBLIC SPEAKERS

1		
2	Carmen Cognetta for Congressman Michael McMahon	21
3	Beryl Thurman, North Shore Waterfront Conservancy	25
4	Clara S. Ogburn, Fellowship Baptist Church	27
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
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P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 MS. HARRIS: Good evening. On behalf of the
3 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, also known as the
4 FERC, I would like to welcome you here tonight. This is an
5 environmental scoping meeting for the New Jersey - New York
6 Gas Pipeline Expansion Project proposed by Spectra Energy
7 Corporation affiliates Texas Eastern Transmission, LP, and
8 Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC.

9 My name is Kara Harris, and I'm an Environmental
10 Project Manager with the FERC's Office of Energy Projects.
11 My supervisor, Lonnie Lister, is also here, sitting in the
12 back.

13 The FERC is the lead federal agency responsible
14 for the National Environmental Policy Act, also known as
15 NEPA, review of the proposed project and the lead agency for
16 the preparation of the environmental impact statement, also
17 known as the EIS.

18 NEPA requires FERC to analyze the environmental
19 impacts, consider alternatives, and provide appropriate
20 mitigation measures on proposed projects. So far, the U.S.
21 Environmental Protection Agency and the City of New York's
22 Mayor's Office have agreed to be cooperating agencies with
23 the FERC in the preparation of our environmental impact
24 statement. Additional federal, state, local and other
25 government agencies with jurisdiction by law or special

1 expertise are welcome to cooperate as well.

2 Sitting to my left is Karen Gentile, who is a
3 regional Community Assistance Technical Service, also known
4 as CATS Manager, with the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
5 Safety Administration, also known as PHMSA. Karen will
6 present a brief overview of her agency's involvement in a
7 few moments.

8 Larry Brown, to my right, is the Project Manager
9 with the Natural Resource Group, also known as NRG. NRG is
10 an environmental consulting firm, assisting us in producing
11 the environmental impact statement that will be prepared for
12 this project. It is important for everyone to understand
13 that the proposed project was not conceived by and is not
14 promoted by the FERC, the EPA, or the City of New York's
15 Mayor's office.

16 The FERC staff reviews applications for the
17 authority to build and operate interstate natural gas
18 pipelines, and Texas Eastern and Algonquin are in the
19 process of preparing an application to submit to FERC. Once
20 the application is submitted, our obligation is to review
21 that application and prepare an analysis of the
22 environmental impacts.

23 Tonight's meeting is not a public hearing; we are
24 not here to debate the proposal or to make any
25 determinations on its fate. We are here to listen to your

1 concerns so that we can consider them in our analysis of the
2 potential environmental impacts of the project, and how
3 those impacts might be reduced or avoided.

4 If there are any general objections to the
5 project or other non-environmental issues concerning the
6 proposal, those issues would be considered by the Commission
7 in its determination of the project's public convenience and
8 necessity, but are generally considered outside the scope of
9 our environmental analysis. In other words, the Commission
10 wants to hear your concerns in that regard; however, those
11 issues will not be addressed in detail in the EIS.

12 Now let me briefly explain the FERC's prefiling
13 process, because that is the stage at which we are in
14 concerning this project. Texas Eastern and Algonquin
15 entered into the prefiling process on April 23rd, 2010.
16 This began our view of the facilities that are referred to
17 as the New Jersey - New York Expansion Project.

18 The FERC docket number for the project is PF10-
19 17. The 'PF' means prefiling. No formal application has
20 been filed at FERC for this project. Once Texas Eastern and
21 Algonquin file a formal application, a new docket number
22 will be assigned with a CP Docket No. designation.

23 During prefiling, the goal is to get information
24 from the public as well as agencies and other groups so that
25 we can incorporate all substantive issues of concern into

1 our review. The scoping period started when we issued our
2 Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact
3 statement or NOI on July 16, 2010. The Notice of Intent to
4 prepare an environmental impact statement was mailed to all
5 affected landowners as described by FERC regulations,
6 federal, state and local agencies and representatives, and
7 other stakeholders.

