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3 FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

4 SCOPING MEETING

5 PROJECT NAME: MINISINK COMPRESSOR PROJECT

6 COMPANY NAME: MILLENNIUM PIPELINE COMPANY, LLC

7 (CP11-515)

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11

12 Tuesday,

13 September 6, 2011

14 7:06 p.m.

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18 MINUTES of the SCOPING MEETING

19 taken in the above-captioned matter, held at  
20 Minisink Town Hall, 20 Roy Smith Drive, Westtown,  
21 New York, before a Shorthand Reporter and Notary  
22 Public of the State of New York.

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B E F O R E:

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS  
888 First Street, N.E.  
Washington, DC 20426

PRESENT: KAREEM MONIB  
J. RICH McGUIRE  
CHRISTINE ALLEN

oOo

1                   MR. MONIB: Good evening. On  
2                   behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory  
3                   Commission, I want to welcome everyone to  
4                   the Public Scoping Meeting for the  
5                   Minisink Compressor Project which is  
6                   under Docket CP11-515.

7                   Let the record show that the  
8                   Minisink Compressor Project scoping  
9                   meeting began at 7:06 p.m. On September  
10                  6th, 2011.

11                  my name is Kareem Monib and I am an  
12                  Environmental Project Manager with the  
13                  Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.  
14                  I'm here along with two of my colleagues,  
15                  Rich McGuire, sitting here to my left,  
16                  and Christine Allen who you met at the  
17                  table outside in the lobby. We're also  
18                  with FERC.

19                  The primary purpose of this meeting  
20                  is to give everyone an opportunity to  
21                  provide environmental comments on  
22                  Millennium's proposed project.

23                  Millennium filed this application  
24                  with the FERC on July 14th of this year  
25                  and that formally began our review of the

1 facilities that are referred to as the  
2 Minisink Compressor Project.

3 On August 17th a Notice of Intent  
4 was mailed to landowners within a  
5 half-mile radius of the project and this  
6 Notice of Intent notifies everyone that  
7 we plan on doing an Environmental  
8 Assessment which I'll refer to as an EA,  
9 an Environmental Assessment, of the  
10 proposed Minisink Compressor Project.

11 If you do not get an NOI, if you  
12 did not get this notice in the mail, we  
13 have some extra copies with us tonight,  
14 and if you would like to be added to the  
15 mailing list for future mailings that,  
16 you know, for future issuances, there is  
17 a sign-up sheet outside that you can put  
18 your name and address on and you'll  
19 receive everything that's mailed that's  
20 related to this project.

21 I'd like to go over the agenda for  
22 today's meeting. I'm going to start out  
23 by explaining, by giving everyone a brief  
24 explanation of the FERC's process and  
25 role as it's related to this proposed

1 compressor station, then I am going to  
2 invite a representative for Millennium to  
3 give a very brief overview of the  
4 project.

5 There was an open house held here  
6 two weeks ago, so this presentation that  
7 I've invited the company to do is going  
8 to be a bit brief and they do have some  
9 boards outside with some more detailed  
10 information and, at the end of this  
11 evening's meeting there will be a  
12 representative outside that can answer  
13 detailed questions concerning the  
14 project.

15 Following Millennium's  
16 presentation, we'll then hear from those  
17 of you who have signed up to speak.  
18 There was a sign-up sheet outside and  
19 we'll listen to those who have formal  
20 comments that they would like to make on  
21 the project. If you don't want to  
22 formally make comments tonight, you can  
23 send a letter to the Commission  
24 addressing your specific concerns. The  
25 Notice of Intent, which was this document

1           which you saw on the table outside,  
2           explains how you can mail in the  
3           comments. There are also comment sheets  
4           at the sign-in table that you can fill  
5           out and you can either leave that with me  
6           tonight or you can mail it into the  
7           Commission, whatever you choose.

8                     The scoping meeting or the comment  
9           period for this project will end on  
10          September 16th, 2011, so you want to try  
11          and get all your comments to us before  
12          that date so that we can include it and  
13          respond to it in our Environmental  
14          Assessment. I also want to mention that  
15          this meeting is being recorded by a court  
16          reporter sitting over here, so we'll have  
17          an accurate record of tonight's comments  
18          and everybody's comments and everything  
19          that is said this evening will be, you  
20          know, officially entered into a docket  
21          and there will be a transcript of that.

22                    All right. Now, I'd like to  
23          provide an overview of the FERC scoping  
24          process. To illustrate how this process  
25          works, we have a flow chart which is on

1 the back side of this agenda sheet. If  
2 you don't have one, hopefully there are  
3 more copies outside. I think I printed  
4 out enough for everyone.

5 MR. McGUIRE: We're out of copies.

6 MR. MONIB: We are out of copies.  
7 Well, perhaps you can share with your  
8 neighbors sitting next to you. I'll give  
9 a brief overview now.

10 Let me talk a little bit about what  
11 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
12 does. The Federal Regulatory Commission  
13 is an independent regulatory agency. Our  
14 mission is to regulate and oversee energy  
15 industries and the economic and environ-  
16 mental interests of the American public.  
17 Among other responsibilities, the  
18 Commission regulates the interstate  
19 transmission of natural gas.

20 The Commission is made up of five  
21 members who are appointed by the  
22 President and approved by Congress. The  
23 Commission staff, which includes myself,  
24 prepares technical information to assist  
25 these Commissioners in making their

1 decisions. The proposed project which we  
2 are discussing tonight was filed under  
3 Docket Number CP11-515. CP means that  
4 this is a Certificate Proceeding before  
5 the Commission.

6 The proposed Minisink Compressor  
7 Project consists of installing a new  
8 12,260 horsepower compressor station in  
9 Orange County, New York, here in the Town  
10 of Minisink.

11 Under the National Environmental  
12 Policy Act or NEPA, Commission staff is  
13 required to perform an environmental  
14 analysis of the proposed project's  
15 potential effects on the environment. In  
16 the case of the Minisink Compressor  
17 Project we are doing this analysis in an  
18 Environmental Assessment, in other words,  
19 that's the document that we are going to  
20 issue after we've completed our study and  
21 that's going to be the official analysis  
22 of the environmental impacts of this  
23 proposed project. This document, the EA,  
24 is used to advise the Commission and  
25 describe the project facilities and

1 associated environmental impacts on a  
2 number of categories; land use, water  
3 quality, visual resources, wildlife, air  
4 quality, noise, safety, geology and  
5 soils.

6 The EA also addresses alternatives  
7 to the project. It addresses mitigation  
8 to avoid or reduce impacts and it will  
9 include our conclusions as staff and our  
10 recommendations. The Notice of Intent  
11 initiated a scoping period and opened a  
12 formal comment period, as I mentioned  
13 previously. Scoping for those of you who  
14 are not familiar is a general term for  
15 soliciting input from the public before  
16 the environmental analysis is conducted.  
17 The idea is to get information from the  
18 public as well as from agencies and other  
19 groups so that we can incorporate issues  
20 of concern into our review. The scoping  
21 period started when we issued the NOI  
22 which was on August 17th. In that Notice  
23 we described the environmental review  
24 process and the steps the FERC will take  
25 to prepare an EA.

1           When complete, our analysis of the  
2           potential impacts will be published as an  
3           EA and provided to the public for a  
4           thirty-day comment period. The EA will  
5           be mailed to all interested parties  
6           included on our mailing list. Note that  
7           because of the size of the mailing, the  
8           mailing list, the mail version of the EA  
9           is often in the form of CD. The document  
10          can be quite thick so it sometimes will  
11          be issued as a CD. This means that  
12          unless you tell us otherwise, the EA that  
13          you'll find in your mailbox will be on a  
14          CD. If you prefer to have a hard copy  
15          mailed to you, you should indicate that  
16          choice on the return mailer attached to  
17          the NOI. It's actually on the last page  
18          of this, of this document. For those of  
19          you who received this, you can indicate  
20          that you would like to see, like to  
21          receive a paper copy of the document.

22                 Again, I'll remind everyone that if  
23                 you have not received the NOI, you can be  
24                 added to our mailing list by signing up  
25                 at the sign-in table in the lobby or

1 anyone who submits comments this evening  
2 will also be added.

3 The Commission will consider the  
4 environmental information from the EA and  
5 all the public comments as well as a host  
6 of non-environmental issues like rates,  
7 cost of service, market, accounting and  
8 various economic issues. All these  
9 things will be considered in making an  
10 informed decision on whether or not to  
11 approve the project. So again this EA  
12 will not be a decision document. When  
13 the EA is complete, we'll provide the  
14 assessment and staff material on the non-  
15 environmental issues to the Commission so  
16 that they can make informed decision  
17 regarding the project.

18 If the Commission does vote to  
19 issue a certificate to Millennium, the  
20 Commission staff will monitor the project  
21 through construction and restoration,  
22 will perform on-site inspections for  
23 environmental and also perform environ-  
24 mental inspections for environmental  
25 compliance, but I want to make it clear

1 to everyone that no decision has been  
2 made regarding the proposed project at  
3 this point. We're still conducting our  
4 environmental assessment analysis and  
5 that process will take as long as we need  
6 to go before we can come to an informed  
7 decision and then that document will go  
8 to our Commissioners and ultimately they  
9 will make the final decision whether to  
10 authorize the project or not.

11 If you have additional questions  
12 about FERC, I encourage you to visit the  
13 Commission's home page on the internet,  
14 [www.FERC.gov](http://www.FERC.gov), and at this point if  
15 everyone has looked at this and heard  
16 what I've said so far, have any questions  
17 about the scoping process or the FERC  
18 role in this proceeding?

19 All right. At this point then --

20 MR. McGUIRE: While the company is  
21 going to be coming up and giving a brief  
22 presentation about their project, we --  
23 obviously, I underestimated the size of  
24 the facility we needed, a lot more  
25 interest in this project than we

1           anticipated, we apologize for that, but  
2           if we could somehow, some of you who are  
3           outside, if you could come in and you're  
4           welcome to take up this room out over  
5           here while the company is -- some of your  
6           children, if you want to have a seat up  
7           front, you're welcome to do that.  Feel  
8           free.

9                   MR. MONIB:  There are a few empty  
10           chairs here, as well.

11                   MR. McGUIRE:  There's still room.

12                   MR. MONIB:  Is that everyone?  All  
13           right, at this point I'd like to  
14           introduce Jim Forster who is going to be  
15           speaking on behalf of Millennium to  
16           discuss the proposed project.

17                   MR. FORSTER:  Thank you.  Can you  
18           hear me okay?

19                   Good evening.  My name is Jim  
20           Forster.  I'm the vice president with  
21           Hatch, Mott, MacDonald which is the  
22           engineering company working on the  
23           station on a consulting basis.

24                   While this is the first meeting, I  
25           want to take a few minutes to talk about

1 the project with you. Also with me is  
2 Ryan Collins who is a consulting  
3 attorney. Ryan passed out a one-page  
4 sheet with a few slides on it, that's  
5 what I'm talking from this evening.

6 Again, this will be very brief  
7 because we did have an open house  
8 previously with some detailed  
9 information, but following this session  
10 it will be an employee of Millennium  
11 Pipeline who will be outside with us to  
12 answer questions or discuss anything that  
13 you'd like to discuss, so right now I'm  
14 looking at the first slide. Basically it  
15 says a station will consist of two 6,100  
16 horsepower compressors. There will be  
17 two buildings on that site. Millennium  
18 is investing in premium state-of-the-art  
19 noise control including systems on both  
20 the inlet and exhaust of, and extra  
21 soundproofing in the compressor building.  
22 It is important to note that the station  
23 is expected to operate primarily in the  
24 months of December, January and February.  
25 The site is approximately seventy acres

1 of which a little, a little more than two  
2 acres will be developed and fenced.

3 Moving to the next slide then, this  
4 location maximizes the effectiveness of  
5 the technology while minimizing impact on  
6 both the environment and the community.  
7 It allows for access to deliver the  
8 actual compressors to the site, that is,  
9 the equipment to the site, surrounded by  
10 natural sound and site-line barriers in  
11 the form of untouched woods and rolling  
12 landscape. It is close to the existing  
13 easement and was available without  
14 necessitating the use of eminent domain.

15 All environment and geological  
16 consideration indicate that this site is  
17 the best in terms of developing and  
18 operating a safe and quiet station.  
19 Millennium understands and values the  
20 concerns of those living in its host  
21 communities. The station is being built  
22 with a focus on safety, the environment  
23 and working with the community.  
24 Millennium is committed to staying in  
25 active communication with community

1 members and local officials and  
2 maintaining a positive cooperative  
3 relationship.

4 If you have any questions or would  
5 like any clarifications from Millennium,  
6 you can send them to the e-mail address  
7 that's included on that flyer that we  
8 passed out there. As I mentioned, Ryan  
9 and I will be outside after your comments  
10 to FERC along with a representative from  
11 Millennium Pipeline.

12 That's all I have for now. Thank  
13 you.

14 MR. MONIB: Thank you. Does anyone  
15 have any questions about that brief  
16 overview for me as far as --

17 MR. STONICK: Can you explain where  
18 they are located? Are they local to this  
19 area? Are they consultants brought in  
20 from out of the area?

21 MR. FORSTER: I just want to say  
22 that Hatch Engineering has about some  
23 sixty some offices across the U.S. I'm  
24 personally from our Millburn, New Jersey  
25 office, an hour-and-a-half ride from

1 here.

2 MR. STONICK: You're not local to  
3 Orange County at all?

4 MR. FORSTER: Me personally, no.

5 MR. STONICK: What about the  
6 company, corporation?

7 MR. FORSTER: We have an office in  
8 Orange County, no. I mean, we can't have  
9 an office in every location that we do  
10 business.

11 MR. STONICK: Thank you.

12 MR. MONIB: I just want to say  
13 that, you know, it is a consulting firm  
14 that's hired by Millennium. There will  
15 be a representative from Millennium who  
16 can answer questions at the end of the  
17 meeting.

18 All right. Now we'll hear from  
19 those who have signed up to present  
20 comments. For the court reporter's  
21 benefit, please state your name and spell  
22 out your first and last name. If  
23 appropriate, state the agency or group  
24 that you're representing.

25 As mentioned before, if you choose

1 not to speak tonight, you can always  
2 leave written comments with me or mail  
3 your comments to the Commission. I'll  
4 repeat, that this meeting is being  
5 recorded by a transcription service, so  
6 all your comments will be transcribed and  
7 put into the public record. To help the  
8 court reporter produce an accurate record  
9 of this meeting, I ask that you please  
10 follow some basic ground rules. If you  
11 have signed up to speak, when we call  
12 your name, please come forward to the  
13 podium here, state your name and spell it  
14 for the record. It's very important that  
15 you state your name and spell it for the  
16 record. Also, identify any agency or  
17 group you're representing, and if that  
18 name includes acronyms, please spell out  
19 the full name of the agency or  
20 organization.

21 I'll also ask that everyone else in  
22 the audience respect the speakers and  
23 refrain from any audible show of  
24 agreement or disagreement, that will help  
25 us to get all your comments down and

1 allow the court reporter to hear  
2 everything that is said so they can be  
3 entered accurately into the record.

