

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING FOR THE
ALASKA PIPELINE PROJECT

Carlson Community Activity Center
Fairbanks, Alaska
January 30th, 2012
7:08 p.m.

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1 DANNY LAFFOON: Good evening, and welcome
2 to the public scoping meeting for the Alaska
3 Pipeline Project proposed by TransCanada Alaska
4 Company and ExxonMobil Alaska Midstream Gas
5 Investment under docket number PF09-11-000. Let
6 the record show that the public scoping meeting
7 in Fairbanks, Alaska, began at 7:08 p.m. on
8 January 30th, 2012.

9 My name is Danny Laffoon, and I'm an
10 environmental project manager with the Federal
11 Energy Regulatory Commission or FERC. Here with
12 me tonight I also have Kelley Parse, also with
13 FERC. And Ellen Saint Onge over at the sign-in
14 table with FERC. And Rob McWhorter with Argonne
15 National Laboratory will be helping us prepare
16 our environmental impact statement.

17 We would like to thank Tom Moyer with
18 Senator Begich's office for being here tonight.
19 We would also like to thank each of you for
20 braving the cold and coming out and hopefully
21 providing us with some detailed comments on your
22 concerns regarding this project.

23 A notice of intent was mailed to our
24 environmental mailing list for this project. It
25 was mailed out on August 1st, I believe, 2011,

1 and states that we'll be preparing an
2 environmental impact statement for this project.
3 If you did not receive a copy of that notice of
4 intent that means you are not currently on our
5 environmental mailing list. And I would
6 encourage you to sign up at the sign-in table and
7 provide us with your name and address and that'll
8 ensure that you then receive any future mailings
9 that we have.

10 The purpose of this meeting is to
11 give each of you an opportunity to provide us
12 with comments on the environmental impacts that
13 you're concerned about and want to see addressed
14 in the environmental impact statement.

15 Now outlining tonight's agenda; first
16 I'll start out by briefly explaining the FERC
17 application process, then I'll introduce Mel
18 Johnson from the Alaska Pipeline Project. And
19 he'll describe the project facilities that
20 they're proposing to build. After that I'll go
21 through the speaker list that we have tonight for
22 people that have signed up to speak. And then
23 I'll open up the floor for any additional people
24 that want to speak that didn't sign up but
25 thought of issues that came into their head

1 during the meeting.

2 If you do not want to formally make
3 comments tonight, that's fine. We'll also accept
4 written comments. On page 7 of the notice of
5 intent it explain exactly how you can provide us
6 with written comments. In addition there are
7 comment sheets in the back of the room, you can
8 fill one of those out and provide it to FERC
9 staff, like, Kelley or myself or Ellen or Rob.
10 And we'll ensure that those comments end up on
11 the public record. All comments, whether given
12 orally tonight or received in written form, will
13 receive equal consideration.

14 The scoping period for the notice of
15 intent, like I said earlier, began on
16 August 1st, 2011, and continues through February
17 27th, 2012, which is in a little less than a
18 month the scoping period will end. However, that
19 is not the end of the public scoping period --
20 that's not the end of the public comment period.
21 When we issue a draft environmental impact
22 statement, we'll have a comment period associated
23 with that document as well. And we'll also have
24 additional comment meetings at that time much
25 like these meetings.

1 This meeting is being recorded by a
2 court reporter so that all the comments that are
3 received tonight will be reflected accurately in
4 the public record.

5 The Federal Energy Regulatory
6 Commission is an independent regulatory agency.
7 The Commission's mission is to regulate and
8 oversee energy industries and the economic and
9 environmental interests of the American public.
10 Among other responsibilities, the Commission
11 regulates the interstate transmission of natural
12 gas.

13 The Commission is made up of five
14 members who are appointed by the President and
15 approved by Congress. The Commission staff,
16 which includes people like myself and Kelley and
17 Ellen, prepare technical documents to help the
18 commissioners make an informed decision on each
19 project that comes before the Commission.

20 When a company wants to build
21 facilities to transport and sell natural gas in
22 interstate commerce, the company must first file
23 an application with the Commission. In the case
24 of the Alaska Pipeline Project, they requested to
25 initiate our pre-filing process in May of 2009,

1 and have announced their intention to file the
2 formal application in October of 2012 under
3 Section 7C of the Natural Gas Act. The docket
4 number with the PF prefix means that this project
5 is a pre-filing project. In this case it's
6 PF09-11-000.

7 Under the National Environmental
8 Policy Act the Commission is required to perform
9 an environmental analysis of the proposed
10 project's potential effects on the environment.
11 In this case we'll be issuing an environmental
12 impact statement as I stated previously.
13 Generally the environmental impact statement
14 describes the project's facilities and associated
15 environmental impact alternatives to the project,
16 mitigation to avoid or reduce impacts and our
17 conclusions and recommendations.