8 In the NOI we describe the environmental review
9 process, some already-identified environmental issues, and
10 the steps the FERC and cooperating agencies will take to
11 prepare the environmental impact statement. We have set an
12 ending date of August 20th, 2010 for the scoping period.
13 However, the end of the scoping period is not the end of
14 public involvement.

15 Let me repeat that, because I've seen some
16 misinformation presented in that regard: The end of the
17 scoping period is not the end of the public involvement, and
18 that is not your only opportunity to comment. We will
19 accept comments throughout our review of the project, but
20 for us to adequately address your comments, analyze them and
21 research the issues, we ask that you try to get those to us
22 as soon as possible. There will be another comment period
23 once the draft EIS is published.

24 Extra copies of the NOI are located in the back
25 of the room at the sign-in table. A speakers list is also

1 located at that table. We will use that list to call
2 speakers to the podium tonight. If you wish to speak and
3 have not signed up, please add your name to the list.

4 In addition to verbal comments provided tonight,
5 we will also accept your written comments. If you have
6 comments but do not wish to speak tonight, you may provide
7 your written comments on the comment forms provided at the
8 back table. You may drop those off with us or mail them at
9 a later date. Be sure to include the project Docket No.
10 PF10-17 and your personal information if you want us to be
11 able to contact you, or if you wish to be placed on the
12 mailing list.

13 Your comments tonight, together with any written
14 comments you already filed or intend to file will be added
15 to the official record of the proceeding. We then take all
16 the comments that address environmental issues, and
17 utilizing all available information and expertise, factor
18 them into our independent analysis of the project's
19 potential impacts. We will publish those findings in a
20 draft EIS, which will then be distributed for a minimum 45-
21 day public comment period.

22 Additional public comment meetings will be
23 announced at that time, where we invite the public to
24 provide additional comments on our draft EIS, analysis and
25 conclusions. At the end of the draft EIS comment period,

1 FERC staff will prepare a final EIS that specifically
2 addresses each comment received on the draft EIS, and
3 includes all necessary changes, additions and modifications
4 to conclusions reached in the draft EIS. The final EIS will
5 be considered by the Commission in its determination of
6 whether to authorize the project and if so, under what
7 conditions.

8 Currently, our mailing list for this project is
9 over 800 stakeholders. If you received a copy of the NOI in
10 the mail, you are already on the mailing list to receive the
11 EIS. There is a return mailer on the back of the NOI by
12 which you can indicate if you want to correct your mailing
13 address or remove your name from the mailing list. Also
14 please note, because of the size of the mailing list, the
15 mail version of the EIS will be in a CD-ROM format. That
16 means unless you tell us otherwise, the EIS you will receive
17 will be a computer-readable CD-ROM. If you prefer to have a
18 hard copy mailed to you, please indicate that choice on the
19 return mailer or let us know tonight by indicating so when
20 you add your information to the mailing list.

21 One final point I want to clarify is the role of
22 the Commission versus the Commission's Environmental Staff.
23 The five member Commission is appointed by the President and
24 confirmed by the Senate. It is responsible for making a
25 determination on whether to issue a certificate of public

1 convenience and necessity to Texas Eastern and Algonquin.
2 The EIS that is prepared by the FERC Environment Staff, and
3 it does not make that decision. The EIS is used to advise
4 the Commission and disclose to the public the environmental
5 impact of constructing and operating the proposed project.

6 The Commission will consider the findings,
7 conclusions and recommendations in the EIS as well as public
8 comments on non-environmental issues. That includes
9 engineering, market need, rates, finances, tariffs and costs
10 in making an informed decision on whether or not to approve
11 the project. Only after taking the environmental and non-
12 environmental factors into consideration will the Commission
13 make its final decision on whether or not to approve the
14 project.