4 We have quite a few speakers  
5 tonight so, I'm going to ask if everyone  
6 can limit their comments to five minutes  
7 or less, that will help everybody's voice  
8 get heard.

9 So, with that said, I think we are  
10 ready to call our first speaker, who will  
11 be Ernie Stonick. Please come to the  
12 podium.

13 MR. STONICK: Good evening. My  
14 name is Ernie, E-R-N-I-E, Stonick,  
15 S-T-O-N-I-C-K. I represent myself and  
16 the Town of Minisink.

17 Basically as a long-term resident  
18 of the Town of Minisink I have several  
19 concerns about the Millennium Pipeline  
20 Compressor Project and I would like to  
21 have them addressed.

22 I am concerned about the rapid pace  
23 of which this is progressing. We started  
24 out with a Notice of Intent and three,  
25 four weeks later we're having a Public

1           Hearing and, you know, this looks like  
2           it's railroading right along which I find  
3           completely unacceptable for a project of  
4           this scope and this nature. Um, public  
5           information comments end on September  
6           16th which really again does not give us  
7           as a community a lot of time to gather  
8           information and facts and do the  
9           data-gathering that we need to do to be  
10          educated on this project. Numerous  
11          published web articles have already  
12          stated that this is a done deal. If you  
13          look at the various suppliers they've  
14          already enlisted Millennium's Compressor  
15          Project as a part of their ongoing  
16          operations. I find that unacceptable on  
17          multiple fronts and is in bad business  
18          practice.

19                 Is this Public Hearing, this  
20          process just a formality or is this a  
21          done deal? I would like that addressed.

22                 I personally asked for a tour of  
23          the facility, that's the one that's going  
24          to be constructed here in the Town of  
25          Minisink. We did this at the Public

1           Hearing. I asked the president, the vice  
2           president, the counsel. To date we've  
3           received no response from these guys. Is  
4           this the kind of company that we want in  
5           our neighborhood with such a volatile  
6           product in our midst?

7                     As a long-term member of the  
8           community with significant emergency  
9           management experience, I'm really  
10          concerned about the safety programs,  
11          about their emergency management plans  
12          that they have published and the lack of  
13          information that's specific to the area  
14          that's available to us.

15                    Any emergency plan is built on a  
16          hazard vulnerability analysis whereas  
17          they look at the area, they see what  
18          impacts are possible in that area ranging  
19          from natural events to terrorist events.  
20          I've seen nothing anywhere published that  
21          shows what they've done. One of the main  
22          concerns too is these two compressors  
23          come on board, they're going to be oil-  
24          cooled compressors. In research material  
25          that's used to cool a compressor shows

1           that there are extremely hazardous  
2           chemicals that can be emitted should  
3           there be an accident.  These chemicals,  
4           including benzene, toluene and  
5           formaldehyde, are all listed as possible  
6           carcinogens and extremely hazardous to  
7           health and environment.

8                         Minisink is covered by a dedicated  
9           volunteer service both in the fire  
10          service and the EMS.  There is no police  
11          force with the exception of the State  
12          Police and the Sheriffs Department.  
13          Their response times to this area at best  
14          can be very delayed on any given day.  
15          There are times when the local fire  
16          department, the local EMS are not able to  
17          respond to emergencies.  What's the  
18          backup plan that Millennium has for us in  
19          this.  If there were a major incident, we  
20          do not in this town have the capability  
21          to handle it without outside resources  
22          being that we are the rural town that  
23          this company has chosen, we don't have  
24          the access to the HAZMAT teams without  
25          delay.  That brings me a lot of concern.

1 Millennium Pipeline has been here  
2 for about three years. They ran the  
3 pipeline from Ramapo up through and  
4 basically, you know, many of us are  
5 neighbors. We are very close-knit  
6 neighbors with Millennium. They ran the  
7 pipeline right along my property. When  
8 they did this, they raised the property,  
9 they raised the ground level about three  
10 feet. They said that they would fix it  
11 when they were done returning it to the  
12 original state. Well, they did a great  
13 job in raising it, compacting it and  
14 walked away. Come to my property now, I  
15 have swamp where I used to have dry land.

16 Again, we talked to the president  
17 of the company, we talked to the vice  
18 president of the company, we talked to  
19 the chief counsel and the marketing  
20 people and they said we'll be in touch  
21 and we'll be back to you soon. That was  
22 two weeks ago. I stand here tonight with  
23 no word from them and no intention of any  
24 word from them.

25 With this said, I would suggest

1           that we put brakes on this stuff. We  
2           don't need to make a decision rapidly.  
3           There is no reason to make a decision  
4           rapidly. Let's address the concerns we  
5           have here. Let us as a community get  
6           together and get the right information,  
7           not the propaganda that we can be fed by  
8           Millennium. Give us six months and put a  
9           hiatus on it for six months and then come  
10          back. Thank you.

11                   MR. MONIB: The next speaker will  
12                   be Carolyn Petschler.

13                   MS. PETSCHLER: My name is Carolyn  
14                   Petschler. Last name is P-E-T-S-C-H-  
15                   L-E-R. I'm a mother of two young  
16                   children. I live approximately one mile  
17                   from the proposed Millennium Compression  
18                   station.

19                   MR. MONIB: Louder please.

20                   MS. PETSCHLER: My family and I are  
21                   extremely angry about the proposed  
22                   construction of the compression station  
23                   in a residential area of our town.

24                   MR. MONIB: The people in back  
25                   still can't hear you.

1 MS. PETSCHLER: My family and I are  
2 extremely angry about the proposed  
3 construction of the compression station  
4 in a residential area of our town. A  
5 compression station does not belong in a  
6 residential community. My major concerns  
7 will be the possible emissions of  
8 dangerous carcinogens and the significant  
9 decrease in property values as a result  
10 of the construction. In addition, during  
11 the short time I've been aware of the  
12 project and pursuing more information, I  
13 have the nagging feeling Millennium  
14 Pipeline is not being entirely truthful  
15 and up front regarding emissions and the  
16 future building plans for the 72 acre  
17 site.

18 I first became aware of the  
19 compression station from flyers put in  
20 the Westtown pizza place by a concerned  
21 family in the community and not from the  
22 Town of Minisink or Millennium Pipeline.  
23 The day I found out about the compression  
24 station, Millennium Pipeline happened to  
25 be hosting an open house to speak to the

1 community about the station. There I was  
2 told by Theresa Gibbons, a consultant for  
3 Millennium Pipeline, and the company's  
4 president, Joseph Shields, that notices  
5 were sent out to the residents through  
6 the mail; however, going door-to-door in  
7 Westtown I quickly discovered most  
8 members I spoke with within the half-mile  
9 and quarter mile-radius of the compressor  
10 site were still unaware of the project.

11 Millennium Pipeline is plowing  
12 through this process as fast as possible  
13 and at the expense of residents in the  
14 community. The turnout at the open house  
15 was not large most likely because hardly  
16 anyone knew about it. In addition to the  
17 poor notification, Millennium Pipeline  
18 has lied to me about the station's  
19 potential impact on the community.  
20 Theresa Gibbons told myself, Theresa told  
21 myself that there will be no air or water  
22 pollution and people are just not  
23 informed; however, after doing some  
24 research I was able to find numerous  
25 pages about the potential health hazards

1 from increased air emissions.  
2 Carmichaels, Pennsylvania and Dish, Texas  
3 are two locations that have had serious  
4 health problems with residents living  
5 close to compression stations.

6 If Millennium Pipeline truly  
7 believes the community is safe with their  
8 compressor stations constructed in  
9 residential areas of the town, they  
10 should guarantee there will be no short-  
11 or long-term negative health effects.  
12 There needs to be regularly scheduled air  
13 and water quality testing and noise meter  
14 stations placed in numerous locations  
15 within the town and all done by  
16 independent experts.

17 Millennium Pipeline should make  
18 exact emissions public and if the  
19 emissions are above predicted levels  
20 there should be severe penalties.

21 Another major concern is that  
22 Millennium Pipeline's compression station  
23 is just the beginning of a larger plan to  
24 turn Westtown into a major natural gas  
25 compression hub. The possibility of

1 additional expansion in the coming years  
2 seems inevitable. The Millennium  
3 Pipeline compression station will sit on  
4 seventy-two acres and the company only  
5 required a ten-acre lot.

6 I also found out that the Iroquois  
7 Pipeline Company, which Millennium did  
8 not inform me about, also had proposed a  
9 plan to build an additional compression  
10 station in the Town of Minisink and  
11 connect with the Millennium line. The  
12 Iroquois Pipeline compression station  
13 will be in service 2014 and will run  
14 through the Wallkill River Valley within  
15 Minisink.

16 I'm extremely concerned for the  
17 health of my family, my property value  
18 and any unforeseen consequences living  
19 one mile from an industrial complex like  
20 the one proposed. I personally feel  
21 trapped. It will be very difficult for  
22 me to sell my house and be able to move  
23 without losing a life savings.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. MONIB: I do want to say that

1           in addition to the environmental issues  
2           that Carolyn raised, we have heard about  
3           the poor notification possibility that  
4           some residents were not notified within  
5           half-mile radius and we'll definitely  
6           look into that investigating point, what  
7           happened there.

8                     Our next speaker will be Larysa,  
9           I'm sorry if I mispronounce, Dryszka.

10                    MS. DRYSZKA: My name is Larysa  
11           Dryszka. It's spelled L-A-R-Y-S-A, last  
12           name is D-R-Y-S-Z-K-A. I'm a board  
13           certified pediatrician, and until I  
14           retired from private practice I was also  
15           the Director of Pediatrics at Holy Name  
16           Hospital at Teaneck, and the residents of  
17           Jacob Road asked that I address some  
18           potential health impacts and there are  
19           several negative health impacts which  
20           have been described near compressor  
21           stations. One of them is noise which can  
22           cause Vibro-Acoustic Disease which can  
23           lead to heart disease, neurological and  
24           gastrointestinal problems, as well as  
25           psychological issues. It can interfere

1 with the ability to learn in children.  
2 For example, prolonged periods of  
3 exposure to 65 decibels can cause mental  
4 and bodily fatigue. Noise can affect the  
5 quantity and quality of sleep. It can  
6 cause permanent hearing damage. It can  
7 contribute to the development or  
8 aggravation of heart and circulatory  
9 diseases, and it can transform a person's  
10 initial annoyance into more extreme  
11 emotional responses and behavior.

12 According to the World Health  
13 Organization, noise annoyance is a global  
14 phenomenon. A definition of annoyance is  
15 "a feeling of displeasure associated with  
16 any agent or condition, known or believed  
17 by an individual or group to adversely  
18 affect them," and people have a variety  
19 of negative emotions when exposed to  
20 community noise and they may report  
21 anger, disappointment, dissatisfaction,  
22 in other words, psychological issues that  
23 can impact the community. Social  
24 withdrawal and general overt everyday  
25 behavior patterns can be changed like you

1           have to close windows, you don't go out  
2           on your balcony, you turn your TV and  
3           radio to louder levels, children have to  
4           turn up the things they put in their  
5           ears, and anyway, World Health  
6           Organization also reports, "a large  
7           proportion of low-frequency components,"  
8           and that's one of the concerns with  
9           compressor stations, they can adversely  
10          and considerably affect human health and,  
11          what are the some of the affects of low  
12          frequency noise? Unfortunately, many of  
13          the health effects of noise due to oil  
14          and gas operations have not been  
15          scientifically documented. That lack of  
16          scientific study doesn't mean, however,  
17          that noise issues related to gas and oil  
18          are insignificant, but loud short-term  
19          noises from flaring and loud or low, the  
20          loud low-frequency noise from compressors  
21          are very common complaints and I have a  
22          link to that you can actually click on  
23          and you can actually hear the sound of  
24          compressor station and it's a rumble.  
25          It's a very, very low-frequency noise

1           that is very, very irritating.

2                       For people who live in rural areas,  
3           arrival of a new industrial noise source  
4           can greatly disturb the natural environ-  
5           mental soundscape. They often complain  
6           about noise levels associated especially  
7           with the gas compressors. The noise  
8           level varies with the size of the  
9           compressor and this is a pretty sizable  
10          one and distance from the compressor and  
11          it changes with shifts in wind, a  
12          direction and intensity.

13                      Depending on that wind direction,  
14          the roar can be heard three to five miles  
15          from the site. Near the compressor  
16          station, people need to shout to make  
17          themselves heard over the sound of the  
18          engines. One Wyoming landowner has  
19          described compressor noise in this way:  
20          Now comes the second phase. The dreadful  
21          noise generated by a nearby large  
22          compressor station. Noise was so loud  
23          that her dog was too frightened to go  
24          outside to do his business without a lot  
25          of coaxing. Noise that sounds like a jet

1 plane circling over your house for  
2 twenty-four hours a day. Noise that is  
3 constant. Noise that drives people to  
4 the breaking point. My neighbor called  
5 the sheriff, state officials and even the  
6 governor and was told nothing could be  
7 done about the noise. Like I said, the  
8 noise drives people to the breaking  
9 point.

10 So how loud is compressor noise?  
11 We didn't really hear how many decibels  
12 this one is going to be, but, um, a  
13 typical compressor station gives off  
14 about 50 decibels at about three hundred  
15 seventy-five feet from the property  
16 boundary. The Bureau of Land Management  
17 published different numbers and they've  
18 done a lot of drilling out west where the  
19 land is managed by Bureau of Land  
20 Management. At fifty feet from the  
21 source, the measured noise levels were 89  
22 decibels, so it's like an earthquake, for  
23 every ten points it's doubled. So from  
24 sixty to seventy it's actually doubled  
25 what it was. At eighty it's triple.

1           It's -- it's exponential logarithmic  
2           expansion.

3                        So, nighttime typical noise is 35  
4           decibels and occasionally lower in a  
5           rural area, so that's what you would aim  
6           for, but 45 has been accepted and 45 has  
7           been achieved in several places where  
8           they've made regulations, noise  
9           regulations. That's what the World Bank  
10          recommends, Alberta, Canada, Sacramento  
11          County in California, City of Long Beach,  
12          California. They have there too and  
13          they've all been able to achieve 45  
14          decibels, so that would be a recommenda-  
15          tion, um, and it's not cost prohibitive  
16          to achieve 45 decibels at three-hundred  
17          feet from the noise source and that's how  
18          it should be measured, from noise source  
19          to three hundred fifty feet out and not  
20          to, you know, going to somebody's house  
21          and saying, well, you know, this is what  
22          the noise source is.

23                        The noise from compressors can be  
24           mitigated and most effectively done by  
25           treating each significant noise source,

1           like the gas turbines, engines, the  
2           actual compressors. There are many parts  
3           to this. It's not just -- and they also  
4           do this thing called blowing, you know,  
5           blow-out and, um, those emit a very  
6           sharp, heavy, um, intensity noise so  
7           those are the kinds of things you could  
8           ask to be forewarned about before that  
9           noise release is done.

