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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Dominion Cove Point LNG, LP : Docket No. PF12-16-000  
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COVE POINT LIQUEFACTION PROJECT

Creighton Corner Elementary  
23171 Minerva Drive  
Ashburn, VA 20148  
Wednesday, October 10, 2012

The environmental scoping meeting, pursuant to notice,  
convened at 7:19 p.m., before a Staff Panel:

MAGGIE SUTER, Environmental Engineer  
ZEKE RICE, Merjent

With:

AMANDA PRESTAGE, Regulatory and Certificates  
Analyst, Dominion Cove Point LNG, LP

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

2 MS. SUTER: Good evening. On behalf of the  
3 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission -- or FERC -- I would  
4 like to welcome you all here tonight. This is the  
5 environmental scoping meeting for the Cove Point  
6 Liquefaction Project proposed by Dominion.

7 Let the record show that the public scoping  
8 meeting in Ashburn, Virginia began at 7:19 p.m. on October  
9 10, 2012.

10 The primary purpose of this meeting is to provide  
11 you an opportunity to comment on the project or on the scope  
12 of the environmental analysis being prepared for the Cove  
13 Point Liquefaction Project.

14 My name is Maggie Suter, and I am the  
15 environmental project manager with the Commission's Office  
16 of Energy Projects. With me at the table tonight is Zeke  
17 Rice with Merjent, an environmental consulting firm working  
18 as our third-party contractor assisting us in preparing the  
19 environmental document for this project.

20 Working at the sign-in table tonight is Rafael  
21 Montag, who is also with FERC, and Gramm Book, who is also  
22 with Merjent.

23 The FERC is an independent agency that regulates  
24 the interstate transmission of electricity, natural gas, and  
25 oil. We review proposals and authorize construction of  
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1 interstate natural gas pipelines, storage facilities, and  
2 liquefied natural gas or LNG terminals, as well as the  
3 licensing and inspection of hydroelectric projects. As a  
4 federal licensing agency, the FERC has the responsibility  
5 under the National Environmental Policy Act -- or NEPA -- to  
6 consider the potential environmental impacts associated with  
7 the project which is under its consideration.

8           With regard to the Dominion Cove Point  
9 Liquefaction Project, the FERC is the lead federal agency  
10 for the NEPA review for which preparation of an  
11 environmental document is performed. The Department of  
12 Energy has agreed to participate as a cooperating agency in  
13 preparation of this environmental document.

14           The Department of Energy and any other  
15 cooperating agencies may use the environmental document to  
16 meet their respective NEPA responsibilities associated with  
17 issuing their permits.

18           As I said earlier, the primary purpose of this  
19 meeting tonight is to give you an opportunity to comment on  
20 the project or on the environmental issues that you would  
21 like to see covered in the environmental document. It will  
22 help us most if your comments are as specific as possible  
23 regarding the potential environmental impacts and reasonable  
24 alternatives of the proposed Cove Point liquefaction  
25 project.

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1           These issues generally focus on potential for  
2 environmental effects, but may also address construction  
3 issues, mitigation, and the environmental review process as  
4 a whole.

5           In addition, this meeting is designed to provide  
6 you with an opportunity to meet with Dominion  
7 representatives after the formal portion of the meeting  
8 closes so that you may ask them questions and get more  
9 detailed information about the proposed facility locations  
10 and construction plans.

11           Tonight's agenda is simple. I am going to first  
12 describe the environmental review process and FERC's role in  
13 this project. Then we're going to let Dominion give a more  
14 complete description of their proposal. Finally, we will  
15 hear from those of you who have signed up to speak this  
16 evening.

17           If you would like to present comments tonight,  
18 please be sure to sign in at the speaker's list that's at  
19 the sign-in table up here in the front of the room.

20           To begin, I'm going to describe our environmental  
21 review process. To illustrate how this works, we have a  
22 beautiful flow chart, which most of you received in the  
23 Notice of Intent that was mailed to you.

24           Right now we are at the very beginning of our  
25 process, we are in the prefiling process. What this means  
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1 is that a formal application has not yet been filed with  
2 FERC. Let me repeat this because this is a very important  
3 message to take home. An application has not yet been filed  
4 and we are very early in our process.

5 To illustrate this we are right up in here in the  
6 very first Public Input Opportunity section. So to start  
7 this whole process Dominion requested to use our pre-filing  
8 process, and we accepted them into our pre-filing process  
9 back in June of this year, and then we came out and began to  
10 attend Dominion-sponsored open houses, and that was back in  
11 July. And that was also part of this first public input  
12 opportunity section.

13 FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an  
14 environmental document, and that opened a formal scoping  
15 period. That had a 30 day comment period. We issued that  
16 on September 24th, 2012, and that comment period will end on  
17 October 24th, 2012.