15 Now that I've finished the FERC process, I will
16 hand it over to Karen Gentile so that she can give a quick
17 explanation of the DOT's role.

18 MS. GENTILE: Good evening. As Kara said, my
19 name is Karen Gentile and I'm a Community Assistance and
20 Technical Services Manager for the Eastern Region Office of
21 Pipeline Safety, which is a branch of the United States
22 Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous
23 Materials Safety Administration.

24 I'd like to thank FERC for the opportunity to
25 provide an overview of the OPS Pipeline Safety Program to

1 you tonight. Upon request from FERC, our office provides
2 support on the National Environmental Policy Act, NEPA
3 analysis.

4 If Texas Eastern Transmission, LP and Algonquin
5 Gas Transmission, LLC receive permission from FERC for this
6 natural gas pipeline expansion project, the Office of
7 Pipeline Safety in cooperation with state partners will
8 maintain regulatory oversight over the safety of the
9 pipeline. The oversight includes inspections to ensure the
10 pipeline is constructed of suitable materials, that it is
11 welded in accordance with industry standards using qualified
12 welders, installed to the proper depths, protected from
13 external corrosion and properly pressure-tested before its
14 use.

15 Beyond the construction process, we conduct
16 periodic inspections of operations and maintenance
17 requirements in Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part
18 192. The operator must establish comprehensive written
19 procedures describing the types and frequencies of
20 monitoring to ensure the continued safe operation of the
21 pipeline. The monitoring that an operator must perform
22 includes the adequacy of external corrosion, prevention
23 systems, the operability of pipeline valves and pressure
24 control equipment, patrols of rights-of-way and leak
25 detection surveys.

1 In addition to this routine monitoring, PHMSA
2 regulations now require transmission operators to implement
3 integrity management programs. These programs require
4 periodic integrity assessments of transmission pipelines in
5 highly populated areas. These assessments provide a
6 comprehensive understanding of the pipeline condition and
7 associated risks.

8 In-line inspection tools, commonly referred to as
9 'smart pigs' provide detailed information about pipeline
10 condition. During an integrity inspection, sensors and
11 computers are sent through the pipeline. These devices can
12 indicate pipe deformations and changes in wall thickness in
13 the pipeline. By analyzing the data collected during in-
14 line inspections, operators can locate and repair areas of
15 the pipeline that may be damaged or deteriorated.

16 Integrity management programs require that the
17 operators detect and correct damages to their pipeline in
18 highly populated areas before the damage results in a leak.
19 A well-constructed and maintained pipeline must also be
20 properly operated. Operators must ensure that personnel
21 performing operations, maintenance and emergency response
22 activities are qualified to perform these tasks.

23 The aim of this initiative is to minimize
24 operator error. Operators must implement training and
25 testing programs for employees and contractors, whose

1 performance is crucial to maintaining the safety of the
2 pipeline. Pipeline operators must also implement public
3 awareness programs to improve awareness of the pipelines
4 within the communities. Operators communicate pipeline
5 safety information to the public along the right-of-way,
6 emergency responders, local public officials and excavators.

7
8 Public awareness programs emphasize the
9 importance of notifying one-call systems prior to
10 excavating. These notifications allow participating utility
11 owners along with pipeline operators to mark the location of
12 their facilities and monitor the excavation to help ensure
13 that facilities are not damaged during excavation.

14 Another key message for the stakeholder audiences
15 include: How to recognize a pipeline emergency, how to
16 respond appropriately and how to report the potential
17 emergency to aid in the rapid response by both the operator
18 personnel as well as community emergency responders. If
19 safety inspections find inadequate procedures or that the
20 operator is not following their procedures, OPS is
21 authorized to require remedial action, assess civil
22 penalties, and initiate criminal actions.

23 Safety is the primary mission of OPS, and we
24 understand the importance of this mission to your community.
25 Again, thank you for this opportunity to provide an overview

1 of the OPS safety program.