10                    Accidents were briefly covered by  
11           the previous, two speakers ago. If  
12           you -- if you look there have been  
13           thousands of accidents at pipelines, and  
14           so safety and, you know, especially  
15           safety is a very big issue along pipeline  
16           explosions but also the release of  
17           chemicals.

18                    So, air pollution. What do  
19           compressor stations emit? Nitrogen  
20           oxides, carbon monoxide, volatile organic  
21           compounds which include the benzene,  
22           toluene, xylene, methyl benzene,  
23           trimethyl benzene. Those are all  
24           carcinogens and toxins, formaldehyde and  
25           particulate matter, very small particles

1           and sulphur dioxide, highly toxic. I  
2           won't go into all of those chemicals  
3           because it's going to be too time-  
4           consuming, but just to -- it's in your  
5           paper. There have been studies. It's  
6           not -- this is not new. There have been  
7           health studies in Dish, Texas and also in  
8           Wyoming on compressor stations and what  
9           the associated health effects are  
10          reported by, for example, Dish. This is  
11          what you don't want to hear is another  
12          Dish community. What do people there  
13          experience? Nasal irritations, throat  
14          irritations, burning eyes, nausea,  
15          allergy, sinus problems, bronchitis,  
16          cough, weakness, ringing in the ears,  
17          ulcers, infections, depression, decreased  
18          motor skills, falling, amnesia, anxiety,  
19          very long list.

20                 Children are especially vulnerable  
21          to air pollution because their lungs  
22          continue to grow and enlarge until about  
23          age eighteen, plus they breathe faster  
24          and they're closer to the ground. As  
25          they mature in the presence of ozone,

1           alveolar production is reduced, and the  
2           result of chronic ozone exposure can be  
3           brittle lungs like those of an elderly  
4           adult.

5                     Air pollution has been associated  
6           with neurodevelopmental disorders, lower  
7           IQ in babies born to mothers with  
8           polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon exposure  
9           during pregnancy and learning disorders  
10          in exposed children, and this just came  
11          out from the Pediatric Environmental  
12          Health Specialties Units which is a  
13          federally-funded group of units, twelve  
14          of them in all across the United States,  
15          and whose mission it is to provide care  
16          and advocacy on behalf of children's  
17          environment and they just issued  
18          guidelines for parents and also for  
19          health practitioners and they're very  
20          concerned that health research on oil and  
21          gas production is inadequate, and I  
22          totally agree with that and we do need to  
23          do more. Water contamination, air  
24          pollution, noise pollution, and their  
25          recommendations are to continue

1 surveillance of water quality, noise  
2 levels and air pollution in areas where  
3 natural gas extraction and hydro-fracking  
4 sites are located near communities, to  
5 monitor health impacts. None of these  
6 sorts of things have been done, so the  
7 suggestion is, one of the ways to  
8 approach this, as you mentioned, there is  
9 this whole proposal, scoping, this whole  
10 Environmental Assessment, is subject to  
11 the National Environmental Policy Act so  
12 consideration is usually for environ-  
13 mental impacts so what I would suggest  
14 strongly is to include health impacts,  
15 and this is not unknown for NEPA  
16 especially in a situation where  
17 implementation of an action may have  
18 substantial or irreversible health  
19 impacts. The environmental impact study  
20 should include a health impact assessment  
21 not only to inform the decision-maker of  
22 the health implications of the proposed  
23 action before it starts, but also to  
24 assist effective communities and health  
25 care providers and institutions in

1           dealing with the health care consequences  
2           if the action is approved and proceeds,  
3           so first you'll have an informed  
4           community, you'll have a community that  
5           can, it's an open transparent system of  
6           information-gathering so the health  
7           impact assessment is done with state  
8           holders and input from all aspects of the  
9           community, not just physicians, not just  
10          industry, but everybody, and then the  
11          decision can be made whether or not to  
12          proceed with this, so it's not just the  
13          Environmental Assessment that's  
14          important, but the health impact  
15          assessment that's equally important for  
16          your health and the health of your  
17          children. So, there is a great concern  
18          among doctors, and you also need to  
19          consider the potential of cumulative  
20          impacts and as the previous speaker  
21          mentioned, there is a proposal for this  
22          New York MARC Iroquois pipeline. They  
23          have this on their website and that's  
24          something that I've been looking at for  
25          quite a long time and then this

1 Millennium Pipeline just kind of came up,  
2 so I thought that this was the compressor  
3 station, the Millennium Pipeline  
4 compressor was the one that is actually  
5 being proposed. It's not, in fact, this  
6 one is still on, on the site, it's not  
7 going to be built until 2012 to 2014, so  
8 are they going to expand this one? Is  
9 this going to be a station where there's  
10 going to be additional compressors? Are  
11 they going to use this property for the  
12 placement of additional compressors?  
13 That needs to be determined before, you  
14 know, part of the Environmental  
15 Assessment.

16 So in medicine we follow the  
17 precautionary principle which says that  
18 unless you can be certain that something  
19 is safe you shouldn't go forward with it,  
20 and I would just suggest that this be  
21 done in this case too.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. MONIB: Thank you. Those are  
24 good points that, you know, definitely  
25 will be looking at. I did not know about

1           what you brought up at the end and we  
2           will be including that now in our  
3           cumulative. Thank you for letting us  
4           know about that.

5                     Our next speaker will be Mike  
6           Mojica or Mojica. Mike Mojica.

7                     MR. MOJICA: Hello, my name is  
8           Michael Mojica. I'm a resident here of  
9           Jacobs Road for about eleven and a half  
10          years and I don't want to bore you too  
11          much. I think I just mention a few items  
12          that maybe you'll want to comment on  
13          later either in e-comments or maybe be  
14          brave enough to stand up, this way I  
15          won't have late clean-up.

16                    I think there are a few major  
17          bullet points that we would like the FERC  
18          to consider, and one is, main one would  
19          be the health impact studies, and I think  
20          the doctor just spoke a lot about that.

21                    Where are the peer review studies  
22          on this? There is no -- that the fact  
23          that there's no actual impacts on  
24          residents, on livestock, on crops, on air  
25          pollution, is there any peer review

1 studies? If there are, we would like to  
2 see them because we don't see them  
3 anywhere. There should be an independent  
4 consulting firm paid for by Millennium  
5 maybe chosen by the residents or with  
6 FERC, whereby they actually perform these  
7 studies. It's not that we don't trust  
8 them, but it's good to verify.

9 I think we spoke about the  
10 emergency management plan. I think one  
11 issue that a lot of people are having, I  
12 think, is that it seems that a lot of  
13 people have not received any notification  
14 from Millennium and I wonder if people  
15 raise their hands, who received, who  
16 actually received notification in time  
17 and who didn't? So, I think most --  
18 Pramilla is going to speak, by putting  
19 petitions out there at the deli and  
20 people actually seen it for the first  
21 time. I knew about it and even I didn't  
22 even know about some of the, you know,  
23 expiration dates, some of the due dates,  
24 she actually told me and I was wondering  
25 why I didn't know, so I think, I think

1           because of that reason and probably a few  
2           others there seems to be inadequate  
3           communication. People have not had the  
4           time to actually find out about this and  
5           even with, just with the petitions that  
6           have gone around and a few of the  
7           notifications, you can see there is a lot  
8           of people, there is even some people  
9           outside, so I think there is a big  
10          interest in this and I think for that  
11          reason the FERC should consider post-  
12          poning any decision or any assessment  
13          that they are going to make and push it  
14          out minimum six months, I would think, to  
15          give people time to actually investigate  
16          these things on their own, to see if  
17          these things are true, what's good,  
18          what's bad. The property is still going  
19          to be there, I would think, if it's that  
20          important because once Millennium gets in  
21          there, they won't be leaving, right, say  
22          twenty years, it's for life. So once  
23          you're in, we can't get them out, so if  
24          we don't do it now and take the time to  
25          actually slow this down a little bit and

1           actually give people an opportunity to  
2           actually investigate and assess the  
3           situation and speak their mind, we won't  
4           have that later. This is it. And as you  
5           said you have what? The 16th? That's  
6           next week, ten days, for this to sort of  
7           shut down and you guys continue. I don't  
8           think that's -- that's enough time,  
9           that's fair to the people here of  
10          Minisink at all.

11                 There is also another issue that --  
12          that hasn't been raised. I didn't really  
13          want to raise it, it gets kind of murky,  
14          but just, you know, just to be on the  
15          up-and-up, so to speak, if we can speak  
16          plainly, the land is owned by one of the  
17          board members of the town, and I'm just  
18          wondering, and I'm not making any  
19          accusations because I don't know, but I  
20          think it would just be good to find out  
21          if there is any sort of conflict of  
22          interest there because, you know, there  
23          are zoning issues. There is other voting  
24          issues that the Town Board can make, and  
25          if you sort of sit here and you also own

1 the land, you know, I'm just wondering if  
2 there is any kind of conflict of  
3 interest. I'm not bringing any up  
4 because I don't know, but I would just  
5 say, I mean, if we got the notification  
6 from Millennium in July, I don't know, I  
7 really don't know, but if we have, we  
8 received notification July, I think it  
9 was 17th, something like that, actually  
10 the way I found out was through a Times  
11 Herald reporter that came around and I  
12 was sort of shooing him away. I get  
13 stuff on the internet. I'm not buying  
14 anything, and so he said, no, he showed  
15 me the map and I said, what is this  
16 about, so I think a week or two after  
17 that is when I actually received  
18 notification, so apparently this was --  
19 this was -- has been in the works and I  
20 would think that this has been in the  
21 works at least a year or two. I don't  
22 think they, someone just came up in the  
23 last month and say, hey, let's make a  
24 plan, this has been going on for a while  
25 which makes me think, you know, you just

1           can't plan for a site unless you have a  
2           site. You can sort of plan certain  
3           things in general; right? So, it seems  
4           to me that other people knew and we  
5           didn't know and why the Town was not  
6           informed and why only half a mile even  
7           though not everyone in the half mile  
8           actually received it, received  
9           notification, I think the Town at the  
10          very least should have said something and  
11          say, hey, there is something going on  
12          here, you guys may want to know. So, I  
13          think all of a sudden we're all here and  
14          saying what is going on, and there is a  
15          lot of people still that don't know, you  
16          know. I don't know a lot of people in  
17          the Town even though I've been around for  
18          eleven and a half years, but you sort of  
19          see people looking at the petition and  
20          sort of look puzzled, they don't know  
21          what's going on, like it's the first time  
22          they seen it or maybe they heard  
23          something. Same thing with the Columbia  
24          gas pipeline, I guess. You know, I guess  
25          proposals come into Minisink, you know,

1           where this has been going on for a while,  
2           at least a year or two minimum, so why  
3           weren't we notified? I mean, we live  
4           here. I mean, we don't even get gas.  
5           I'm not -- I'm not saying I want free  
6           gas. I'm not looking for a hand-out,  
7           that's not, but what are we getting out  
8           of this, first of all? Is there any  
9           benefit to the community? We want to  
10          speak on that, then what about this tax  
11          in lieu? What is the Town getting out of  
12          it, because I think it's some sort of  
13          pilot program, quote on quote, which we  
14          all know is code for, once you're in, you  
15          never get out, I mean, you're in, that's  
16          it, so when it comes to, for instance,  
17          maybe need to bulk up on traffic, on, you  
18          know, firefighter services, on our  
19          troopers, first responders. Who is going  
20          to pay for all that, you know? I guess,  
21          you can sort of guarantee that nothing is  
22          going to happen, but who can say, hey,  
23          there is going to be an explosion, so I'm  
24          pretty sure they have some kind of a  
25          management template plan, you know, they

1           probably use everywhere, but where is the  
2           specific one done for this environment  
3           and is it done by independent third  
4           party? That I don't want to say the Town  
5           at this point because maybe the residents  
6           can get together and actually say, yeah,  
7           we want that group and you pay for it,  
8           Millennium, so that we can be, you know,  
9           represented.

10                   A few other points, also I'll  
11           submit this in the e-comments, what about  
12           air quality monitors? I mean, if we have  
13           some, I'm not sure we do, but if we could  
14           do, I think we do, but if we do, don't we  
15           need more now, don't we need an upgrade  
16           due to the gas compressors? I think we  
17           heard last time in the last meeting that  
18           it wasn't going to put out any pollution.  
19           Then what are the stacks for? I mean, do  
20           they take care of the whole thing? That  
21           doesn't make any sense to me, and if  
22           there is a cost, it shouldn't be picked  
23           up by the Town, it should be picked up by  
24           Millennium and not just the first time or  
25           second time, but on a regular basis.

1           They should own that. They should pay  
2           for that and we should have a third party  
3           that actually, that's not connected to  
4           them, actually deal with it because I  
5           think you explained to me last time that  
6           the assessments that you received are  
7           from Millennium, so there is no, you  
8           know, independent third party. It's what  
9           they give you, right, to actually assess  
10          so how are we represented in all that,  
11          how can we trust that, you know. If a  
12          company works -- I'm not against big, you  
13          know, corporations or whatever, I mean,  
14          I'm personally a conservative, I'm not  
15          about this big oil, gas-type stuff. I'm  
16          just wondering why here in this  
17          agricultural zone, rural area and not in  
18          another area sort of like where Orange  
19          and Rockland Utilities are, currently  
20          have substation or Columbia Gas has a, I  
21          think on 284 I think pipeline, why here,  
22          sort of in that crop area, in the  
23          cornfields so to speak, where there's  
24          families right across the street and  
25          children and people walk through there on

1 a daily basis. They jog, they walk, they  
2 ride their bike. There is kids playing  
3 up and down throwing balls, there is  
4 minimum traffic. Now there is going to  
5 be increased commercial, industrial  
6 traffic which I think is a big issue  
7 because anything can happen, you know.  
8 What if there is a spill? Who takes care  
9 of that? Um, I think it was, the  
10 gentleman spoke before on, not sort of  
11 receiving platitudes for the company, but  
12 not actually receiving any, you know,  
13 assistance, so, you know, it's not that  
14 we don't trust, but, you know, we should  
15 verify.

16 Same thing with the noise sound  
17 meters. I'm not sure we have any. One  
18 of the gentlemen spoke out because I  
19 think he thought I was going to call him  
20 out. He was there when they actually did  
21 the testing on the noise or sound levels  
22 for dB. They did it at a bus stop when  
23 there were cars coming, waiting for the  
24 bus to come and children playing and  
25 screaming and whatnot, so is that a fair

1 test? I know they didn't do it by me and  
2 right across from me there's, one of the  
3 ladies lives there, there is an echo  
4 there and I have two and a half acres, so  
5 by, you know, from the porch if someone  
6 says something at the -- from the road,  
7 they can hear me. My neighbor right here  
8 can hear me, snooping into my conversa-  
9 tions, so I can just imagine, I can only  
10 imagine, not that it's going to happen,  
11 you know, you get that sort of low hum at  
12 night or that whizzing. I know another  
13 neighbor speaks, she hears the other one.  
14 I think County Route 284 and sometimes  
15 even smells the gas and no one does  
16 anything about it. Obviously if they  
17 don't do anything about it now for sure,  
18 they won't do anything once they're in  
19 there. Why would they?