18 The Bureau of Land Management, U.S.
19 Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Coast Guard,
20 Eielson Air Force Base, U.S. Fish and Wildlife
21 Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
22 U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and
23 Hazardous Material Safety Administration, U.S.
24 Geologic Survey, Office of the Federal
25 Coordinator and the State Pipeline Coordinator's

1 office are all cooperating agencies in the
2 preparation of the environmental impact statement
3 to help fulfill their permitting
4 responsibilities.

5 The environmental impact statement is
6 used to advise the Commission and to disclose to
7 the public the environmental impacts of
8 constructing and operating the project. The
9 Commission will consider the environmental
10 information and public comments as well as a host
11 of non-environmental issues such as rates,
12 tariffs, cost of service, market and various
13 economic issues in making an informed decision on
14 whether or not to approve the project. For this
15 project, the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act of
16 2004 specifies that the EIS must meet the
17 National Environmental Policy Act requirements of
18 all federal agencies considering any action on
19 this project, such as issuing a permit.

20 The environmental impact statement is
21 not a decision-making document. When the
22 environmental impact statement is complete we
23 will provide it and the staff input on material
24 and staff material and input on the
25 non-environmental issues to the Commission so the

1 commissioners can make an informed decision on
2 the project as a whole. If the Commission does
3 vote to authorize the project then Commission
4 staff, like myself and Kelley and Ellen, would
5 monitor the project throughout construction and
6 restoration to ensure that all of the
7 environmental mitigation measures that are
8 committed to during the permitting process are
9 followed through on, and any conditions of the
10 orders would be met.

11 Tonight's scoping meeting is one of
12 the first steps in our process to develop a
13 complete environmental record of the Alaska
14 Pipeline Project. We're here tonight to get your
15 input on the environmental issues that you want
16 to see addressed within the environmental impact
17 statement. Your comments along with those of
18 other interested groups and agencies will help us
19 focus our analysis on significant impacts. As I
20 said earlier, there will also be a comment period
21 on the draft environmental impact statement once
22 we issue it.

23 If you have additional questions
24 about the Commission I'd encourage you to visit
25 the Commission's Web site at www.FERC.gov.

1 Are there any questions about the
2 FERC process or our role in this project at this
3 time?

4 Go ahead. Can I get your name?

5 PAM MILLER: Pam Miller. Will you go then
6 directly to the hearing if there's no questions?

7 DANNY LAFFOON: If there's no questions
8 we'll go then into the presentation by the
9 company. And then we'll go into the scoping part
10 of the project. But this is not a hearing.

11 PAM MILLER: Can we ask questions of FERC
12 and its process after we hear the presentation?

13 DANNY LAFFOON: Sure.

14 PAM MILLER: Thank you.

15 DANNY LAFFOON: All right. Now I'd like
16 to introduce Mel Johnson with the Alaska Pipeline
17 Project to introduce their project.

18 MEL JOHNSON: Thank you, Danny.

19 So my name is Mel Johnson. I'm the
20 director of pipeline and facilities for the
21 Alaska Pipeline Project. First, before I get
22 going, I am going to be using some notes here.
23 And there are copies available. Does anyone in
24 the audience not have a copy?

25 Everyone has one.

1 So I'm going to start on the first --
2 page 2 and then I'll just let you know where
3 we're at.

4 So the purpose of my brief comments
5 this evening will really be to describe the
6 project that we're proposing. And I will very
7 much be in line with the project as it's
8 described in our resource report number 1, which
9 is the general project description. The other
10 thing I'll mention just up front is we do have a
11 table at the back. And once the session closes
12 we do have a number of our APP project members
13 here that can answer questions. And we have maps
14 at the back as well with a bit -- a whole lot
15 more detail on the project route.

16 So the Alaska Pipeline Project is a
17 joint undertaking between TransCanada Alaska and
18 ExxonMobil. And the project will treat,
19 transport and deliver gas from the Alaska North
20 Slope to a pipeline to facilities in Alberta,
21 Canada, whereby it connects with existing
22 pipeline facilities which will ensure that
23 delivery for Alaskan gas can take place to all
24 markets in North America. As Danny outlined, the
25 project is federally regulated by the Federal

1 Energy Regulatory Commission as lead agency. And
2 I'll also just mention that of course, our
3 project is being progressed under the Alaska
4 Gasline Inducement Act as well.

5 Moving on to page 3 you'll see a map
6 of the project. And while the map shows the
7 entire project that we're working on, of course,
8 the scope for what falls under the FERC
9 regulatory structure includes the facilities in
10 Alaska. The facilities in Alaska, if you look up
11 on the North Slope, there's a green line there.
12 That's the Point Thomson gas transmission line,
13 about a 58-mile line. And I'll describe it a bit
14 further in the following pages. But it
15 essentially is -- will be built to deliver Point
16 Thomson gas to Prudhoe Bay where our gas
17 treatment plant is.