2 MS. HARRIS: Thank you, Karen.

3 We have asked the applicants, Texas Eastern and
4 Algonquin to provide a short presentation on the proposed
5 project.

6 Here representing Texas Eastern/Algonquin is Ed
7 Gonzalez.

8 MR. GONZALEZ: Thank you, Kara. I'd like to
9 welcome everybody here tonight, and the opportunity to
10 listen to everybody's comments tonight. Again, we take
11 these type of meetings very serious in what we do and how we
12 evaluate our project, and the proposed routing.

13 As Kara mentioned, my name is Ed Gonzalez. I am
14 the Project Director on the New Jersey - New York Expansion
15 Project.

16 I'd like to reinforce some of the items that Kara
17 mentioned related to the process. It's an ongoing ability
18 for key stakeholders, as you being here tonight, to provide
19 comments to this process. Tonight is not the end of your
20 ability to provide comments related to concerns, issues you
21 may have related to what we are proposing for this project.
22 It's an ongoing, iterative process.

23 [Map displayed on screen]

24 And the maps that you saw in the back of the
25 room; I'm also going to have a USGS quad that's up on the

1 overhead; that is a proposed alignment. That's important --
2 proposed. It is not finalized. That route will get
3 modified several times, assuming the project gets approved.
4 It will continue to get modified, and to date we have made
5 multiple changes associated with that.

6 What I'd like to do is at a high level talk about
7 the project. It's an expansion of the existing Texas
8 Eastern and Algonquin transmission pipeline facilities in
9 order to deliver critical natural gas to New Jersey and New
10 York areas.

11 The first part is approximately four and a half
12 miles of 42-inch, and what Tony is doing, that section, the
13 pipeline starts in Linden, New Jersey and terminates in
14 Staten Island where we have an existing meter and regulating
15 station on Western Ave adjacent to the Goethals Bridge. And
16 that's what the yellow line represents. We have existing
17 pipelines, have been there, we've been operating those for
18 over 60 years now.

19 What we're going to do is take up some of the
20 smaller diameter lines that exist within that corridor and
21 replace them with a 42-inch diameter pipeline.

22 The next segment runs from the existing M&R 058
23 to Manhattan. That's the green line that's represented on
24 the map. Specifically, in Staten Island, we start at that
25 M&R and the proposed alignment would run adjacent or within

1 Western Avenue. Then it turns in an easterly direction and
2 traverses down Richmond Terrace. At that point you can see
3 we've crossed the Kill Van Kull -- that's a horizontal
4 directional drill when we physically would bore underneath
5 that water body as well as the other river crossings.

6 We continue in a kind of northeasterly direction
7 through Bayonne, New Jersey, Jersey City, and ultimately
8 terminate in the facilities in Manhattan.

9 Associated with the project will be multiple
10 delivery points along that proposed pipeline. In Bayonne,
11 New Jersey we will be installing a meter and regulating
12 station to provide gas delivery to Public Service, they're
13 the local distribution company in that area. As the line
14 continues and works its way up into Jersey City, we have
15 several different locations that we're proposing a meter and
16 regulating station; that will be used to regulate the gas
17 that ultimately we would deliver to the City, to Con Ed; but
18 also at that location we would be installing a tap for a
19 future connection, again to Public Service, to provide the
20 ability for them to connect to the system.

21 In addition we also have several existing
22 compressor stations. In Hanover, New Jersey, Algonquin has
23 an existing compressor station as well as Texas Eastern;
24 they're not reflected on this map. We're going to do piping
25 modifications at those locations. We also have an existing

1 compressor station in Cromwell, Connecticut that we'll be
2 making modifications.

3 In addition, we will be building new meter and
4 regulating stations at existing interconnects. One of them
5 will be in Mahwah, New Jersey; the other in Ramapo, New
6 York, and then in Hanover, New Jersey at those existing
7 compressor stations, we'll be installing meter and
8 regulating facilities there.