18 I'm going to emphasize a little bit about that  
19 for you. The close of that comment period, that does not  
20 mean we will no longer accept comments at the end of that  
21 comment period. The docket always remains open for the  
22 project. You can continue to submit comments after the  
23 close of that comment period.

24 The reason that we have a 30 day comment period  
25 out there is so that number one, at the close of that 30  
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1 days Dominion is required to respond to all comments that  
2 were made during that comment period. So that is the first  
3 time that you're going to start to see answers to the  
4 questions that you've been asking and the comments that have  
5 been made on the record. So anything that's made after  
6 that, Dominion does not have time to respond to. So that's  
7 the first part of it.

8 The second is for FERC staff. We begin to  
9 evaluate the issues that you have identified to us during  
10 the prefiling process. So we take the first part and start  
11 looking into those issues and evaluating that during  
12 prefiling.

13 Any comments that are made after the close of  
14 that scoping period, we will look into those issues and  
15 continue to evaluate those. We're just going to do that  
16 later in our process, perhaps after an application is filed  
17 or further in our review. But all comments that are made,  
18 we do evaluate, we will get every single level that is  
19 filed; and all of those issues get addressed in our  
20 environmental document that we issue.

21 After the end of the prefiling process -- and as  
22 of right now Dominion is planning to file their formal  
23 application which ends the prefiling process sometime in  
24 April of next year, April 2013. So they'll file a formal  
25 application; we will evaluate that application for  
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1 completeness; and we may have additional questions for them;  
2 but overall, once we determine we have a complete  
3 application, we will prepare an environmental document.  
4 That environmental document will again be issued to the  
5 public along with other state, local and federal agencies,  
6 newspapers, the public; you name it, we issue it to them,  
7 anyone who is on our mailing list. That has another comment  
8 period associated with it. That is again another public  
9 input opportunity.

10 So basically once we've analyzed the project, we  
11 then issue our analysis of that and you have an opportunity  
12 to comment on our analysis.

13 After that time the Commissioners will then take  
14 our environmental document, along with other information,  
15 and they then vote to approve or deny the project.

16 This is another important take-home point: The  
17 environmental document is not the decision document. The  
18 environmental document is purely an informational document  
19 that informs the public and the Commission about the  
20 environmental impacts associated with the project, but it is  
21 not the 'yes or no' document. The Commission takes that  
22 information and then afterwards makes the decision on  
23 whether to approve or deny the project.

24 There also have been some additional questions  
25 during the pre-filing process. Dominion will be filing draft  
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1 resource reports. Those are going to be your first look at  
2 some of the environmental information that is coming about  
3 the impacts associated with the project. That is some of  
4 the information that FERC uses.

5 The FERC also consults with state, local and  
6 federal agencies, and does our own independent analysis of  
7 the project. Those draft resource reports are supposed to  
8 be filed in late November of this year. So that's going to  
9 be something for you to look at get an idea of the first  
10 look at impacts.

11 One additional point that I'd like to make here  
12 is, the environmental document that will come out hopefully  
13 sometime late next year, as I said, they are going to file  
14 in April; they will take several months to pull together an  
15 environmental document to issue; so late next year we will  
16 issue that document.

17 The environmental document that we issue, because  
18 of the size of the mailing list for this project. It gets  
19 mailed out on a CD. If you do not want a CD, you have to  
20 let us know that you prefer a hard copy. You can do this in  
21 several ways.

22 The Notice of Intent that was mailed out had a  
23 card on the back of it. You can return that card and  
24 there's a box to check that says "I want a hard copy." And  
25 we will mail you a hard copy.

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1           Another way to do this is at the sign-in table  
2 here tonight, if you signed in with your name, there was a  
3 box that you could check that says "I want a hard copy."  
4 Any of those ways, and we will ensure you can see the hard  
5 copy instead of the CD copy.

6           If you are on our mailing list you will stay on  
7 our mailing list. We do not take anybody off unless you  
8 request to be taken off. The way you get taken off our  
9 mailing list is also with that return mailer. There's a box  
10 to check that says "I want to be taken off."

11           Because of the size of this mailing list, it is  
12 ever-evolving. It is a large mailing list. We do apologize  
13 if you did not receive the notice. We are trying very hard  
14 to get everybody. If you did not receive a notice and need  
15 to be added, please make sure you sign in tonight, and we  
16 will get your information and add you to our mailing list.

17           We also have extra copies of that NOI here  
18 tonight if you did not receive it. So please be sure to  
19 take a copy.

20           With that NOI, as I mentioned earlier, we open  
21 the scoping period, that 30-day scoping period.

22           There are many ways to file comments. You can do  
23 that electronically, you can mail them in, or you can do so  
24 verbally tonight.