20 As far as other structures, any  
21 other new potential structures, since we  
22 didn't know about this one, what other  
23 ones are in the pipeline, so to speak,  
24 phrase, so we don't know what's coming  
25 down the pipeline or -- I said that

1           twice, we don't know what's coming down  
2           the chute, so to speak, but maybe we  
3           would like to know, maybe they don't have  
4           to tell us. I'm wondering if they would  
5           tell you what else they have proposed for  
6           that site. I mean, seventy-two, seventy-  
7           three acres. They're only taking,  
8           initially ten, then two. What are they  
9           going to do with the rest of it? Just  
10          leave it? I mean, that's a lot of acres  
11          just to leave alone.

12                 Speaking of the site, even on the  
13          map out there, they don't take into  
14          account on the map, you know, it looks  
15          nice because there is a lot of trees  
16          around, but right behind there there's  
17          Oak Hill Road and Bender Road. You don't  
18          see those new developments back there on  
19          the map, so I'm wondering where those  
20          went.

21                 There is also the potential of land  
22          contamination. If there is an issue, I  
23          think this is a big issue because at  
24          least in the area, I think most people  
25          also have well water, so our water table

1           can potentially be contaminated, and once  
2           it's contaminated what are, you know,  
3           what are we going to do, buy a lot of  
4           bottled water? You know, how is that  
5           going to work and who is going to pick up  
6           that cost? So that's a whole disruption  
7           just on our daily lives, just to that  
8           point that I just don't think it's fair  
9           to sort of just, you may not see it as a  
10          rush because maybe you just got it, but a  
11          lot of people just sort of heard about it  
12          just recently and I think if you see the  
13          comments within the last few days, people  
14          sort of, you know, putting in a lot of  
15          comments.

16                    There's obviously the pristine  
17                    rural residential area that's going to be  
18                    totally changed at night. We're going to  
19                    have to deal with the lights now.

20                    UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Like a  
21                    football stadium.

22                    MR. MOJICA: Like a mini-football  
23                    stadium, perhaps you see that glow. I  
24                    have a telescope, I'm an amateur, but  
25                    that's sort of going to be in the way

1           now, sort of glaring up the houses right  
2           across from there. I'm sort of blocked  
3           by a few trees, but I'm right there. I'm  
4           probably going to be annoyed by the  
5           humming of those lights, I mean, it's  
6           going to be on all the time. I don't  
7           know how the children are going to sleep.  
8           I guess you got to put the shades down,  
9           put another curtain on top of there  
10          because they got to have bright lights to  
11          make sure it's nice and clean, aren't any  
12          issues, so I think that's an issue and  
13          that's going to be 365, you know,  
14          twenty-four hours a day.

15                 I'll skip through some of these.

16                 The wildlife, I guess we can't  
17          force DEC to look into that, but I would  
18          think they would maybe want to have their  
19          own kind of assessment of the wildlife in  
20          the area, you know, if they are going to  
21          be impacted in any kind of way. We just  
22          don't know, because, you know, 43 million  
23          dollar gas compressor, who knows what  
24          that's going to do? Apparently perhaps  
25          maybe just water vapor, but, you know,

1           just to be safe.

2                     The Millennium safety record was  
3 mentioned. I won't say too much about  
4 that. Let somebody else do that, but I'm  
5 just wondering if they have a good  
6 neighbor policy, you know, sort of good  
7 door neighbor policy. If that's the  
8 case, then they should give us time, be a  
9 good neighbor, okay, and say, you know,  
10 you just heard about it, you know, let's  
11 slow this down and let's at least get the  
12 people at least six months minimum, six  
13 months to a year to actually investigate,  
14 do some research, maybe do, perform a few  
15 tests of our own. I don't think that's a  
16 lot to ask, especially since once they go  
17 in they won't be leaving.

18                     And then I guess the last thing  
19 just in brief is the --and these are just  
20 points for people to pick up and talk  
21 about on their own, is the home property  
22 de-evaluation. I think it's going to be  
23 probably a little hard for maybe some  
24 people to sell their homes, probably even  
25 now since this is being proposed in this,

1           you know, you have to sort of declare  
2           that or people wanting to come in with  
3           the new developments that are happening  
4           in the area and say, why would I want to  
5           be there, you know, maybe if they come  
6           during the daytime they won't see the  
7           lights and hear all the noise, fine, but  
8           maybe if they come at night, they happen  
9           to stroll by, say, hey, I was bamboozled  
10          so, um, I think for this reason and this  
11          bunch of others, but just sort to get  
12          things going, I think at the least due to  
13          the fact that people weren't notified in  
14          time, it was sort of done in the summer  
15          right after school when they know people  
16          are out there, you know, outside, on  
17          vacation, not really looking to paying  
18          attention to heavy-duty, you know,  
19          materials that come from the mail that  
20          you get all the time and then all of a  
21          sudden there's a meeting and then there's  
22          a deadline and all of a sudden there's  
23          Labor Day, this is the day after Labor  
24          Day, you know, people just come back,  
25          like what happened? Surprise, so I don't

1 think that's fair to the residents of  
2 Minisink at all, and so at least if we  
3 had an opportunity to push it out maybe,  
4 we have, I think people have an  
5 opportunity to be a little braver and  
6 actually put some comments online and  
7 stand up and actually put a stop to this.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. MONIB: Thank you, Mike. Move  
10 on to the next speaker. We have a number  
11 of people here that would like to speak,  
12 and then there may be some more people  
13 that haven't signed up that would like to  
14 speak, so I'm going to really encourage  
15 everyone to keep your comments down to  
16 five minutes just so we get out here  
17 today and not tomorrow.

18 Next speaker is Glen Slettene. All  
19 right. Are you Denise?

20 MS. SLETTENE: I'm Denise and, yes,  
21 I'm shy, I don't speak well in front of  
22 people and everybody has said everything  
23 that I've heard and I agree with that,  
24 but I think I'm just going to bring it  
25 down to a personal level.

1                   My name is Denise, D-E-N-I-S-E,  
2                   last name is Slettene, S-L-E-T-T-E-N-E.  
3                   I don't expect Millennium to watch my  
4                   back. I don't expect Millennium to care  
5                   about my property values, but I do expect  
6                   the Federal government to. I've been in  
7                   this community also for eleven and a half  
8                   years. The guy that spoke just before is  
9                   my neighbor and I do hear his conversa-  
10                  tions. I will be on my back deck and he  
11                  is four hundred feet away talking with my  
12                  husband in a normal street voice and I  
13                  can hear everything they say and some-  
14                  times that gets them in trouble, but  
15                  that's how -- how much the noise travels  
16                  in our neighborhood.

17                  We do sit back on a hill on Jacobs  
18                  Road, so maybe that's part of the reason  
19                  it does, I don't know, I don't know  
20                  acoustics, but we do hear everything that  
21                  goes on in the neighborhood.

22                  Air pollutions, I don't know how  
23                  bad it's going to be. I don't know how  
24                  good it's going to be. Millennium is  
25                  going to tell me one thing, but I will

1 tell you, my son was born two and a half  
2 months early and he came home at 2.15  
3 ounces, on oxygen and apnea monitor and  
4 still to this day has severe asthma, and  
5 the last thing I want across the street  
6 from me is this pipeline compressor  
7 station that I have no idea how it's  
8 going to affect him. We're down at  
9 Cornell Medical Center every three months  
10 for his asthma and I don't want to be  
11 down there any more.

12 The night that we -- oh, the other  
13 one too is, the map is very misleading.  
14 I did point that out the night to  
15 Millennium all the way back here and,  
16 yes, I'm shaking, there is a whole new  
17 development back there of new brand new  
18 houses. It just seems more and more  
19 misleading. Also, the night that I was  
20 here I was talking to a woman saying, you  
21 know, I went to school with the Bonacics,  
22 I wonder where Senator Bonacic stands on  
23 this, Senator Bonacic, and I turned over  
24 and, oh, my God, Denise, how are you, it  
25 was Scott Bonacic, Senator Bonacic's son,

1 he represented Millennium, so I'm not  
2 sure where he is tonight. I'm not sure  
3 what the ties are, I don't want to know,  
4 but he was representing Millennium.

5 I had spoken to you the night that  
6 we were here and you said get your  
7 politicians involved, you know, environ-  
8 mental may not be the only way to go, but  
9 it might be the only way to go because of  
10 what my neighbor Michael alluded to, what  
11 I saw that night here. You know, I just  
12 don't trust them. It's gone way too  
13 fast, our heads are spinning and I have a  
14 kid who has problems that I don't need  
15 this across the street from me, so that's  
16 it. If you can slow it down, whatever  
17 you can do to help us.

18 MR. MONIB: Pramilla Malick.

19 MS. MALICK: Hi, can you hear? My  
20 name is Pramilla Malick, M-A-L-I-C-K. I  
21 am with the Coalition to Stop Minisink  
22 Compression Project. We are an ad-hoc  
23 group of residents and I have a house on  
24 the same road as this proposed gas  
25 compression station. I am a mother of

1 four kids, aged eight to nineteen, and  
2 I'm very concerned about their health and  
3 safety and the impact of this site on my  
4 family, especially my children and of  
5 course all the other members of this  
6 community.

7 There is a growing consensus in our  
8 community that an industrial site of this  
9 magnitude does not belong in the middle  
10 of a residential area. In fact, too many  
11 of us who have looked at the health,  
12 safety and environmental risk, the idea  
13 of putting this where so many families  
14 reside and farmers farm is simply  
15 incomprehensible, and for this reason I'm  
16 herein submitting a petition. We now  
17 have more than four hundred signatures  
18 and growing every day. My petition is in  
19 my bag. I'll give that to you after-  
20 wards. Um, we now have four hundred  
21 signatures and it's growing every day,  
22 but I want to ask you, why are we here?  
23 Who came up with the idea to place it in  
24 a rural area that has never had this type  
25 of industrial activity before? Of all

1 places along Millennium's 182-mile  
2 pipeline, why Minisink, New York, so  
3 close to so many residential developments  
4 and agricultural land in the midst of New  
5 York's dairy belt?

6 We don't know the answer to that  
7 question, but for this to be a fair  
8 process, we must know the answer.

9 Of the other proposed sites this  
10 was the closest to the largest number of  
11 residential homes, yet it was preferred,  
12 and what about the huge stretch from Port  
13 Jervis to Hancock, New York in which  
14 there are no other sizable towns? Not  
15 that I wish this upon any other human  
16 being, but why Minisink? We need to  
17 probe the fact that the property owners  
18 who are under contract to sell the land  
19 to Millennium are also on our Town Board,  
20 Planning Board and Zoning Boards. Did  
21 they get privileged access to information  
22 about this proposal? Did they influence  
23 deciding choices? Was there any quid pro  
24 quo? We don't know, but it needs to be  
25 investigated. At the very least there's

1 clear conflict of interest and the owners  
2 must recuse themselves from any  
3 permitting and zoning discussions, which  
4 brings me to the issue of zoning.

5 The use for this facility is not  
6 permitted according to our local  
7 ordinances, and I cite Section 5.6.1,  
8 paragraph 1. It says, notwithstanding --  
9 The section is entitled, "Prohibited uses  
10 in all districts: Notwithstanding  
11 anything contained herein, any use which  
12 is noxious, offensive or objectionable by  
13 reason of the emissions of smoke, dust,  
14 gas odor or other form of air pollution  
15 or by reason of the creation of noise,  
16 vibration, electromagnetic or other  
17 disturbances or by reason of the  
18 illumination by artificial light or light  
19 reflection emanates or which involves any  
20 dangerous fire, explosive, radioactive or  
21 other hazard or which causes injury,  
22 annoyance or disturbance to any of the  
23 surrounding properties or to their owners  
24 and occupants, any other process used  
25 which is unwholesome and noisome and may

1 be dangerous or prejudicial to health,  
2 safety or general welfare, is  
3 prohibited."

4 So, will there be a variance  
5 sought? Our Town Board says it's not  
6 needed as this is a Federal matter, but  
7 FERC on its website says that gas  
8 compression stations must comply with all  
9 local, county and state laws, so those  
10 two assertions are incompatible, so which  
11 one is it? And if our local laws do not  
12 apply, why not, and if our local laws do  
13 apply, then where is the SEQRA review for  
14 this project?

15 And I want to talk a little bit  
16 about the lack of notification as many  
17 people have already talked about.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No  
19 notification.

20 MS. MALICK: No notification,  
21 right.

22 Um, there is growing evidence that  
23 the proposal to put a gas compression  
24 station in Minisink was underway for  
25 years, yet no residents were notified

1           until just about a month ago and then  
2           only a handful of families. My next-door  
3           neighbor did not know about this plan  
4           until two days ago, and I live on Jacobs  
5           Road, when I informed him about it. So,  
6           why is that so? Why was Millennium's  
7           open house on August 23rd, when the  
8           notice we received said the deadline to  
9           apply as an intervenor with FERC was  
10          August 17th? Should they not have had  
11          the open house before the deadline? But  
12          I think I've come to find out that that  
13          deadline may not be accurate, as many  
14          things Millennium claimed are not  
15          accurate, so I'm going to submit to you  
16          as evidence the description of the  
17          Iroquois line which is supposed to  
18          connect to the Millennium line and that  
19          describes the gas compression station at  
20          the connection point, and this was  
21          drafted in November of 2009, and based  
22          upon that project and assertions being  
23          made by that company, it seems that  
24          Minisink is slated to become a pipeline  
25          hub for gas exploration and I want to

1           come back to that a little later.  If  
2           anybody on the speaking list wants to  
3           bound their time to me?

4                     UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:  I will.

5                     UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:  I will.

6                     UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:  I will.

7                     MS. MALICK:  So, why is the  
8           timeline so important, because failure to  
9           be notified in a timely manner as people  
10          have already talked about has denied us  
11          the opportunity to be informed  
12          participants in this process and as  
13          Carolyn mentioned, I already talked about  
14          the Millennium open house being after the  
15          FERC deadline, but here we are at this  
16          public meeting.  We haven't had an  
17          opportunity to have their air and noise  
18          models prepared by Millennium sub-  
19          contractors reviewed by independent  
20          analysis and Millennium subcontractors,  
21          by the way, told me that they  
22          predominantly serve the oil and gas  
23          industry, so is there not a potential  
24          conflict of interest there, and if you  
25          think, no, there isn't, there was just

1           recently a New York Times article, I  
2           think just this past weekend about  
3           similar conflicts of environmental  
4           reviews on a statewide level, so it is,  
5           it's not a thought, there is a conflict.

6                     The other thing I want to talk  
7           about is illegal segmentation.  When  
8           Millennium applied for the approval of  
9           the pipeline several years ago, did they  
10          realize they were going to need a  
11          compressor?  Of course they did.  So why  
12          did they not submit the entire project in  
13          total when they did the FERC application  
14          for the pipeline?  Was it to minimize the  
15          overall environmental impact?  Is this a  
16          case of illegal segmentation where you  
17          break a project down into small little  
18          parts so that people cannot look at the  
19          entire overall environmental impact?