9 Then we also will be modifying existing meter
10 stations along the route of the proposed 42-inch pipeline
11 that again traverses from Linden to M&R 058 in Staten
12 Island.

13 What I'd like to do is briefly touch on some
14 milestone dates of our project schedule. What we have
15 planned is, previously in the month of May we filed with the
16 FERC draft resource reports 1 and 10, as well as some
17 mapping. What we plan on doing in the month of September,
18 we will be filing supplemental resource reports that reflect
19 updates related to the project as well as additional mapping
20 to support the proposed project.

21 Then what our plans are, is to make a formal
22 application to the FERC the latter part of this year. We
23 would move forward and file the remaining other federal,
24 state and local permits in December of this year as well as
25 first quarter of next year. We're anticipating second

1 quarter of 2011 that the draft EIS would be issued. We're
2 anticipating the third quarter of 2011 the final EIS issue
3 by FERC. And we're anticipating that the certificate --
4 again, assuming the project moves forward and gets
5 certificated, we would get that in the fourth quarter of
6 2011. We would then continue to receive the balance of
7 those other federal and state local permits.

8 Fourth quarter of 2011, first quarter of 2012,
9 then we would move forward, doing construction in 2012 and
10 2013, putting the pipeline facilities in service winter of
11 2013.

12 What I want to point out is, that doesn't mean
13 that construction in one area is going to progress over a
14 two year period of time. The overall project will take two
15 years, discrete areas will be substantially less than that.

16 What I'd like to do is, before I talk a little
17 bit about the project benefits, we've had a variety of --
18 we've had an informal open house here in Staten Island,
19 we've met with a variety of different associations, we had a
20 formal open house roughly about a month ago and again
21 continue to have dialogue with key stakeholders, the towns,
22 the folks that live along Richmond Terrace and that proposed
23 alignment.

24 What we had indicated in our resource reports in
25 May that we were looking at an alternative crossing of the

1 Kill Van Kull, and we're continuing to look at that and
2 further refining that. What I'd like to do is talk about
3 that, because what we are doing is we are looking at an
4 alternative crossing of the Kill Van Kull that would
5 substantially eliminate the amount of pipe going down
6 Richmond Terrace; and again, a lot of things we've heard is
7 the concerns and the impacts along that roadway.

8 What we would do is continue going down Western
9 Avenue, which you see there. [Indicated by laser pointer]

10 Then what we would do is we would go down
11 Richmond Terrace, but only about 1,000 feet or so, and then
12 we would immediately change directions of the pipe and go in
13 a northerly direction. If you're familiar with the area,
14 that's an existing DOT facility that's there that does
15 maintenance, paints signs and so forth. What we're
16 proposing is looking at setting up a horizontal directional
17 drill and the equipment just to the north of that, and then
18 we would do a longer directional drill across the Kill Van
19 Kull and making landfall into Bayonne, New Jersey. What
20 that means is a portion of the alignment may go onto
21 Shooters Island. But what we're talking about is a longer
22 directional drill.

23 What we're doing is doing the engineering and
24 evaluation on that. We're in the process of working through
25 the permitting process to do geotechnical borings.

1 So again I wanted to pointed that out and some of
2 the things that we've heard to date. I'd like to do is touch
3 on project benefits. The first part is jobs. There will be
4 direct and indirect jobs associated with this project,
5 starting in '09 when we initially kicked off the project.
6 That will continue through 2014, probably through the summer
7 or fall, because we'll be doing residual work on the
8 project.

9 The utilization of local services. We've used to
10 date roughly about 30 New York establishments on the
11 project. We're going to continue to do that as the project
12 continues to evolve and move forward.

13 Taxes. The company will pay taxes on an annual
14 basis through the various cities that we're proposing the
15 project. The other is natural gas splicing tax. There will
16 be significant energy cost savings for natural gas and the
17 electric consumers in New Jersey and New York. The other is
18 reliability and diversity of the natural gas supply that's
19 going to be available to New Jersey and the New York region.
20 Gas will come into the system from a variety of areas
21 throughout North America.