18 The gas treatment plant is located on
19 the North Slope within the Prudhoe Bay Unit. And
20 the purpose of the gas treatment plant really is
21 to condition the gas so that it's pipeline-ready.
22 I'll describe that when I'm talking about the gas
23 treatment plant.

24 The Alaska mainline is about
25 745 miles long through Alaska from the gas

1 treatment plant basically following existing
2 highways and developments right through to the
3 Alaska/Yukon border near Beaver Creek. It
4 includes eight compressor stations to essentially
5 move the gas through Alaska. There are 19 in
6 total if you count the ones that are on the
7 Canadian portion of the project as well, but
8 eight in Alaska. And we've committed to a
9 minimum of five in-state natural gas delivery
10 points as well.

11 The total land affected in Alaska is
12 noted there. During construction we have about
13 32,000 acres of land that will be affected by the
14 work that we're doing. And by the time we go
15 into operations we'll only need the 10,500 acres.
16 And that really relates to the fact that there's
17 a significant amount of land that's being used
18 for things like, for example, borrow pits for
19 gravel that we'll require for the project and
20 whatnot. But once the pipeline is built those
21 temporary work spaces and other areas won't be
22 required.

23 Moving on to page 4. Got a bit of
24 detail. And you can see a map there of the Point
25 Thomson gas pipeline. I mentioned it was

1 58 miles long. It's a 32-inch pipe in diameter.
2 It'll be constructed to deliver approximately 1.1
3 billion standard cubic feet per day of gas. And
4 it'll be operating at a pressure of 1,130 pounds
5 per square inch. This pipeline for that pressure
6 will have a wall thickness of just under half an
7 inch. So you see the .387 inches, but that'll be
8 the thickness of the wall of that pipe. And the
9 natural gas will be cooled to temperatures below
10 freezing before entering the pipeline.

11 Moving on to page 5. The gas
12 treatment plant, as I mentioned, it was located
13 in the Prudhoe Bay Unit. And it's right next to
14 the existing facilities there, the central gas
15 facility up at Prudhoe Bay. The gas treatment
16 plant is designed to process an annual average of
17 up to 5.3 billion standard cubic feet of
18 untreated natural gas and deliver approximately
19 an average of 4.5 billion standard cubic feet of
20 gas into the Alaska mainline at a pressure of
21 2,500 psi. And the reason for the gas treatment
22 plant really is primarily to remove CO₂, which is
23 in the field. And that will be returned back to
24 the -- back to the field for reinjection.
25 There's slight traces of H₂S, hydrogen sulphide,

1 as well, and that will be removed so that really
2 the intent is to have, again, pipeline-quality
3 gas is what we would say. And that's gas that
4 could be delivered for markets. We do a couple
5 other things in the gas treatment plant. We
6 compress the gas there so we have -- I mentioned
7 that we have compressor stations along the line
8 as well, but initially there's compression there.
9 And we dehydrate, again, to make the gas
10 sales-gas quality.

11 The gas treatment plant has about
12 approximately a million installed horsepower.
13 And that's for power generation and then for the
14 compression and for the process to remove the
15 CO2.

16 And there are a couple of upgrades
17 that will be incorporated with that project. For
18 example, we need to do some work at the West
19 Dock. Most of the modules that would be used to
20 construct the gas treatment plant would be
21 shipped and would land at the West Dock. And so
22 there are some modifications at the dock that
23 would be required for that.

24 Moving on to page 6. There's a
25 couple of -- one photo of the existing Prudhoe

1 Bay Unit facilities. The central gas facility
2 there. And then one drawing of an approximation
3 of what our gas treatment plant would look like.

4 Page 7, talking about the Alaska
5 mainline. The Alaska mainline, as I stated
6 earlier, will be approximately 745 miles of
7 48-inch diameter. This pipe will be just under
8 one inch thick. So it's .932 inches.

9 The pipe for the most part will be
10 buried. There are a couple of exceptions to
11 that. For example, potentially some water
12 crossings and some seismic areas where -- for the
13 safe design of a pipe we would bring that
14 aboveground. But the majority of the pipeline
15 would be buried along the route.

16 And the natural gas will be cooled.
17 And, again, that's to protect the permafrost that
18 it will be buried in. So the pipeline receives
19 from the gas treatment plant the 4.5 billion
20 standard cubic feet per day and moves that down
21 with the five potential offtakes to deliver gas
22 to Alaskans.