20                    It was just after they constructed  
21          the pipeline that the projection for the  
22          gas compression station were announced by  
23          Iroquois, and moreover how do we know  
24          that they're not going to expand beyond  
25          the two compressors they're proposing now

1           for the interconnecting pipelines that  
2           are being proposed would eventually need  
3           more compressors? Have they given us  
4           anything in writing that they will not  
5           expand? No, and my guess is they will  
6           not. Again, questions of illegal  
7           segmentation have to be raised.

8                         What is most important is the  
9           opportunity to have independent health,  
10          safety and environmental impact studies  
11          done. Where are the studies by health  
12          professionals that assure us this site  
13          will not endanger our health or the  
14          health of our most vulnerable, children,  
15          the elderly, the unborn, the pregnant  
16          women? Where are the long-term  
17          cumulative health risk assessments to the  
18          constant exposure to low-frequency noise,  
19          a cocktail of the OC's, hazardous air  
20          pollutants and nitrogen oxides, methane  
21          and formaldehyde, just to name a few.  
22          Though there have not been extensive  
23          studies done, there have been some  
24          alarming recent reports out of Dish,  
25          Texas which I call the future Minisink if

1           we don't do something to stop it, because  
2           like proposals for Minisink, Dish is a  
3           gas hub of nothing but compressor  
4           stations and interconnecting pipelines.  
5           I spoke to the former mayor of Dish,  
6           Texas who had to leave that town because  
7           his kids were waking up every day with  
8           nosebleeds and he said that the largest  
9           compressor station in his town was only  
10          3,000 horsepower and therefore he was  
11          very alarmed by what Millennium described  
12          as a small insignificant sized compressor  
13          station. Um, what's going on in Dish,  
14          Texas? 25 percent increase in asthma  
15          rates, increase in breast cancer and  
16          childhood leukemia, evidence of  
17          formaldehyde poisoning in children  
18          causing them to suffer nosebleeds and  
19          other respiratory problems.

20                 I'm going to quote from two studies  
21                 which I'm also going to submit as  
22                 exhibits, one is an evaluation of ambient  
23                 air monitoring analysis by Wilma Subra  
24                 and that one found the presence of high  
25                 concentration of carcinogenic and

1 neurotoxin compounds in the ambient air  
2 near and on residential properties in  
3 Dish, and the next report and that was  
4 done by an engineering firm and she is a  
5 chemist and I will give you the name of  
6 that engineering firm, Ruth Eagle  
7 Environmental did that, did the sampling  
8 and she did the analysis, okay, and then  
9 the other report which I'm going to also  
10 submit is by Al Armendariz from the  
11 Department of Environmental and Civil  
12 Engineering from -- he is from Texas, he  
13 is from Southern Methodist University of  
14 Texas, and I think that study was  
15 commissioned by the Texas Commission for  
16 Environmental Quality, I believe, okay,  
17 and that study indicates, that study  
18 indicates that the air pollution in the  
19 Barnett Shale district was three times  
20 that of the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport and  
21 the pollution levels were several times  
22 higher than what was anticipated by gas  
23 company projections, and the most  
24 alarming of the effects of these types of  
25 industrial sites was a very recent report

1 in the Denton Record Chronicle which  
2 found that breast cancer rates were on  
3 the rise in six counties in Texas while  
4 breast cancer rates statewide were  
5 declining. Now, you want to know  
6 something interesting? That these were  
7 the same six counties with the most gas  
8 production equipment according to the  
9 Texas Commission on Environmental  
10 Quality, so I want to ask you, when will  
11 the studies be done that will assess the  
12 real long-term cumulative health impacts  
13 on the residents of Minisink? Will the  
14 study when the first child gets asthma or  
15 the tenth child gets asthma, when the  
16 third mother gets breast cancer or when  
17 the fourth child gets leukemia? When,  
18 will the studies be done then? For the  
19 people in this area, that will be too  
20 late. So I urge you that we apply the  
21 precautionary principles as Dr. Dryszka  
22 has talked about and suspend the project  
23 and until thorough and extensive studies  
24 are done.

25 Thank you.



1 Forest Service today about that, um, and  
2 also, you know, I had this, this handout  
3 and I heard the gentleman say that this  
4 is going to be running primarily through  
5 the winter months, but it says right here  
6 that Neversink, that this is necessary to  
7 achieve the horsepower required to  
8 achieve 2012 volume demands, so if we are  
9 doing this to achieve volume demands,  
10 then why is this only running in winter  
11 months? So, this compressor station is  
12 here to meet those demands, it seems to  
13 me they would obviously be running all  
14 the time. This is the first time I've  
15 heard it's only running through the  
16 winter months. When the Millennium  
17 assures that there will be no water or  
18 air pollution as a result of the  
19 compressor station, please keep in mind  
20 that the oil and gas industry as a result  
21 of its massive wealth and lobbying power  
22 is largely exempt from the Federal Clean  
23 Water Act, the Clean Air Act and the Safe  
24 Drinking Water Act.

25 Theresa Gibbons, the PR representa-

1           tive for Millennium, has gone so far as  
2           to say that only water vapor will be  
3           emitted. A closer look at their  
4           application provided by Ms. Gibbons  
5           herself shows other emissions, carbon  
6           monoxide and other hazardous air  
7           pollutants including formaldehyde and  
8           benzene, a known carcinogen. This is way  
9           too fast; right? You're going to be up  
10          all night doing this, I'm sorry, and so,  
11          anyway, what I've read about the FERC is  
12          that you are not easily swayed by the  
13          adversarial health effects because  
14          they're difficult to prove and the  
15          relationship to compressor stations. I  
16          implore you to reconsider.

17                 The accounts I've read described  
18          nosebleeds, burning throats and dozens of  
19          other symptoms cannot be considered  
20          negligible or coincidental. This was  
21          assessed in the industry in the 1980s,  
22          where we'd snub our nose until the  
23          cumulative effects could no longer be  
24          denied. This particulate matter has been  
25          measured up to four miles away. Minisink

1 schools are three miles away from the  
2 station. I will skip those pages and I  
3 know that we've touched on safety, but  
4 according to a recent inspection by  
5 Federal regulators, Millennium Pipeline  
6 may be at risk of rupturing and posing a  
7 safety threat. Millennium has reduced  
8 pressure on their line lessening the risk  
9 of an explosion, but there are recent  
10 concerns that its problems may have begun  
11 by a leak spotted by workers in January.  
12 The leak resulted from a faulty well that  
13 had not passed inspection but was  
14 installed anyway. Even with the reduced  
15 pressure, even with the reduced pressure,  
16 Millennium operates at more than double  
17 the pressure of the line that exploded in  
18 San Bernadino, California killing eight  
19 people. The pipeline has leaks and  
20 faulty wells that need -- if the pipeline  
21 has leaks and faulty wells that need to  
22 be fixed, why are we rushing through a  
23 compression station that needs to speed  
24 up the natural gas through the line?  
25 Should there be an accident or explosion

1 at the compression station and, yes,  
2 there are accidents and explosions, the  
3 DOT website shows plenty of accidents,  
4 how are we going to handle this? We're  
5 equipped with volunteer firemen who I  
6 can't thank enough for your responses to  
7 my burning toaster, volunteer ambulance  
8 corps and local police, a state trooper  
9 outpost in the next town over can  
10 probably speak to how many people are  
11 normally there.

12 I read about towns who are fighting  
13 this in court. Where is our Town lawyer?  
14 Why hasn't the Board taken any legal  
15 action or enforced their own zoning laws  
16 here? Aren't there landowners that stand  
17 to profit from the land on the Town  
18 Board? I've been told that this is  
19 because of eminent domain and it's a  
20 Federal project so these laws don't apply  
21 and approvals are not necessary.

22 At first I was angry. How can a  
23 local municipality directly affected by  
24 this have their power use serving on the  
25 Board and -- well, I called the Attorney

1           General's office today. I was told that  
2           eminent domain would not apply in this  
3           situation, so why was I told that by the  
4           Town? No matter what you've been told by  
5           the Town Board which includes members who  
6           will monetarily profit from this project,  
7           the community does not support this.  
8           This is the community. So no matter what  
9           you've been told, we don't support this.  
10          We can no longer trust our officials to  
11          know, of the Town, when they stand to  
12          profit from the risk that they so  
13          carelessly burdened us with.

14                    THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry?

15                    MS. ARIAS: The attempt to deceive  
16                    the public has occurred at every step. I  
17                    implore you to set a precedent here now,  
18                    for other companies like Iroquois with  
19                    their sites also set up for additional  
20                    stations. These tactics are unacceptable  
21                    and will not win.

22                    MR. MONIB: Thank you. Next we  
23                    have Lorraine Groff.

24                    Nicholas Russo.

25                    MR. RUSSO: Hello, my name is

1           Nicholas Russo, R-U-S-S-O. I'm a  
2           resident of Jacobs Road also. It's not  
3           much more I could say here. Everybody  
4           pretty much covered everything I wanted  
5           to say, so I'm going to speak from my  
6           heart and I'm going to speak for the  
7           community. All right? I feel ashamed  
8           that I have to stand up here and stick up  
9           for what I saved all my life for, my  
10          home.

11                        UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's  
12           right, that's right.

13                        MR. RUSSO: These guys in their  
14           suits, they don't live here, we live  
15           here.

16                        UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Put it in  
17           their backyard.

18                        MR. RUSSO: We are not going to  
19           take this. All right? If it's in your  
20           yard and see if we'd be in this building  
21           fighting this.

22                        UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Does anybody  
23           live here across from the station that's  
24           already built --

25                        MR. RUSSO: Does anybody here live

1 next to the station like that? We all  
2 have kids here. I moved up from the city  
3 nine years ago to give my kids a better  
4 quality of life here and I want my town  
5 to stay the way it is. I do not want air  
6 monitors on my pole near my house. I do  
7 not want air monitors. I don't want any  
8 monitors. I don't want to know if my  
9 water is going to be contaminated. I  
10 want it the way it is, the way it is  
11 right now and that's how we all want it  
12 in this room. So, I ask you as a man and  
13 you as a man, if this was going in front  
14 of your home, what would you do? And  
15 Millennium, all you're doing is putting a  
16 smokescreen in front of all these people  
17 here because that's seventy acres, we all  
18 know what you plan to do there and we're  
19 going to fight this tooth and nail.

20 MR. MONIB: Next speaker is Janice  
21 O'Keefe.

22 MS. O'KEEFE: My name is Janice  
23 O'Keefe, J-A-N-I-C-E, O'K-E-E-F-F-E.  
24 I'm speaking because the property will  
25 be -- surrounds, the proposed property is

1           surrounded by homes with families, um,  
2           and there is a form that I picked up on  
3           my way in, it's a comment form, and if  
4           you submit it to FERC, I know that not  
5           everybody likes to speak and it will be  
6           very important that -- that everybody  
7           with a comment file this form. I --  
8           let's see. I went to the Millennium open  
9           house. I think that my primary concern  
10          was emissions, so I -- I met Theresa  
11          Gibbons, the PR rep, and I signed her  
12          pad. She said that anyone who signed her  
13          pad could get -- she would e-mail  
14          information of the -- basically the  
15          emissions data, so Friday, this past  
16          Friday I still didn't get it, so I  
17          e-mailed her about 2:00 and I said, could  
18          you please send me that information that  
19          you promised, that emissions data. 4:30  
20          I had it. She e-mailed right back, so  
21          apparently it's something that she had  
22          and it was a very long document, but I  
23          think that I'm just very concerned about  
24          the regular emissions and also about the  
25          cumulative emissions.

1           Some of the, some of the pollution  
2           will blow away and some of it won't. I  
3           mean, it's just cumulative, and the list  
4           of chemicals, most of the chemicals,  
5           nitrogen oxide, carbon monoxide,  
6           particulate matter, sulfur dioxide,  
7           carcinogens, so those are just all things  
8           that I'm thinking about and in the middle  
9           of a residential area that's not  
10          acceptable.

11          I also was reading in the  
12          information that Theresa e-mailed me  
13          about gas blow-down events. There's two  
14          types of these "gas blow-down events."  
15          There is -- let's see, I will read from  
16          the text here, a type of maintenance  
17          glass blow-down that could occur when a  
18          compressor is stopped and gas between the  
19          suction/discharge valves and compressor  
20          is vented to the atmosphere via a blow-  
21          down event, and the second type is an  
22          emergency shutdown that would occur only  
23          at required U.S. Department of  
24          Transportation test intervals or in an  
25          emergency situation.

1           I also read each year a test would  
2           be performed on the stations, ESD,  
3           Emergency Shutdown System to assure that  
4           the station valves would move to their  
5           shutdown positions. Once all of the  
6           valves have been moved properly, the  
7           blow-down would be interrupted to  
8           minimize gas loss, so, in other words,  
9           there would be higher concentration of  
10          these chemicals emitted during these  
11          blow-down events, but the last sentence  
12          really got me, if the station was allowed  
13          to completely blow-down, the expected  
14          natural gas loss would be about 495,500  
15          standard cubic feet.

16          Let's see. I also wondered what  
17          the noise would be like during a gas  
18          blow-down event, and, okay, another issue  
19          is the natural gas storage underground, I  
20          guess, they'll drill down thousands of  
21          feet to -- to store gas there that  
22          they'll need for the -- for the  
23          compression, like to get the gas when  
24          they need to, to maintain the pressure.  
25          In the event -- I know I think Laurie

1 spoke about their safety record, and in  
2 the event of a leak or a rupture, I would  
3 like to consider safety, also, well  
4 water, how many people have well water,  
5 and also you should know that Lake  
6 Nirvana is within a half mile of the  
7 proposed site with wildlife and that that  
8 should be considered, as well. Okay?

9 So I think that -- um, I don't know  
10 why they have to do. I know that there  
11 were six proposed sites in Minisink and I  
12 know Millennium told me, I asked why  
13 here, and they said that that is because  
14 here is where the pressure decrease  
15 occurs, but I'm thinking that because  
16 this pipeline comes from southwestern New  
17 York, like I think the other compressor  
18 station, the only other one in New York  
19 State is near Corning, New York. If the  
20 pressure decreases here, why not put a  
21 station somewhere north of here even  
22 though they don't -- even though the  
23 pressure hasn't completely decreased,  
24 like even though they don't need it  
25 there, put it somewhere north of here in

1 a non-residential area.

2 And my last point is that a lot of  
3 people have said that if you're going to  
4 consider this proposal, then grant us an  
5 extension. I do agree with that, but I  
6 would strongly encourage you that based  
7 on all of these speakers that you should  
8 not extend it, that you should reject it  
9 right here and now.

10 MR. MONIB: Thank you, Janice.

11 Next we have Robert Bartels.

12 Robert Bartels, if you would like to  
13 speak.

14 We'll move on to the next speaker.  
15 If Robert comes back, we can let him  
16 know.

17 Thomas Salamone.

18 MR. SALMONE: Good evening. My  
19 name is Thomas Salamone, S-A-L-A-M-O-N-E.  
20 I live off County Road 1, Snow Bird Lane  
21 in the Town of Minisink, Town of  
22 Greenville. I actually found out  
23 yesterday at 6:00 that this substation  
24 was getting built.