22 The other part is infrastructure enhancement.
23 What that's going to do is provide some opportunities in
24 enhancement for the local distribution companies. Here in
25 Staten Island that's National Grid. In the New Jersey area,

1 Jersey City, we're talking about Public Service.

2 The other is it supports the state in local
3 government energy goals. What we're talking about is New
4 Jersey and New York State as well as New York City energy
5 plans.

6 And the last part is clean air. You know,
7 geographically there's a substantial benefit with the
8 project, and what you're looking at is the equivalent
9 emissions of reducing one million vehicles off the public
10 roadways with this project.

11 In closing, we were here earlier before the
12 meeting with mapping and so forth; at the close of the
13 meeting we'll still be here with our representatives to
14 further address any other comments and so forth that
15 individuals may have.

16 So again, thank you tonight, and we look forward
17 to your comments.

18 MS. HARRIS: Thank you, Ed. After the formal
19 meeting is adjourned, representatives from Texas
20 Eastern/Algonquin will be available with project maps to
21 answer your questions about the project.

22 We will now move into the part of the meeting
23 where we will hear the comments from the audience. As I
24 mentioned before, if you'd rather not speak, you may hand in
25 written comments tonight, or send them to the Secretary of

1 the Commission by following the procedures outlined in the
2 NOI. Whether you verbally provide your comments or mail
3 them in, they will be equally considered by FERC.

4 This meeting is being recorded by a transcription
5 service, so all of your comments will be transcribed and
6 placed into the public record. For the benefit of all in
7 attendance, and for accuracy of the transcript, when I call
8 your name please step up to the podium and clearly state
9 your name and affiliation, if any. You might spell your
10 name to the court reporter to ensure accuracy if misspelling
11 is likely. Also, please speak directly into the microphone
12 so that you can be clearly heard by the reporter, the panel,
13 and the audience.

14 Lastly, before we start, as a courtesy to our
15 speakers and the rest of the audience, please turn off or
16 silence your cell phones and pagers. Thank you.

17 We're now ready to call our first speaker.

18 Carmen Cognaetta.

19 MR. COGNETTA: Hi, good evening. My name is
20 Carmen Cognaetta [spelling], and I represent Congressman
21 Michael McMahon.

22 Thank you for coming out tonight to Staten
23 Island. As I explained off the record, there are a number
24 of things happening tonight; the congressman had to be in
25 Brooklyn for some events, that's why I'm here, and due to

1 some unfortunate hate crimes that have occurred in this
2 neighborhood, there was a major news conference with all the
3 elected officials at 5 o'clock, which is probably still
4 going on, some pieces of it involving the City Council
5 speaker and every other elected official or representative
6 on Staten Island and most of the clergy.

7 In addition to that, another unfortunate incident
8 where a mother killed her children and burned the house
9 down, the funeral for that family is tonight. So again, a
10 number of representatives of this community -- it happened
11 in this community -- are at that event.

12 And lastly, it's the Night Out Against Crime,
13 which is a major event in New York City where every borough
14 has a major event involving the Night Out Against Crime
15 program.

16 So unfortunately, that may have limited the
17 number of speakers tonight. I did speak with Councilwoman
18 Rose, who was spearheading, has spearheaded and worked
19 continuously over the last two weeks on the problem with the
20 hate crimes in our area, and she was running the press
21 conference tonight, and she expressed regret that this was
22 happening at the same time; and I told her that there would
23 be other opportunities for comment. But she wanted to make
24 sure that you knew that she was not here because she didn't
25 want to be involved. But she will produce comments, and at

1 future meetings have herself and other members of the
2 community there to express their opinions.