23 The aboveground facilities that are
24 associated throughout the pipeline are listed
25 there. We've got metering stations at the top

1 end for the Point Thomson gas and then from the
2 gas treatment plant. There'll be major block
3 valves approximately every 20 miles or so. And
4 there'll be pig launchers and receivers to
5 basically allow us to do maintenance on the
6 pipeline along the way. And then compressor
7 stations that are located about every 80 to
8 100 miles along the pipeline as well. And the --
9 on the map and on the maps at the back you can
10 see what the current design for those volumes,
11 where the locations for those compressor stations
12 will be and other facilities.

13 Moving on to page 8. Our compressor
14 stations, I mentioned there would be eight
15 stations in Alaska. The purpose of the
16 compressor station is basically to compress the
17 gas to pipeline pressure to maintain the pressure
18 and allow the flow of the gas through the
19 pipeline. Plus, we cool the discharged gas so
20 that -- again, for the protection of the
21 permafrost. Approximately 90- to 100-mile
22 intervals between the compressor stations. The
23 stations themselves, and you can see in the one
24 photo at the bottom of page 8, that's an existing
25 facility that we have in Alberta on our

1 TransCanada system right now. And that would be
2 pretty much approximately the size, they're about
3 25 acres per site. Each of the compressors are
4 approximately 45,000 horsepower. And these are
5 essentially jet engines that power the compressor
6 to move the gas along. We've got six stations
7 with one of these turbines in each station. And
8 two of the stations will have multiple turbines.
9 And that's for a number of reasons, primarily to
10 ensure that we've got reliability for the flow.

11 The cooling of the gas we've talked
12 about is done using gas-to-gas heat exchangers
13 and aerial coolers which, again, this is fairly
14 standard technology.

15 And then at each station we generate
16 our own power as well. That's the base case that
17 we've got right now. And essentially we use
18 generators that are powered by natural gas as the
19 fuel. And they're designed for remote operation.
20 All of the facilities would be telemetered and
21 there'd be signals sent to a centralized
22 gas-controlled facility. But we do have
23 permanent living quarters on site to facilitate
24 maintenance and other times that we need to have
25 people on site.

1 Page 9. Got a bit of a graphic with
2 the project schedule. And this is as described
3 within the resource reports that we've done. And
4 this is consistent with, again, what we've filed
5 and what we will file for in October, 2012, for
6 the certificate of public convenience and
7 necessity. An important note is the timing and
8 commencement for construction. So we show a
9 couple of points on here where we would view the
10 construction and commission period to take place.
11 That really is somewhat dependent on the
12 regulatory approvals, the process that it'll take
13 us to go through the regulatory means. And then
14 also it depends on the commercial support from
15 natural gas shippers. And then the project
16 sponsors need to actually sanction the project
17 once those other two steps are in place.

18 That brings me to the last slide.
19 And, again, on behalf of the Alaska Pipeline
20 Project we do appreciate your attendance and
21 coming out today. And our role here is really to
22 assist FERC in the work that they're doing to
23 understand what the issues are here. And we look
24 forward to supporting this process. Our resource
25 reports are available of course through our

1 docket with FERC, and also on our Web site. And
2 it's noted there,
3 www.thealaskapipelineproject.com. And there's a
4 fair amount of information on that site and I'd
5 invite you to look at it.

6 That concludes what I have to say.

7 DANNY LAFFOON: Thank you, Mr. Johnson.

8 Are there any questions regarding the
9 facilities that Mr. Johnson described in his
10 presentation? Does anybody -- everybody
11 understand what they're proposing to build?

12 Yes, can I get your name?

13 PAM MILLER: Pam Miller. I have a
14 question about what facilities in Canada there
15 will be at the end of the pipeline for processing
16 the gas.

17 MEL JOHNSON: Okay. So there really
18 aren't any facilities that we have as part of
19 this project to process the gas. The gas --
20 essentially all of the treatment, if you will,
21 occurs at the gas treatment plant that we have.
22 And when we -- when the gas moves from -- well,
23 from Alaska into Canada and then once it connects
24 into the existing facilities there's no further
25 treatment that's required.

1 PAM MILLER: Thank you. I'll wait to see
2 if anybody else has questions before I come to my
3 next one.

4 DANNY LAFFOON: Does anybody else have any
5 questions regarding the facilities that APP is
6 proposing to build?

7 Your next question?

8 PAM MILLER: Pam Miller. I have a
9 question about the resource reports. I went to
10 the Web site maybe a week ago when they were
11 first posted and quite a few of them were
12 confidential information. And I wondered the
13 rationale behind that and if FERC will -- so
14 that's a question for the project applicant. And
15 for FERC my question will be: Can you insist
16 that this information be made public? Most of
17 it -- there was even basic environmental
18 information that appeared to be kept
19 confidential.