25 As we all know, there's been quite

1 a lot of action in the area over the past  
2 two years with the pipeline being built  
3 and all types of meter stations popping  
4 up, the small compressor station by 284  
5 which is about two miles from my house, I  
6 am in the four-mile zone that Laurie  
7 stated that, of potential contaminants.

8 I also moved up from the city 2003.  
9 I have two kids. One just started  
10 Minisink today, kindergarten, and second  
11 grade, so I'm here for quite a while.  
12 I'm a lacrosse coach, a soccer coach.  
13 I'm involved with the kids in the  
14 community and will continue even after my  
15 kids leave.

16 Again, I have a twenty-five-acre  
17 parcel that I just recently turned  
18 agricultural. It wasn't for the tax  
19 reasons. I own a green roof business now  
20 based out of Minisink. I build rooftop  
21 gardens and install green roofs in  
22 Manhattan on top of buildings. My credo  
23 is helping New York City breathe a little  
24 better since 1999. I am an asthmatic, my  
25 son is an asthmatic, so I'm very

1 concerned about something like this going  
2 up. I'm also concerned about the farms,  
3 the food. Many of us shop at local farm  
4 markets. You can stop at any small barn  
5 and throw your five dollars in the jar,  
6 you take your onions and you go. I don't  
7 know if anyone would be a little bit  
8 hesitant now having a substation this  
9 close. I would like to classify myself  
10 as, let's say, the new urban farmer, the  
11 next generation of trying to do things.  
12 I'm -- unfortunately I couldn't afford to  
13 buy two hundred acres, but I would have  
14 loved to.

15 I'm very concerned on the Town  
16 Board. I, about six, seven months ago,  
17 tried to purchase the Johnson Church, the  
18 town church in Johnson. I was turned  
19 down because I couldn't put a septic tank  
20 in, so I would like to know how a 43-  
21 million dollar, they can put this over  
22 here. Okay? I was turned down for a  
23 septic tank. I went ahead and decided to  
24 build two barns on my property which I  
25 was better off anyway.

1           I am very concerned as I said that  
2           about not only the air quality, the food,  
3           the farms, the livestock, but last time I  
4           checked, if my kid needed stitches, it's  
5           going to take me about twenty-five  
6           minutes to get to the hospital. I can't  
7           even imagine a HAZMAT team. If my house  
8           is on fire, it's burning, right, I mean,  
9           our houses are burning down, so this  
10          substation that's going there, how are we  
11          going to respond as a community to  
12          anything that's going to go wrong,  
13          whether it's small or catastrophic like  
14          something that happened in San Bernadino,  
15          California?

16                 Does this station have to go  
17                 somewhere? Absolutely, it does. I'm  
18                 actually for natural gas. I rather have  
19                 natural gas than oil, but we -- I don't  
20                 have natural gas at my house. God knows  
21                 how much I would have to pay to bring it  
22                 up.

23                 I have just recently installed  
24                 solar panels on my property. I produce  
25                 80 percent of my power. I'm almost off

1           the grid. I am harvesting water to  
2           irrigate my crops that I grow. I have  
3           greenhouses up, um, so the magnitude  
4           of -- of a project like this. How did I  
5           just find out yesterday? I'd like to say  
6           I'm pretty involved in and attentive to  
7           what's going on in my community, I pay  
8           attention, and just the development up  
9           here in the last several years is  
10          unbelievable and there is a lot of  
11          families still wanting to move. Orange  
12          County is the last affordable place where  
13          you can give your kids a good healthy  
14          life if you want to get out of the city.  
15          I want to keep it that way also. I'd  
16          like to look at this as our little  
17          Tuscany. I love the hillsides. I don't  
18          want to see this ginormous glow in the  
19          area as Michael said. I have a  
20          telescope, as well. I hear the coyotes  
21          on Jacobs Road, so why wouldn't I, in  
22          four miles, not hear this noise  
23          pollution?

24                    As far as I'm concerned, finding  
25          out last night, there is no studies that

1 I've heard about, I have not had an  
2 e-mail, I have not seen anything in a  
3 pizzeria. I heard from a friend of ours  
4 last night and I'm outraged at the Town  
5 Board and not only Town of Minisink, Town  
6 of Greenville.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They were  
8 supposed to notify us.

9 MR. MONIB: Well, rightfully so.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Where is the  
11 Town Board? They weren't here last time  
12 either.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, they  
14 were.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, there  
16 was nobody.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I was here.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You weren't  
19 here when I was asking questions.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I was here.

21 MR. MONIB: Excuse me. All of the  
22 comments that are coming from the  
23 audience are not going to get, you know,  
24 recorded by the court reporter, so let's  
25 just try to be respectful of the speaker.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Excuse me,  
2 Mr. Salamone, I apologize.

3 MR. SALMONE: As you can tell,  
4 there's a lot of remorse, I mean, a lot  
5 of us like Michael said, we just came  
6 back for Labor Day. I was away for most  
7 of the summer. I'm concerned about  
8 getting my kids to school. I got soccer  
9 games on Saturday. This is all very  
10 close, what I would like to say, a pretty  
11 tight-knit community. We just all live  
12 spread out. I think this will all bring  
13 us closer together and a little bit more  
14 aware what a company like Millennium or  
15 Iroquois is doing in our community. Is  
16 there a zero-free emissions substation  
17 that can be built maybe for the cost of a  
18 couple more tens of millions of dollars?  
19 I know for 4.5 million dollars you can  
20 put a 1.5 megahertz windmill up that will  
21 generate hundreds of homes in here.

22 Why aren't we taking 43 million  
23 dollars and putting it into windmills?  
24 Again, I can go on about the environ-  
25 mental impacts. I am very involved.

1 I've seen the direct benefit on rooftops  
2 of vegetation and how it cleans the air,  
3 I would say that's probably why they  
4 chose seventy-three acres with trees  
5 involved, but what else is going to get  
6 done there, we don't know.

7 I haven't seen any studies of a  
8 third party done. Is it going to affect  
9 asthma? I -- before last night, I knew  
10 what went on in Lamar, Pennsylvania. I  
11 know what's going on in Dish, Texas and  
12 Wyoming. I go out there every year  
13 skiing. These stations are not good.  
14 They do create a major health risk  
15 especially if it's this close to a  
16 residential area which I would -- we can  
17 classify Minisink rural, all we want, but  
18 in the end it's becoming more and more  
19 rural. There is a lot more families here  
20 and a lot of us like myself, I have a  
21 seven- and five-year-old sons, I'm here  
22 for the next twenty years. I'm going to  
23 raise them here and they are going to go  
24 to school, and the concerns that this  
25 being three miles from -- this is our

1           only school. We don't have a choice. I  
2           can't send my kids to private school like  
3           in the city or Catholic school. We have  
4           to hike forty-five minutes, so for that  
5           this is our only opportunity to voice our  
6           opinion, and I'll just finish with that,  
7           I think that we as a community need to be  
8           more aware and have more notice of what's  
9           going on and what's being built here.

10                    Again, this substation does have to  
11           go somewhere. Does it have to go smack  
12           across the street from all these  
13           residential houses? I don't think so,  
14           and we will stop it as a community.  
15           Thank you.

16                    MR. MONIB: I'm just going to  
17           mention this now since I remembered,  
18           those of you that feel that you are, you  
19           know, should have been notified and you  
20           live, you know, within half a mile of  
21           the -- of the compressor, the proposed  
22           compressor station which is, you know,  
23           the company is legally required to notify  
24           everyone. If you think that you live  
25           within a half mile and you were not

1 notified, that's potentially a big deal,  
2 and I would like you to come up after  
3 this meeting and leave your name and  
4 address so that we can corroborate that.

5 The next speaker is Frank -- I  
6 can't -- it's not too clear, Jarocki.

7 MS. JAROCKI: Barbara Jarocki.

8 MR. MONIB: Thank you, Barbara.

9 MS. JAROCKI: J-A-R-O-C-K-I. I  
10 don't have a speech or anything. I am  
11 106 Jacobs Road and I'm very concerned  
12 because all the houses right now are all  
13 families. My family is grown, but I have  
14 a grandchild who lives with me and I know  
15 there's going to be dangers and  
16 definitely the Town or somebody should  
17 have gave us some notice because I'm a  
18 working mom. I baby-sit. I haven't had  
19 time to -- for this really, to sit down  
20 hours on the computer. I have a lot of  
21 concerns. I know there's going to be  
22 safety issues and there, maybe there is  
23 no proof about it, but in the future, in  
24 twenty years when my granddaughter has  
25 problems, who do we go to? Who do we go

1 to? The Fords, who stabbed us all in the  
2 back, that's actually what they all did.  
3 My husband is a farmer. He works with  
4 the Fords. I just can't believe this is  
5 happening. I've been there twenty-six  
6 years. I came into this Town and I was  
7 an outsider. I had to come to this Board  
8 meeting four times just to get my house  
9 okayed. Now, real estate everywhere,  
10 real estate everywhere. All these  
11 families come here and now you're  
12 jeopardizing all of our health, that's  
13 what -- and noise, the hurricane, all  
14 the roads being fixed. I heard every one  
15 of those machines, backhoes right from my  
16 house, so don't tell me I'm not going to  
17 hear any noise. That's all I have to  
18 say.

19 MR. MONIB: Thank you, Barbara.

20 Christina Forino.

21 MS. FORINO: Good evening.

22 Christina C-H-R-I-S-T-I-N-A, and Forino,

23 F-O-R-I-N-O.

24 When I -- I was actually one of the  
25 residents that received the big mailing,

1 the first mailing in July which I'm  
2 coming to realize was pretty rare, but  
3 when I got my map, I was in the bulls-  
4 eye, so I am a high school teacher and my  
5 teacher education this summer was to  
6 research what being in the bulls-eye  
7 means, so I know a lot of people didn't  
8 have time this summer, but one of the  
9 good things about being a teacher was you  
10 do, so that was my teacher education. So  
11 I started reading like a good science  
12 teacher and I learned a lot, so I  
13 actually wrote my comments and submitted  
14 them electronically, so -- and I've read  
15 all the comments that everyone has  
16 submitted electronically, so everything  
17 you put on has been amazing, and I just  
18 want to commend everyone that has  
19 submitted, I'm really very impressed and  
20 proud to live here, but I do have four  
21 issues of concern as you do prepare the  
22 Environmental Assessment for this  
23 project.

24 The first one concerns emissions  
25 and the air quality. The prevailing

1 winds in the area are north/northeast and  
2 my house is exactly north/northeast. The  
3 emissions piping, the stacks that come up  
4 are, I believe, it's fifty-some-odd feet.  
5 When we came to the open house, we were  
6 assured that there would be elbows on the  
7 stacks pointing away from our home, so my  
8 husband and I were chatting and we were  
9 thinking, instead of pointing away, maybe  
10 they can point down into the building  
11 where the one person is working. If they  
12 are going to be just water vapor, then he  
13 can or she can have all of that stuff, so  
14 that's my point.

15 Number two has to do with ground  
16 water flow. Ground water flow was also  
17 north/northeast because of the aquifer  
18 that we all share. The Millennium  
19 actually stated that they're going to  
20 conduct pre- and post-construction  
21 monitoring of the wells, but only within  
22 one hundred fifty feet of the  
23 construction site. There are no wells  
24 within one hundred fifty feet of the  
25 construction site, so therefore there

1 will be no wells for them to monitor.

2 At the open house I did speak with  
3 the ground water expert and I said, if  
4 you're going to invest in this  
5 monitoring, let's make it the first fifty  
6 down-streamed wells or something like  
7 that so that we actually have some kind  
8 of monitoring of what's going on, so  
9 that's my number two point, well  
10 monitoring.

11 And number three is, see, high  
12 school, you got to keep it going, site  
13 selection is the last one.

14 Site selection, as Janice said  
15 there were seven sites -- six sites, I'm  
16 sorry, A through F. Um, one of the  
17 quotes from the application which I read  
18 was that, "The common goals for the  
19 compression station location were to  
20 avoid residential areas and to select a  
21 location that would be acceptable from an  
22 aesthetic perspective."

23 There was a table, 10.5-1 that  
24 listed A through F and all the qualities  
25 of every site and the pros and cons of

1           those sites, like nearness to residential  
2           wasn't a column because Site A which is  
3           the site they're considering was the  
4           closest to a residential house. They  
5           were considering the noise sensitive  
6           area, the NSAs and they had various  
7           numbers for that. The site that they  
8           chose was only six hundred fifty feet  
9           away, whereas the other ones were eight  
10          hundred twenty-five, thirteen hundred,  
11          eight hundred fifty, eleven hundred,  
12          thirteen hundred, higher numbers, so that  
13          is kind of a -- not a good thing  
14          according to what they said was one of  
15          the major concerns.

16                 Last point about site selection, at  
17          the open house we were talking with the  
18          president of Millennium and he was very,  
19          very, very tall, me talking to a seven-  
20          foot tall person, but anyway, he said  
21          that one of the major problems with the  
22          other sites was that they were wetlands,  
23          and again my husband and I were talking,  
24          why was the pipeline built in a wetlands  
25          to begin with, so if wetlands are such an

1 issue, why is the pipeline in the  
2 wetlands? So that's another concern I  
3 have, as well.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. MONIB: Thank you. You  
6 mentioned four things and then site  
7 selection was number three.

8 MS. FORINO: There were two  
9 elements of site selection.

10 MR. MONIB: Okay. Noise.

11 MS. FORINO: Choosing a residential  
12 site over a non-residential and then the  
13 wetlands thing, as well. Thank you.

14 MR. MONIB: Thank you very much.

15 Lastly we have Janet Stonick.

16 MS. STONICK: My name is Janet  
17 Stonick, S-T-O-N-I-C-K. I have many  
18 concerns. Can you guys hear me?

19 MR. MONIB: Speak a little bit  
20 closer to the --

21 MS. STONICK: Okay. I have many  
22 concerns about safety of this facility,  
23 the integrity of the company involved and  
24 the haste with which this issue has been  
25 handled. I also have concerns about the

1 zoning for this property. Zoning for  
2 industrial use may leave us without any  
3 control in the future expansion of this  
4 company in the community. If a site two  
5 compressor is here, will we have to be  
6 obliged to tolerate whatever else they  
7 feel like doing on this property as other  
8 communities have been forced to do, like  
9 building more compressors or storing  
10 hazardous materials possibly, you know,  
11 other things. Heavily monitor that  
12 compliance with any agreement they make  
13 with us with, and their regulations  
14 regarding noise, vibration, water  
15 contamination and so on. If this is a  
16 floating industrial zone, this could  
17 become an open door for further  
18 expansion.