3 So it's just an unfortunate coincidence with both
4 of these things happening.

5 On the issue, the Congressman has sent written
6 comments to FERC by letter dated June 23rd, so I am not
7 going to read that letter, but I just want to summarize the
8 three environmental issues that he brought up and that we're
9 concerned with, as this is a scoping meeting for the EIS;
10 and that he was number one concerned that he wanted to make
11 sure that you looked into the environmental impact that this
12 pipeline will have on the residents of Richmond Terrace and
13 that area.

14 Number two, he was very concerned about the
15 environmental impact this will have on Arlington Marsh.
16 This area is one of the largest fresh water marshes left in
17 New York City; in fact, the largest and the largest cove,
18 natural marsh cove; it's the only one that's left in New
19 York City. And so whatever action is going to be taken,
20 he's very concerned that we look at the total impact on the
21 Arlington Marsh.

22 Third, he was very concerned as to what
23 environmental impact the construction will have on this
24 community. Richmond Terrace and Western Avenue are two of
25 the most heavily trucked traffic and other business roads on

1 Staten Island; and if for any reason those trucks have to be
2 diverted into the residential community, it would wreak
3 havoc on those communities. So there has to be a plan to
4 keep those trucks from the container port, of which on a
5 given week when the container ships come in, there are
6 thousands of trucks that leave that port, many going down
7 Richmond Terrace. In addition you have many businesses on
8 Richmond Terrace, which will have many, many trucks coming
9 in and out of those businesses.

10 So that talks about those three environmental
11 concerns. Generally, the Congressman is in favor of
12 expanded use of natural gas so that we can lower our
13 dependence on foreign fossil fuels that come from foreign
14 countries. And although this project doesn't have an
15 immediate benefit to Staten Island -- it may in the future --
16 - he is generally in favor of those projects. But he wants
17 to make sure, ensure that we're not picking the cheapest
18 route, the easiest route that will have environmental
19 impacts. So we want the route to be the route that has the
20 least environmental impact on the citizens, on the
21 community, and on the marsh and the environmental areas in
22 that area. So if it costs a little extra money to go
23 another way, that should be the way that should be selected.

24 I am happy to hear that Texas Eastern is
25 considering the Shooters Island option where they would

1 avoid most of Richmond Terrace, and go directly to Bayonne.
2 We think that's a positive step and hopefully that's looked
3 at in great detail.

4 So once again, thanks for coming out to Staten
5 Island; it's unfortunate that there were so many things
6 going on tonight, nothing that you could have planned or
7 known about; all of these things basically happened in the
8 last couple of weeks, and we look forward to you coming back
9 again. Thank you.

10 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

11 I do not have anyone else on the speakers list.
12 Would anyone else like to speak? If so, please step
13 forward.

14 Please state your name and spell it.

15 MS. THURMAN: Beryl Thurman, [spelling]. I'm the
16 President and Executive Director of the North Shore
17 Waterfront Conservancy of Staten Island.

18 We have already submitted our comments into your
19 agency in regards to the expansion of this pipeline, and I
20 would like to reiterate that you agree with what Mr. Carmen
21 Cognetta has said in terms of the environmental impacts to
22 the community as well as to Arlington Marsh; but I would
23 also like to add Shooters Island onto that, because Shooters
24 Island is a natural bird preserve. And for the very longest
25 time, various organizations have been protecting it because

1 it is a natural preserve.

2 The North Shore of Staten Island has very few
3 natural places, and therefore what limited resources we have
4 in terms of our environment and our natural environment, we
5 need to protect.

6 I do understand that people are saying that at
7 some point in time the natural gas pipeline will benefit
8 Staten Island, but I cannot tell you how many times
9 proposals have been made with the promises of at some point
10 in time it will benefit Staten Island that we have not seen
11 in our lifetime.

12 So with this in mind, we understand that natural
13 gas is supposed to be greener, that it is supposed to be
14 safer than coal and oil, but we want to see proof, actual
15 proof that these will not become a negative impact to our
16 communities anymore than what already has occurred.