20 MEL JOHNSON: So there usually are a
21 couple of reasons why information will be
22 confidential. And an example would be that --
23 for our route for example, there are certain
24 parts of the route that for reasons of
25 potentially -- it's because of security and

1 whatnot that that information is not included in
2 the resource reports. The information is
3 provided to the regulator for that. As well,
4 there's some information -- because these are
5 draft resource reports the information is not yet
6 contained in the reports but will be provided at
7 a later date. And we usually say that it'll be
8 included either in the next draft or in the final
9 application.

10 DANNY LAFFOON: Regarding whether we would
11 force them into submitting them differently,
12 like, into a public docket, it would depend upon
13 what's in the information, what was filed. If we
14 believe that it should be held confidential then
15 we'll allow it to stay where it is. If we feel
16 that there is no need for it to be confidential
17 we would ask that the company possibly transfer
18 it over into public information.

19 Yes?

20 DOUG ISAACSON: I guess I have one
21 question. Doug Isaacson, North Pole. When it
22 comes to the gas treatment plant, right now it's
23 designed to primarily do these specific things.
24 How difficult would it be if the Legislature, or
25 whichever, decided to extract some of the liquids

1 or other useful components and keep them in
2 state? Could this treatment plant be used to
3 extract those also or does it also just flow out
4 to Alberta? Or the outtakes, can they handle
5 them? Could you explain that part if you
6 understand my question?

7 MEL JOHNSON: So basically what I would
8 say is -- so, again, the purpose of the gas
9 treatment plant is to ensure that the gas enters
10 so that it's pipeline-quality gas. And that
11 would be so that when we do have offtakes in
12 Alaska, for example, that that would be of a
13 quality that we can use for delivery to Alaskans
14 as an example. In terms of further work, I guess
15 processing, if you will, of the gas, essentially
16 what we do as the transporter is if there are
17 proposals that somebody wants to do that wherever
18 it might be, then we entertain it. Ultimately
19 though it ends up being the shipper and through
20 the contracts that they have that really
21 determines that. So we design what basically the
22 shipper wants is really the way it works for the
23 most part.

24 DANNY LAFFOON: Anymore questions?

25 BRIAN McNEIL: Brian McNeil. Could you

1 tell me the approximate location of the five gas
2 takeoff points in Alaska?

3 DANNY LAFFOON: Sure. So of the five --
4 first of all, they were derived with the
5 information that we have. So we went out as part
6 of a process and commissioned a gas needs study
7 for Alaska. And from that study it became
8 evident for four of the five. And you can pretty
9 much guess where those are going to be, although,
10 again, on the maps we can be more specific to
11 show you where those are. And then the fifth
12 would really be what the market drives. But
13 ultimately, like, the number of takeoffs that are
14 there are really something that is dependent on,
15 again, what the market is looking at and what the
16 shippers want to do in terms of selling the gas
17 as well. We've committed to five. And, again,
18 four are pretty clear with the markets that
19 currently exist in Alaska. So obviously
20 Fairbanks would be one area where there would be
21 one of these takeoffs. But ultimately, again,
22 you know, as time goes on here towards moving
23 towards having the commercial certainty and
24 whatnot, those points will be further defined.
25 And it'll be an integrative process really with

1 the state and with the consumers is the way it
2 works, and with the shippers.

3 BRIAN MCNEIL: So it'll be a minimum of
4 five?

5 DANNY LAFFOON: That's correct. And that
6 came from the AGIA statute as well.

7 All right. Thank you, Mr. Johnson.

8 Alaska Pipeline Project
9 representatives will be available after the
10 meeting to answer any further more specific
11 questions that you may have regarding the project
12 facilities. And they also have with them maps
13 tonight. And I'd encourage you to look at the
14 maps and see exactly where the pipeline route is
15 proposed to go.

16 Now we'll hear from those of you who
17 signed up to present comments tonight.

18 A transcript of this meeting is being
19 recorded and will be placed into the public
20 record so that everyone will have access to the
21 comments that are made here tonight. For the
22 court reporter's benefit I have a couple of
23 ground rules that I'd like to set before we start
24 with the public participation part of this
25 meeting. Please come up to the podium and state

1 and spell your first and last name. State any
2 agency or group that you may be representing.
3 Define any acronyms or terms that you may use.
4 And please speak one at a time.

5 As I mentioned before if you choose
6 not to speak tonight you may leave written
7 comments for FERC staff. And we will ensure that
8 those comments end up on the public record. Or
9 you can mail your comments to the Commission. On
10 the comment sheet it has an address right on
11 there. If you mail the comment to that address
12 it'll end up on the public record. Or you can
13 submit your comments electronically.