19 Has our Planning Board already  
20 considered this? I would like to  
21 emphasize that zoning laws states that  
22 the Planning Board can impose whatever  
23 additional requirements it deems  
24 necessary to protect the health and  
25 public welfare. I would like to think

1 the Board will live up to this crucially  
2 important responsibility and act in their  
3 community's best interest. Maybe the  
4 fact that this property will also come  
5 off the tax rolls is an additional  
6 problem. We have had drastic cuts to our  
7 local school budget and still our taxes  
8 rise. We are faced with a two percent  
9 cap on our school taxes allowing a  
10 corporation that will make record profits  
11 if this project goes through, to make  
12 payment in lieu of taxes to the county  
13 does not offset the loss to the local  
14 district in school taxes nor in a local  
15 tax base which is the primary support for  
16 our local volunteer emergency responders.  
17 Payment in lieu of taxes nearly shifts  
18 this responsibility for the loss of  
19 revenue to the remaining taxpayers who  
20 are struggling enough already. Perhaps,  
21 perhaps you feel we should trust their  
22 good intentions. Unfortunately for me  
23 Millennium Pipeline is my neighbor. They  
24 have not been a good neighbor. When they  
25 had the staging area for the underground

1 pipeline next to my property, I was told  
2 the area would be restored to the same  
3 state that it was when they started to  
4 work. They did not live up to their  
5 commitment which should have been  
6 overseen by the Town Board. My land has  
7 been swamped by water, runoff from soil  
8 compaction caused by their equipment and  
9 work area. This situation has been a  
10 problem for three years and they have not  
11 done anything about it. Despite the fact  
12 that this situation was brought to the  
13 attention of the president, the vice  
14 president and the chief counsel, I have  
15 yet to even be contacted by them. If  
16 they had failed to deal in good faith  
17 with us already, why would we think  
18 anything will change now? Clearly this  
19 is an entire corporation that does not  
20 take their commitments to our local  
21 community seriously.

22 Finally, this process is being far  
23 too hurried. What is the rush? We need  
24 more time to assess the potential  
25 problems and how they can best be

1           addressed, but we are not alone in the  
2           need for more time. When I asked  
3           Millennium if I could tour one of their  
4           facilities, they assured me that I could.  
5           I gave my contact information to the  
6           project coordinator, but I have yet to be  
7           contacted regarding a site or an  
8           opportunity to view one. Apparently,  
9           Millennium Pipeline needs more time just  
10          as much as we do simply to comply with  
11          the verbal assurances they have already  
12          given us. I guess we all need more time.

13                 MR. MONIB: That's everyone that  
14                 was signed up to speak. If there is  
15                 anybody else that would like to come up.

16                 MR. CASTRO: My name is Peppy,  
17                 P-E-P-P-Y, Castro, C-A-S-T-R-O. I am in  
18                 the bullet zone. I represent myself as a  
19                 homeowner.

20                 As I look and see all these faces  
21                 here, I don't see Westtown, what I see is  
22                 the bullet points of people who are going  
23                 to be directly affected by this thing.  
24                 When we go up in smoke, we all go up  
25                 together, so this is not Westtown, don't

1 be fooled. Okay?

2           Number one, this pipeline has been  
3 in progress for many years. I've never  
4 once received one notice from this Town  
5 based on the pipeline. I did friend the  
6 foreman of the pipeline who is still a  
7 personal acquaintance of mine. When I  
8 received the package from Millennium,  
9 obviously the first thing was the Town  
10 needs an attorney. There is no two ways  
11 about it. They want us to make a  
12 decision in a few days and yet we're  
13 supposed to deliver fourteen copies each  
14 and, you know... Millennium are  
15 professionals. They do this every day of  
16 their lives. We are just regular people  
17 who work every day. We don't have the  
18 time to compete against Millennium. It's  
19 a bureaucracy.

20           The foreman, immediately when I  
21 received my brochure, I called them up  
22 and I said, hey, Dave, what's this mean?  
23 He goes, what's it mean, it means they're  
24 going to railroad it through. It's going  
25 to happen no matter what. You can't

1 fight it. Millennium has deep pockets  
2 and find out who owns the land because I  
3 wish I owned the land where this thing is  
4 going on. Then I find out who owns the  
5 land, okay, he is just only the most real  
6 estate bearing, public Town official who  
7 owns the land so I won't be as forgiving  
8 as the former speaker. It stinks. Okay?  
9 It just plain stinks. It's rotten. You  
10 know it and I know it. There is a  
11 definite conflict of interest. I want it  
12 into the notes because you can't hide  
13 from this face, okay.

14 I would also like to note as a  
15 regulatory agency, I would like to know  
16 how many proceedings, and I would like it  
17 disclosed amongst these people, how many  
18 proceedings you guys have sat on, and out  
19 of the percentage of proceedings you've  
20 sat on, whether it be Millennium or other  
21 companies, how many were approved and how  
22 many weren't approved. I think it's in  
23 our best interest to find out where it  
24 lies, because the feedback I'm getting is  
25 that, you know, I mean, I've been sold

1 out by attorneys because they just want  
2 to look good to the guy who's got the  
3 deep pockets, so there is a number of  
4 interests here that are conflicting and  
5 with us, in all due respect, I'm sure  
6 you're here in good faith, but we really  
7 don't know. I went immediately searching  
8 for an attorney. There is not one  
9 attorney firm in Orange County that  
10 handles anything like this, not one.  
11 They're all out of state.

12 Also, I've been in the recording  
13 industry for over forty years. I know  
14 something about acoustics, sound. Okay?  
15 A 6100 turbine engine, two of them,  
16 belongs on Kennedy Airport's runway, not  
17 on Jacobs Road. Okay? My neighbors  
18 across the street, when they have a  
19 conversation, they're like a Minisink  
20 football away from me, I can hear every  
21 word they are saying in the calm of  
22 night. I have found my home by doing  
23 a -- an hour-and-a-half radius of New  
24 York. I took a compass and I went around  
25 and I went where the least amount of

1 dots, okay, because I lived in the city.  
2 I was burning out. I wanted to come up  
3 and I wanted some peace and quiet. Okay?  
4 Even though, even though I'm a rock-and-  
5 roller and I have a recording studio, I  
6 still want that serenity. When I drive  
7 up from the city and I hit that forty-  
8 mile zone and I start coming into the  
9 backroads, my blood pressure goes down.  
10 You're going to tell me, you're going  
11 to -- Jacobs Road is Carnegie Hall.  
12 Okay. It's not a runway on Kennedy  
13 Airport. It's Carnegie Hall. To put two  
14 turbines, 6100 turbines in that thing is  
15 ludicrous that it's not just going to be  
16 totally obnoxious, 24/7, going on.

17 Another thing, you don't know this,  
18 there is an alarming rate of cancer on  
19 Jacobs Road and Hostler Road. My wife  
20 died five years ago from cancer. My  
21 neighbor, breast cancer. The Taresis  
22 (phonetic) behind me, cancer. The woman  
23 I bought the house, cancer. There is  
24 tons of cancer up here and nobody knows  
25 about it because nobody speaks to each

1 other. We're not like -- it's not like  
2 we hang out in Horton Hospital or anybody  
3 doing, you know, a little dossier based  
4 on what's the cancer rate in Westtown, so  
5 to propose something like this is beyond  
6 scary, it just doesn't make sense, so I  
7 think as an agency, I think it would be  
8 nice if you guys could disclose the  
9 percentages of what gets approved and  
10 what doesn't get approved. I wasn't  
11 here -- I travel a lot. I wasn't here  
12 for the first -- if there is somebody  
13 from Millennium. You know what, I take  
14 serious offense that we are reduced to go  
15 over and have a one-on-one instead of  
16 hearing a representative from Millennium  
17 address us all, whether it's once or  
18 twice or two, they owe it to us.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's why  
20 they chose Minisink. Because nobody  
21 would stand up for it until now.

22 MR. CASTRO: So as far as I'm  
23 concerned, you know, as far as I'm  
24 concerned, I have a very good friend in  
25 the recording business, you all know him,

1           Gene Simmons.  When Gene Simmons sits  
2           down at a business meeting, because I've  
3           done business with him for years, the  
4           first question he says is, what's in it  
5           for Kiss?  Based on that premise,  
6           Millennium 12, Minisink 0.

7                     Thank you.

8                     MR. MONIB:  I will try to respond.  
9           I don't know the exact percentage, it is  
10          a low percentage.  The reasons are that  
11          most companies will make sure that they  
12          meet, you know, Federal standards for  
13          environmental impact.  Companies that --  
14          when issues are raised, where it becomes  
15          clear that a company cannot meet it,  
16          they'll usually withdraw their  
17          application because they don't want to  
18          get denied officially, so it is a small  
19          percentage, I don't know exact  
20          percentages, but there have been projects  
21          that have been denied by the FERC on the  
22          other hand and they have been denied for,  
23          they have been denied for environmental  
24          reasons and they've been denied for other  
25          reasons, and as I mentioned to many of

1 the residents here back in the open  
2 house, this is not your only avenue for  
3 addressing issues. If you can convince  
4 the Commissioners to vote against the  
5 project, that's all you need to do. They  
6 vote against projects.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What  
8 Commissioners are we talking about?

9 MR. MONIB: The Commissioners of  
10 the Federal Regulatory Commission. Some  
11 of you may have come late. I explained  
12 early on that there is five commissioners  
13 that the Federal Regulatory Commission  
14 were appointed by the President and  
15 approved by Congress. They ultimately  
16 will make the decision whether to approve  
17 or deny this project. This whole  
18 Environmental Assessment that we're doing  
19 will be one, one piece of information  
20 that they look at. They look at rates,  
21 they look at all kinds of things.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There is a  
23 time frame.

24 MR. MONIB: I just want to mention  
25 there is, you know, other ways to make

1           your voice heard just in the same way  
2           that you approach, that you try to  
3           convince any politician to do something  
4           one way or another. That is one avenue.

5                     UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I second  
6           that there be a delay in the process.

7                     MR. MONIB: We definitely noted all  
8           of that.

9                     I want to ask if there is any other  
10          individuals that would like to speak,  
11          please come forward.

12                    MR. EDER: I'd like to speak.

13                    UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Come on,  
14          Frank.

15                    MR. EDER: I don't have too much to  
16          say. My name is Frank Eder, E-D-E-R, 132  
17          Jacobs Road. I'm right across the street  
18          from the proposed site.

19                    If I want to call myself, I will  
20          know nothing. I had the pipeline redone  
21          between me three years ago, it was a  
22          nightmare, and it still, the residual  
23          effects of it is still happening, so I  
24          was here for the big horse and pony show  
25          the last meeting and that's all it was,

1 "a horse and pony show" because they had  
2 private consultants that they hired for  
3 that to take the initial questions. When  
4 they were asked a question, it would  
5 start off, that's definitely the answer,  
6 no, then maybe, I don't know what to tell  
7 you, then they would call somebody from  
8 Millennium, and by the time it got  
9 through all the way to the CEO, the big  
10 tall guy, I don't know what to tell you.  
11 What kind of answer is that? Because the  
12 case in point about the sound, I just  
13 want to let people know, when we're  
14 looking at the thing, this is Minisink is  
15 considered a rural area and the sound  
16 barrier for that is 30, 20 decibels, they  
17 have it as 40 with a cushion of 50, so  
18 they're already contradicting what they  
19 said. That's just -- I'm not going to go  
20 into everything, because like I said,  
21 it's just a big, a big horse and pony  
22 show.

23 The same thing, does anyone know  
24 what the pilot program is? The lady was  
25 talking about taxes. The pilot program

1 is that Millennium is supposed to pay the  
2 Town of Minisink, our schools, tax money  
3 for it, but they have twenty years to do  
4 it. Now, in twenty years they can  
5 abandon that compressor station and they  
6 don't have to pay nothing, so that big  
7 sign they had for benefits for the Town  
8 of Minisink, that's insulting to  
9 everybody, that was insulting. Why would  
10 you put something like that up in front  
11 of everybody if you're going to, you  
12 know...

13 I'll tell you the truth, I don't  
14 have to say no more negative things  
15 because everything has been said already,  
16 but don't lie to us. Nobody here wants  
17 to be lied to.

18 MR. MONIB: Thank you, Frank.

19 MR. WITKOWSKI: Hello, my name is  
20 David Witkowski, W-I-T-K-O-W-S-K-I. I  
21 just have a question to ask. The last  
22 folks who spoke, I heard that there was a  
23 deadline for the information and for  
24 replies to FERC of September 16th. Is  
25 that correct?

1                   MR. MONIB: Yes, there is a  
2                   deadline, although I think if, you can  
3                   file comments at any point while we're  
4                   doing the Environmental Assessment, we'll  
5                   receive those comments. The official end  
6                   of the scoping period is thirty days.

7                   MR. WITKOWSKI: As the chair of the  
8                   Planning Board, no site plan was  
9                   officially submitted to the Planning  
10                  Board. I found out about this project  
11                  through the Times Herald Record. I did  
12                  also attend, I attended, I attended --

13                  MR. MONIB: I just want to make  
14                  this point again, but, you know, we need  
15                  to just have one person speaking at the  
16                  podium so that because--

17                  UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'd like him  
18                  to repeat.

19                  MR. MONIB: I would like you to  
20                  repeat it too.

21                  MR. WITKOWSKI: No official site  
22                  plan has been filed with the Town of  
23                  Minisink Planning Board. When I attended  
24                  the open house two weeks ago, I requested  
25                  that a site plan be filed with the Town

1 of Minisink and they graciously accepted  
2 to give the Planning Board a presenta-  
3 tion. It will be an informal presenta-  
4 tion because FERC is the lead agency, so  
5 no site plan needs to be filed with the  
6 Town of Minisink, but they graciously  
7 agreed to come and give us a presentation  
8 and they have submitted a preliminary  
9 site plan; however, the earliest that  
10 they can meet with the Town of Minisink  
11 Planning Board is the 28th of this month,  
12 which means that if we receive a site  
13 plan and have comments on it based on our  
14 charge, which is to protect the safety  
15 and the welfare and the health of the  
16 residents, there is no sense of us  
17 submitting formal comments because the  
18 time period has already lapsed, so why  
19 would they even bother to give a  
20 presentation two weeks after the time  
21 period lapses? It seems to me that this  
22 is, this is very rushed, and I often, I  
23 often am asked by the residents of  
24 Minisink, why does it take so long to get  
25 through the Planning Board? It seems

1           like there is so many things that have to  
2           be done and I normally reply because we  
3           have a lot to do in order to -- to  
4           fulfill our charge, to protect the  
5           residents and to make sure the Town of  
6           Minisink, that every project in the Town  
7           abides by the zoning, that is our charge,  
8           okay, but how can we protect it, how can  
9           the Planning Board do its job if this  
10          entire project has circumvented the  
11          Planning Board completely? That's my  
12          question.

13                 My next comment is, what's the  
14                 sense of them giving a presentation if we  
15                 can't provide any comments to FERC? Why  
16                 would we even sit and listen to a  
17                 presentation if our comments are received  
18                 two weeks after the deadline; correct? I  
19                 beg of you to extend the deadline for  
20                 public comment. The answer I give to  
21                 people who say why does it take so long  
22                 to get through the Planning Board, the  
23                 answer I give them is because we are more  
24                 concerned with doing it right than doing  
25                 it fast, and I should hope that FERC has

1 the same philosophy. That's all I'm  
2 saying.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. MONIB: Would anyone else like  
5 to make comments that would be on the  
6 record this evening?