17 These are environmental justice communities, and
18 I don't know whether or not your agency has environmental
19 justice in its policies, procedures and in its governing,
20 but that's something that should be part of what it is that
21 you do in your operations. Just so that these communities
22 are made sure to be protected, because they are the most
23 vulnerable of Staten Island's population. This is your low
24 income, these are your communities of color, these are the
25 communities that have been overburdened with environmental

1 injustices for years, 150 years to be exact.

2 We also provided you with our environmental
3 justice booklet for your review. We hope you take the time
4 to look at it and to take into account the cumulative
5 impacts that these communities are dealing with already.
6 Thank you.

7 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

8 And in response, we will be addressing
9 environmental justice in the environmental impact statement.

10 Would anyone else like to speak?

11 Please say your name and spell it.

12 MS. OGBURN: It's Clara S. Ogburn [spelling].

13 I have been a resident of this community for all
14 of my life. I currently live in the St. George area, but my
15 vested interest and concerns and commitments about the
16 community are still here. I come on behalf of Fellowship
17 Baptist Church tonight because a lot of the members did not
18 have an opportunity to get to the Hilton and register, so
19 they could have gotten a notice about tonight's event. And
20 there's a Baptist convention out of town which our pastor,
21 Reverend Alfredo Archibald, is currently attending with some
22 of our officers.

23 As you probably have on record from the meeting
24 at the Hilton, besides our general concern for the community
25 at large, is the fact that our church would be totally

1 uprooted and we would have no place of worship during the
2 time that all of this construction would be going on. We're
3 extremely concerned about that because we also had a
4 learning center or learning school affiliated with it, in
5 which it's open five days a week and it has children and
6 their parents coming to and fro to try and pick them up.

7 There was some recent construction on Lockman
8 Avenue, which I understand was a benevolent move generated
9 by Spectra, that the church had been trying to get repaired,
10 the sewer and et cetera for many years, and that hadn't
11 happened.

12 Now I personally have a problem when it seems
13 that only certain things to benefit the community come about
14 when there seems to be a larger motive involved in terms of
15 projects that are underway, either on a city/state or any
16 other level, for that amount of fact.

17 The streets along Richmond Terrace, as you
18 probably know by now, have usually been in terrible
19 condition because of the heavy trafficking that's gone on
20 along there. It's just recently that portions of it have
21 been repaired enough so it really is a safe route for the
22 average person to travel in in terms of their car, if
23 they're not traveling in a large vehicle.

24 The children, when they come into the learning
25 center, they only have access to the playground area across

1 the street from the church. Now that would be totally
2 removed and impossible if this project were to get underway.

3 Overall, we wish Spectra the very best in terms
4 of whomever they're trying to service, but we don't feel
5 that this community on Staten Island, on North Shore or any
6 other part, really needs it at this point in time. At one
7 time I understood that there was some investigation going on
8 about alternate routes through the waterway or something,
9 but because of underground dredging or whatever, some
10 technicality, seemed to bring this project back on line in
11 the area that it's in.

12 I hope that you will continue looking for an
13 alternate route off of Staten Island to go wherever it is,
14 for the safety of the community at large and for us in terms
15 of trying to not be uprooted from our places of worship.
16 Thank you.

17 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

18 Would anyone else like to speak?

19 (No response.)

20 Well, if no one else would like to speak, I will
21 quickly mention the FERC website. Within our website
22 there's a link called eLibrary. If you type in the Docket
23 No. PF10-17, you can use eLibrary to gain access to
24 everything on the record concerning this project, as well as
25 all the filings and information submitted by Texas Eastern

1 and Algonquin.

2 A link called eSubscription is also available for
3 you to sign up using an e-mail address to receive e-mails
4 each time a document is filed into the PF17-10 docket.

5 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
6 Commission, I want to thank you for coming out tonight.
7 This meeting is adjourned. We'll also be here to answer any
8 questions that you have, off the record.

9 (Whereupon, at 7:55 p.m., the scoping meeting
10 adjourned.)

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