14 The first speaker tonight I have is
15 Bob Sattler with the Tanana Chiefs Conference.

16 BOB SATTLER: I'm a local resident and I
17 think I'm the minority in the crowd here tonight.
18 I think I was the only one signed up a few
19 minutes ago so I encourage other people to get
20 signed up if they have interests.

21 So to follow your rules, my name is
22 Bob Sattler. B-O-B, S-A-T-T-L-E-R. And I
23 represent Tanana Chiefs Conference.

24 Being the only speaker the only limit
25 I have I guess is that I'm skating with the

1 University of Alaska alumni hockey team here at
2 8:00 so I need to be out of here in about ten
3 minutes. I have a script here that I prepared
4 with Jerry Isaac, the president of Tanana Chiefs,
5 throughout the last couple of days, so I'm going
6 to go ahead and read it. I thought that I would
7 be in more competition here this evening for time
8 and that I would improvise as I went along, but
9 I'm going to go ahead and read my script.

10 My name is Bob Sattler, senior
11 archaeologist/environmental quality analyst with
12 Tanana Chiefs Conference. My comments here are
13 not formal positions endorsed by the TCC board of
14 directors or any member of tribal government
15 among TCC members, but are based on observations
16 I've made over the past seven years consulting
17 with state, federal and tribal officials over the
18 environmental review for this project, and the
19 Denali project I should say too. In my
20 experience consulting with Alaska Native leaders
21 and villages along the prospective right-of-way
22 corridor there is nearly universal support for
23 this project with an anticipation of Tribal
24 government and ANCSA Village Corporation
25 involvement. Consequently TCC has been working

1 collaboratively to eliminate impediments to the
2 project since 2003 to help advance the project.

3 My comments will highlight issues
4 that strike at the purpose and need in the human
5 environment of the EIS. TCC will be submitting
6 more expansive written comments by the February
7 27th scoping deadline.

8 Tanana Chiefs is intrinsically
9 interested in the project since all the directly
10 affected human communities in the pipeline
11 footprint are located in the TCC or the Doyon
12 region of Interior Alaska. More compelling, the
13 Native people of this region are the only Alaska
14 Natives who have already experienced pipelines.
15 The villages along the Alaska highway experienced
16 the former military pipelines, the Canol and the
17 Haines-Fairbanks lines, between the mid-1940s and
18 the mid-1970s. This is a legacy issue in the
19 NEPA process, and contaminated sites and other
20 issues persist.

21 Villages north of Fairbanks went
22 through the TAPS experience. Those pipeline
23 Tribes which are all members of TCC initiated the
24 aboriginal land claims in Alaska and the rest is
25 history. Pipelines in this region of Alaska have

1 had profound effects on the Native communities in
2 the directly impacted areas. The potential
3 socioeconomic effects posed by the APP, that is
4 the Alaska Pipeline Project, gas pipeline are
5 rooted in that history and need to be addressed
6 in the EIS.

7 NEPA requires a blend of
8 interdisciplinary analysis on the natural and
9 human environments. EIS studies in Alaska
10 typically weigh in heavily on the natural
11 environment and light on the human environment.
12 A new approach on health impacts applied in the
13 past several years has begun the pendulum swing
14 to more appropriately analyze the broad topic of
15 impacts to people. The draft Report 5,
16 socioeconomics, state that a health impact
17 assessment, or HIA, is in the works for this
18 project. The health impact approach offers an
19 alternative proxy to classic anthropological and
20 sociological models in part because there are
21 measurable effects observed in medical data over
22 time. TCC manages diverse health programs that
23 possess special expertise to bear on a gas
24 pipeline HIA for numerous Native villages the
25 pipeline traverses.

1 TCC and its member villages have met
2 with project sponsors in pre-scoping meetings
3 over the past two years. Those meetings have
4 been reported in monthly submissions to FERC
5 regarding public outreach with Alaska Natives.
6 Repeatedly project sponsors express interest in
7 local content or involving local communities.

8 In my initial read of the draft
9 Report 5 I found very little context of those
10 pre-scoping meetings. Instead the scale of the
11 socioeconomic report is very broadly based on
12 statewide impacts. At a glance, the subsistence
13 component is extensive; but not enough attention
14 is given to scoping on other potential effects
15 the project poses on the small Native communities
16 in the proposed corridor.

17 It is worth noting that the
18 references cited in the socioeconomic report
19 includes not a single citation of
20 \$100 million-plus EIS work conducted in the 1970s
21 on the earlier gas pipeline project. Tribal
22 leaders with whom I've consulted started their
23 thinking on the current gasline project either
24 where the 1970s gasline work or the TAPS
25 right-of-way renewal left off. The absence of

1 tiered documentation on those NEPA reviews is a
2 rather significant omission.