7 MS. BAUM: I'm going for the  
8 sympathy vote. My name is Leanne,  
9 L-E-A-N-N-E, Baum, B-A-U-M. My kids are  
10 right here and this one.

11 We've lived directly across from  
12 the proposed driveway of this site. It's  
13 a huge concern for us. We've only been  
14 here for five years. We're not an  
15 integral part of the community. Our kids  
16 go to private school. They don't ride a  
17 school bus. We don't interact with our  
18 neighbors at the bus stop, those type of  
19 things. We kind of come to love where we  
20 live. We came to the informational  
21 meet -- I'm sorry, I am worked up and I  
22 am the one with the lower blood pressure  
23 of our marriage, but my blood pressure  
24 was through the roof that night just  
25 because we were upset.



1                   MR. MONIB:  Actually, I'm going to  
2                   ask you to come up here because that way  
3                   the court reporter will be able to --  
4                   she's recording it, as well.

5                   MR. MALICK:  My name is Ibrahim  
6                   Malick, M-A-L-I-C-K, and in the materials  
7                   you have provided here, you've given the  
8                   date of September 16th, that would be the  
9                   last date listed here.  I think you're  
10                  all very concerned about the process, how  
11                  long it would take, I don't know when the  
12                  next input will be.  If you can basically  
13                  talk about that, and also because you're  
14                  also concerned about how hurried and  
15                  rushed this is, what can we do?  Where is  
16                  our recourse to extend that process?

17                  Okay.  Thank you.

18                  MR. MONIB:  We will continue to do  
19                  the analysis as long as it takes for us  
20                  to come to a scientific objective  
21                  conclusion.  During that period we'll be  
22                  receiving all your comments.  After this  
23                  meeting is over you can continue to  
24                  submit comments.  There is an end to the  
25                  formal scoping period, but as I

1 mentioned, as long as we're still engaged  
2 in the analysis, you can always submit  
3 comments that we will review and attempt  
4 to include in our assessment.

5 I can't tell you how long it will  
6 take. If it takes longer than ninety  
7 days from the date of the Notice of  
8 Application, we're required by law to  
9 submit what's called a Scheduling Notice,  
10 which will say how much, basically how  
11 much longer we -- how much more time  
12 we'll need to do the analysis. That's if  
13 it takes longer than three months. I can  
14 tell you we're just in the very beginning  
15 of doing this assessment. I can't tell  
16 you how long it's going to take. We're  
17 still receiving a lot of comments from  
18 you. We may receive comments from  
19 federal agencies, from state agencies, so  
20 honestly I can't give you a firm answer  
21 on that question. I would just encourage  
22 you to provide your comments and, you  
23 know, if you have questions, I can answer  
24 those questions perhaps after this  
25 meeting is over, and with that I will

1 make sure, is there anybody else that  
2 would like to give a formal comment?

3 Please come forward

4 MR. PETSCHLER: My name is Eric,  
5 E-R-I-C, Petschler, P-E-T-S-C-H-L-E-R.  
6 Just a quick one, just a reminder, if I  
7 may. Anyone just to fill out the form  
8 that was held up before and, um, also if  
9 you live within that quarter-mile or  
10 half-mile radius, excuse me, don't feel  
11 that you got the notification from  
12 Millennium, please come up and give your  
13 name to FERC because that can be a  
14 serious issue for them potentially if  
15 that is, in fact, the case.

16 I have one question. Somebody  
17 brought up the concept of intervening in  
18 the intervention period. Could you  
19 explain what that is and what that  
20 encompasses?

21 MR. MONIB: Sure. Intervening, you  
22 do not need to intervene to file a  
23 comment, but intervening is a, if you  
24 become an intervenor, it's a kind of  
25 legal status. It allows you to actually,



1 and it was for -- so, if you give good  
2 cause, for example, one example would be  
3 we were just notified and we didn't  
4 receive the Notice of Application from  
5 the company, that would be reasonable  
6 evidence to grant intervention.

7 MR. MONIB: There have been a few  
8 individuals who have intervened in the  
9 past week and that was after the  
10 deadline. They were approved for it, so  
11 I'm sure that it won't be an issue.

12 MR. EDER: Could I just ask you a  
13 question?

14 MR. MONIB: I'm going to ask you to  
15 come to the mike.

16 MR. EDER: Come back up again?

17 MR. MONIB: Yeah.

18 MR. EDER: Frank Eder again, 132  
19 Jacobs Road.

20 You talk about intervening and  
21 comments. Now, intervening is a legal  
22 process that could actually maybe stop  
23 it. But it's -- the process is so  
24 convoluted to do it, that nobody wants do  
25 it. Nobody has a time or the resources

1 to do it. You actually had to put full-  
2 time in to do something like that. Like  
3 you said, you have to mail it to  
4 everybody who's intervening against  
5 Millennium Pipeline throughout the whole  
6 United States. You keep saying make  
7 comments, but in actuality, will comments  
8 stop anything? That's not a legal  
9 process. Anybody can make a comment.  
10 I'm making a comment right now. Is this  
11 going to stop the pipeline from  
12 happening, no. So to keep saying make  
13 comments, what is the comments going to  
14 actually do, what are they going to do?  
15 It's not a legal thing, comments. I can  
16 make a comment. I'm asking, make a  
17 comment, what's the comment going to do?

18 MR. MONIB: Are you asking the  
19 question?

20 MR. EDER: I'm asking.

21 MR. MONIB: Intervening will not  
22 necessarily stop the process.

23 MR. EDER: But it's still a legal  
24 process.

25 MR. MONIB: It's completely within

1           your right to intervene if that's what  
2           you choose to do, so, hen you still will  
3           be able to do that, I'm sure.

4                   MR. EDER:  You haven't answered my  
5           question, but thank you anyway.

6                   MR. MONIB:  Anybody else that would  
7           like to speak on the record?

8                   MR. COLUCCIO:  I guess I have to  
9           stand up there?

10                   MR. MONIB:  Yes.  She's recording  
11           it.

12                   MR. COLUCCIO:  My name is Vincent  
13           Coluccio, C-O-L-U-C-C-I-O.  I live on --  
14           right across from Jacobs in Westtown.

15                   There are a lot of very elaborate  
16           speakers tonight and there are a lot of  
17           important questions that have been raised  
18           and I don't really feel like I have any  
19           answers to those questions.  For example,  
20           eminent domain, I don't know if that  
21           applies here or not, yet despite all the  
22           comments, local zoning, I don't really  
23           know whether or not that applies here.  I  
24           think those are excellent comments.  
25           Those are really interesting questions

1           and I think that we should have some  
2           answers to those questions.

3                     Segmentation, I'm not an attorney,  
4           never heard it before. Who's going to  
5           explore that? Who's going to research  
6           that?

7                     As far as I'm concerned, there's a  
8           process that's underway and Millennium  
9           knows that game inside and out.  
10          Unfortunately, we're being asked to play  
11          that game and we're at a significant  
12          disadvantage. We don't even have any of  
13          these questions answered. I don't even  
14          know if they matter. Who's going to  
15          answer these questions? Who's going to  
16          tell us what the alternative process is  
17          to the game they've invented that we have  
18          no idea how to play? That's my question.

19                    MR. MONIB: Well, all of the  
20          comments that have been brought up this  
21          evening including legal segmentation,  
22          there's been a host of issues that have  
23          been brought up, they will be addressed.  
24          They will be included in our review and  
25          they will be addressed in the

1 Environmental Assessment.

2 As you know, we are obligated as  
3 staff members who perform this analysis,  
4 we have to read every single comment.  
5 We'll break down each comment into the  
6 salient points that were made and we'll  
7 have to address that in our Environmental  
8 Assessment.

9 MR. MCGUIRE: And as Kareem  
10 mentioned, that Environmental Assessment,  
11 that will go out for public comment,  
12 you'll have an opportunity to review that  
13 and comment on it before any Commission's  
14 decision is made, so there's a thirty-day  
15 comment period on that assessment.

16 MS. SLETTENE: Can I ask one more  
17 question? Denise Slettene.

18 My understanding, though, is that  
19 the majority of how you're going to base  
20 your decision or -- the majority of how  
21 you're going to base your decision or  
22 where most of your facts are going to  
23 come from is going to be from the  
24 consulting firm that Millennium hired,  
25 so, I mean, I can't speak the way the

1 attorney speaks, I can't do environmen-  
2 tals the way their environmentalists can  
3 do, so you're kind of taking what they're  
4 saying at face value. Who's helping us?  
5 Who's representing us? Wouldn't that be  
6 part of the federal government too or is  
7 that our town officials or Senator  
8 Bonacic? I don't know. I just -- I feel  
9 like they're throwing us under the bus  
10 and there's nothing we can do to stop it  
11 and all your information is coming from  
12 them.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They're not  
14 throwing you, you're already under the  
15 bus.

16 MR. MONIB: We look at the  
17 information that's presented to us, but  
18 we don't, do not take it at face value.  
19 We have staff members who are biologists,  
20 engineers who are technically, you know,  
21 very competent. They're not just going  
22 to, you know, be bamboozled. We will  
23 look at all these issues, and like I  
24 mentioned, before this is an  
25 environmental impact analysis, that's all

1 we're looking at.

2 If you have questions -- the  
3 primary purpose of the meeting was  
4 basically to make comments that will be  
5 entered into the record. If you have  
6 questions, I'm very happy, and Rich and  
7 Christine are very happy, we're happy to  
8 stay here as late as you want to answer  
9 them. I'm just suggesting that if it's  
10 just questions, we can go ahead and close  
11 the meeting, and we can sit, you know,  
12 all night and discuss it, but if you have  
13 a comment...

14 MS. DRYSZKA: Larysa Dryszka. I  
15 just wanted to emphasize the need for a  
16 health impact assessment as part of the  
17 environmental impact study. I don't  
18 believe that FERC normally has doctors  
19 and public health specialists on their  
20 staff to do something like this. I  
21 presented the information about how NEPA  
22 really does call into, call into play the  
23 analysis of human health impacts and that  
24 the human health impact part of this is  
25 something that has been done by NEPA as

1 part of an environmental impact  
2 assessment. For example, in the north  
3 slope of Alaska, in the BLM Lands, an  
4 Environmental Impact Assessment was  
5 added, a health impact assessment and it  
6 was successfully done, so could something  
7 like this be done? I'm asking that that  
8 be part of the analysis of how you  
9 proceed with this environmental impact  
10 assessment, whether you will include the  
11 health impact assessment as part of it  
12 which would be very, very important to  
13 address the health concerns of the  
14 people.

15 MR. MONIB: We will be looking  
16 at -- you know, I note your point.  
17 That's something that is -- we'll go back  
18 and consider very well. We do consider  
19 air quality, noise. There are federal  
20 standards, there is air quality standards  
21 and just a host of, um, laws out there  
22 that regulate air quality that are based  
23 on the impacts of potential pollutants on  
24 human health, so that is there, but it'll  
25 definitely, you know, note your points

1           and I'll go back and discuss that with 00  
2           go back to FERC and see how we can  
3           perhaps answer your issue.

4                     With that said, I think that is  
5           everyone who wanted to speak.

6                     Please.

7                     MR. FILIPOWSKI: My name is Randy  
8           Filipowski, F-I-L-I-P-O-W-S-K-I. I'm the  
9           Town of Minisink Highway Superintendent  
10          for the last ten years and I would like  
11          to just bring up something that I have  
12          heard tonight with all the other comments  
13          and it's about two things that affects  
14          everyone in this room, their pockets and  
15          our roads.

16                    I've been told that the two, one of  
17          the reasons the site was picked was  
18          because it was very easy to get the two  
19          turbine engines in. I thought, what are  
20          they? Well, they're in excess of eighty-  
21          five ton each one. The state limit on  
22          weight in New York State is 80,000  
23          pounds, forty ton. You can get up to a  
24          107,000 which is fifty-three and a half  
25          ton with a special permit. We're talking

1 almost double. I would like to see  
2 Millennium come up with some kind of plan  
3 that's going to be put in place that the  
4 highway superintendent's office and the  
5 town engineer would look into showing  
6 what the roads are before the project  
7 started, if and when it does. If it  
8 doesn't, then there's nothing has to be  
9 done,, but if the project goes forward, I  
10 would like to see a plan of what's going  
11 to be coming in, the weight, and if the  
12 road infrastructure is ruined, that  
13 Millennium covers the cost of repair and  
14 rebuild. We're the smallest town in the  
15 county. We have the smallest operating  
16 budget of highways. It's not something  
17 we can just cover on our own. That's all  
18 I have to say.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. MONIB: That is a very good  
21 point and something that we have not  
22 heard tonight, so thank you.

23 Would anybody else like to make a  
24 comment?

25 I just want to mention that you can

1 purchase a copy of the transcript of  
2 tonight's meeting, and if you would like  
3 you can do that, you can make arrange-  
4 ments with the court reporter.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Purchase it?

6 MR. MONIB: It will be available.  
7 That's if you want to purchase it from  
8 the court reporter. It will be,  
9 eventually it will be available on the  
10 FERC website at no cost.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: After it's  
12 voted in or before?

13 MR. MONIB: Actually to speak to  
14 the accessing all the documents that are  
15 related to this project, the FERC website  
16 contains a link which is called  
17 e-library. It's very important to note  
18 this down actually because it's the  
19 gateway to all the information that you  
20 would like to know. You want to go to  
21 e-library from the FERC website and then  
22 by typing the docket number, CP11-515,  
23 you can gain access to everything in the  
24 public record regarding this project.  
25 This includes all the information that

1 Millennium has given us, you know, this  
2 big binder, all the maps, all the -- you  
3 know, all the different impacts and so  
4 forth would be available to you by going  
5 to e-library and typing in the docket.  
6 It also includes detailed information for  
7 accessing the Commission's public  
8 records -- I'm sorry, detailed  
9 information for accessing the  
10 Commission's public records and the  
11 Notice of Intent which was out on the  
12 sign-in table.

13 A lot of very important issues were  
14 raised this evening. Some of them we  
15 were already aware of. Some of them we  
16 were not aware of. As I mentioned  
17 several times this evening, we will look  
18 at every single issue that was brought up  
19 this evening, and if you -- you know,  
20 this is not the last opportunity to give  
21 your input. You can -- you can still  
22 mail in comments. You have the comment  
23 sheet outside and probably the easiest  
24 way is to just do it online. I would  
25 encourage you to bring up all issues and

1 submit it to the docket.

2 On behalf of the Federal Energy  
3 Regulatory Commission, I want to thank  
4 you, all of you, for coming here tonight  
5 and expressing your concerns. I know  
6 this is a very, you know, emotional  
7 matter, and I just want to, you know,  
8 really thank you from my heart that you  
9 came out here to give us your opinion and  
10 that would conclude our meeting.

11 I need to say this phrase. Let the  
12 record show that the Scoping Meeting for  
13 the Minisink Compressor Project concluded  
14 at 9:34 p.m. Thank you.

15 (Time noted - 9:34 p.m.)

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