3 My last point is an area where TCC
4 possesses special expertise and arguably exerts
5 legal jurisdiction. This concerns individual
6 Indian homesteads or Native allotments located
7 along the proposed alignment. There are
8 approximately 75 allotments located within one
9 mile of the Dalton, Richardson and Alaska
10 Highways that are managed by Tanana Chiefs
11 through a self-governance compact with the Bureau
12 of Indian Affairs. A few of those are caught up
13 in the legal snare with the State of Alaska in
14 so-called title recovery cases. TCC has worked
15 diligently to resolve those outstanding land
16 issues and exhaust the Native allotment claims in
17 a proactive manner over several years to
18 eliminate one potential impediment for a gas
19 pipeline right-of-way. However, in spite of our
20 continued advocacy and clear precedence rights
21 for allotment title in case law, some of those
22 allotment claims remain unresolved.

23 Given the 18 month fast-tracked
24 environmental review for such a large project,
25 FERC will be challenged to conclude an

1 appropriate socioeconomic analysis given that the
2 draft report is weak on impacts to small
3 communities in the footprint of the project.
4 Given the fast-track time frame, the lead agency
5 should fully explore an adaptive management
6 option for directly impacted communities in the
7 spirit of NEPA. This approach would rely on
8 systematic and deliberate monitoring of the
9 socioeconomic effects as a viable mitigation
10 measure over time.

11 To conclude, my personal hope is that
12 all the good minds involved in the EIS will
13 produce an appropriate analysis of impacts to the
14 human environment posed by the project. The
15 draft Report 5 states that during TAPS the small
16 villages were the most severely impacted
17 communities. And this is a quote from an
18 Information Insights report. The experienced
19 staff at FERC and their third-party contractor
20 for the EIS, Argonne National Laboratory, need to
21 work with the people who live along the alignment
22 to minimize adverse effects while finding ways to
23 bring energy or economic relief to those
24 communities.

25 So that's my testimony this evening.

1 Thank you.

2 DANNY LAFFOON: Thank you.

3 As you said, that was the only
4 speaker that we have signed up right now. Is
5 there anybody else who wishes to speak? Don't be
6 bashful.

7 PAM MILLER: Thank you for coming to
8 Fairbanks tonight. My name is Pamela A. Miller.
9 I'm arctic program director for the Northern
10 Alaska Environmental Center.

11 And clearly natural gas is of great
12 interest to all of us here in Alaska. And it's
13 confusing. And it's too cold tonight to stay
14 very long without your car being plugged in and
15 there's no plug-ins. So in terms of a public
16 meeting, that is certainly a detriment. So I'm
17 glad there are as many people here as there are.

18 We have heard our Governor Parnell
19 talk about Exxon not being interested in the AGIA
20 process in this gas pipeline to go through Canada
21 to the Lower 48. And it's confusing what
22 projects are really considered reasonably
23 foreseeable. And the Governor has talked about
24 another gas pipeline project, the possibility of
25 LNG exports to Asia, with this very same gas.

1 So I think FERC needs to look at,
2 number one, is this project really moving? And
3 obviously the applicant has put forward a public
4 process. And is it truly interested in building
5 this pipeline is more of a rhetorical question
6 than what you can consider in your EIS, but
7 looking at can you consider alternatives to this
8 project that are on the table at the same time.
9 And the goal of this is to get gas, presumably,
10 to the United States in the Lower 48.

11 Here in Fairbanks we would like to
12 see natural gas come to our town. And so that's
13 one thing that is asked of every pipeline
14 project. Can we get natural gas to get away from
15 our other fossil fuel burning that is dirtier and
16 has more particulates here in town? Clearly I
17 heard that the shippers are those who decide
18 whether there's a market condition that warrants
19 that kind of offtake. And I would urge FERC to
20 consider as a mitigation measure the gas for
21 in-state use which appears not to be the priority
22 of the project proponent.

23 I think in terms of FERC's role in
24 this pipeline to go to the Lower 48, there's an
25 assumption that the gas will reach the Lower 48

1 consumer and will be burned as natural gas. I
2 think it's really important to evaluate. This
3 gas is going through Canada, it's going through
4 the heart of the tar sands development. There's
5 been much in the news about natural gas being
6 used to develop the tar sands. Will this gas
7 pipeline ultimately really end up being consumed
8 in Canada and not the United States? I think
9 that's an important issue.

10 Let's see. I am concerned about the
11 number of confidential reports and would
12 encourage FERC to have the final reports
13 available so that the public can comment on that
14 environmental information. Because this is a
15 quick process, having the best information early
16 in the process will move it along. And in terms
17 of we hear a lot about the complexity and the
18 need to streamline processes if the public
19 doesn't have what's required at this point in
20 terms of the reports to FERC then that's not
21 streamlining by the applicant. And some of the
22 reports clearly did not look like they were
23 Homeland Security arguments about the safety of
24 pipelines, but they were more general types of
25 environmental information.

1 Then there's cumulative impacts of
2 the Point Thomson development. There's two
3 parallel processes going on by Exxon, that EIS
4 and this EIS; and how do they mesh. And what
5 cumulative impacts with offshore development and
6 neighboring impacts potentially to the arctic
7 refuge are involved? One impact that may seem
8 like a minor point, but the dredging at West
9 Dock. There's an important arctic migration of
10 fish that go from Canada to the Native villages
11 on the North Slope including Nuiqsut. And that's
12 highly -- making sure that the mitigation
13 measures are adequate for that in the dredging
14 proposal.

15 And we appreciate your coming.
16 Clearly natural gas is something that we're
17 focused on within the state as a fuel that
18 potentially could have less emissions. We do
19 want to see how the greenhouse gas emissions are
20 dealt with at the compressor plants, at the gas
21 handling plants. And the noise impacts should be
22 considered from all those plants, on the Slope as
23 well as along the route.

24 So you have a big mission in front of
25 you and thank you for coming to Fairbanks.

1 DANNY LAFFOON: Thank you.

2 I would kind of like to address some
3 of your concerns. Your first comment was is this
4 project real. As APP has recently filed their
5 draft resource reports, we're definitely taking
6 this project very seriously and looking at it as
7 it is a real project. This project is definitely
8 taking a lot of effort on our part to review all
9 of the resource reports and we are seriously
10 looking at this project.

11 Another comment that you made is
12 would the gas go to the Lower 48. The same
13 molecules of gas probably wouldn't go to the
14 Lower 48, but the same volume of gas would.
15 That's in APP's proposal. That's part of the
16 Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act, is that that gas
17 would make it to the Lower 48 or that volume of
18 gas would make it to the Lower 48.

19 And your concern regarding the number
20 of confidential reports, I personally don't know
21 which reports were filed as confidential at this
22 point, but I know that several reports were
23 probably filed as privileged information that the
24 general public does not have access to. And a
25 lot of those reports are, like, archaeological

1 reports or can be threatened or endangered
2 species survey reports depending on the species
3 and that sort of thing.

4 PAM MILLER: There were more than those.
5 I understand that need to keep confidential
6 information.

7 DANNY LAFFOON: Okay. Most of the rest of
8 your comments, we will definitely be analyzing,
9 like, cumulative impacts on the Point Thomson
10 region, fish migration impacts from dredging, and
11 greenhouse gas emission and noise associated with
12 compressor stations.

13 Thank you for your comments. I
14 appreciate it.

15 Anybody else wish to speak? Anyone
16 at all?

17 All right. Well, then in that case
18 I'll move on.

19 Anyone who would like to purchase a
20 copy of the transcript of tonight's meeting can
21 make arrangements with the court reporter
22 following the meeting.

23 The FERC Web site contains a link
24 called eLibrary. By typing in the docket number,
25 in this case PF09-11, in eLibrary you can gain

1 access to everything in the public record
2 including filings submitted by the applicant,
3 filings submitted by other interested parties and
4 individuals and any data requests that we may
5 issue to the applicant. You can view everything
6 that's on the docket on eLibrary that is filed as
7 public.

8 Detailed information for accessing
9 the Commission's public records is in the notice
10 of intent on page 9. And we also have handouts
11 in the back of the room on exactly how to access
12 our Web site.

13 You can also eSubscribe to the
14 project. That's a service that we provide where
15 any time anything is filed on the public docket
16 you will receive an e-mail notification stating
17 who filed it and a brief explanation as to what
18 exactly was filed. So you don't have to
19 constantly keep tabs on what's happening with the
20 docket. You don't constantly have to log onto
21 our Web site to see if anything was filed.

22 While the formal part of this meeting
23 will conclude, I will encourage you to review the
24 maps that APP has with them and ask them any
25 further questions that you may have. On behalf

1 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission --
2 oh, I have a comment --

3 TOM MOYER: Well, if you don't mind, you
4 introduced me before because I work for an
5 elected official. And you wouldn't know that
6 Doug Isaacson from North Pole is the Mayor of
7 North Pole.

8 DANNY LAFFOON: Okay.

9 TOM MOYER: And Mike Musick, joined us
10 late, is from the North Star Borough Assembly.

11 DANNY LAFFOON: Thank you. Thank you both
12 for coming.

13 On behalf of the Federal Energy
14 Regulatory Commission I'd like to thank everybody
15 for coming tonight.

16 Let the record show that the scoping
17 meeting for the -- in Fairbanks for the Alaska
18 Pipeline Project concluded at 8:00 p.m.

19 Thank you, very much.

20 (Scoping meeting concluded at 8:00 p.m.)
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24