25           If you would like to file them electronically,  
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1       there is information at the sign-in table about how to do  
2       that. We have a nice color brochure. It also tells you how  
3       to sign up for the docket for the project so you can stay  
4       constantly involved, if that's something that you're  
5       interested in. It's called eSubscription and it's a very  
6       good way; you get a small little e-mail whenever somebody  
7       files anything about the project with a link to our website.  
8       And you can just click on the link and it will open up and  
9       send you the file of whatever somebody filed about the  
10      project.

11                   For anybody filing comments, it is very important  
12      that you include the docket number for this project. The  
13      docket number was on the cover to the NOI. This docket  
14      number will ensure that your comments make it to a member of  
15      the FERC staff evaluating the project as soon as possible.

16                   The docket number for this project is PF12-16.  
17      I'm going to repeat that: PF12-16. That number will change  
18      when Dominion files their formal application. When that  
19      happens there will be a notice in this docket for PF12-16  
20      that notifies you what the new docket number is. Just to  
21      kind of keep you updated, just be following for that  
22      information.

23                   I am going to briefly explain the role of the  
24      Commission and the environmental staff.

25                   There are five Commissioners responsible for  
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1 making the determination on whether to issue -- on whether  
2 to approve or deny the project. The environmental document  
3 that is prepared by FERC staff will describe the project  
4 facility, the environmental impacts, alternatives to the  
5 project, mitigation to avoid or reduce impacts, and our  
6 conclusions and recommendations.

7 As I mentioned earlier, it is not a decision  
8 document. It is being prepared to disclose to the public  
9 and to the Commissioners the environmental impact of  
10 constructing and operating the proposed project.

11 When it is completed, the Commission will  
12 consider the environmental information from that  
13 environmental document along with non-environmental issues  
14 such as engineering, markets and rates in making its  
15 decision to approve or deny Dominion's request for a  
16 certificate.

17 There is no review of FERC's decision by the  
18 President or Congress, which maintains FERC's independence  
19 as a regulatory agency and providing for fair and unbiased  
20 decisions.

21 Before we start taking comments from you, I have  
22 asked Dominion to provide a brief overview of their project.  
23 Amanda Prestage is going to present some project information  
24 for you.

25 MS. PRESAGE: Good evening. My name is Amanda  
26

1 Prestage, and I am the Regulatory and Certificates Analyst  
2 for Dominion for the Cove Point Liquefaction Project. I am  
3 responsible for preparing the project application that is  
4 ultimately filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory  
5 Commission for the Project.

6 Also here from Dominion are representatives from  
7 our engineering, land lease and right-of-way, environmental,  
8 government affairs, media relations, facility planning, and  
9 operations departments.

10 I have prepared a speech that I will read into  
11 the record so that the information may be accessible for  
12 later use. Tonight I will provide information about  
13 Dominion, the proposed project, the process we are  
14 undertaking for the project, and the applicable  
15 environmental and safety regulations.

16 I would like to start by expressing Dominion's  
17 appreciation to everyone for coming tonight, and to say that  
18 we are looking forward to your comments regarding the Cove  
19 Point Liquefaction Project. We also appreciate the Federal  
20 Energy Regulatory Commission affording us the opportunity to  
21 provide this overview, with the goal of providing more  
22 information and clarity about the project to everyone.

23 First I would like to briefly describe Dominion  
24 Cove Point LNG, L.P., or Dominion. Dominion owns and  
25 operates the Cove Point LNG Terminal, the Cove Point  
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1 Pipeline, and the Loudoun and Pleasant Valley Compressor  
2 Stations. Dominion is the liquefied natural gas -- or LNG  
3 -- business unit of Dominion Resources, Incorporated, which  
4 is one of the nation's largest producers and transporters of  
5 energy serving more than five million electricity and  
6 natural gas customers in 15 states in the Mid-Atlantic,  
7 Midwest, and Northeast regions of the United States.

8 Next I would like to describe the project and  
9 project facilities.

10 The Cove Point liquefaction project will involve  
11 construction of new facilities, and expansion of existing  
12 facilities to provide liquefaction and LNG export services  
13 to customers who will provide their own natural gas supply.  
14 The proposed liquefaction facilities, combined with existing  
15 facilities, will provide a bidirectional service for import  
16 and export of LNG at the Cove Point LNG terminal located in  
17 Calvert County, Maryland.

18 In order to deliver the inlet gas to the Cove  
19 Point LNG terminal, additional compression on the Cove Point  
20 pipeline is required. The Cove Point pipeline system  
21 extends approximately 90 miles from the LNG terminal in  
22 Maryland to interconnects with three interstate natural gas  
23 pipeline companies in Virginia.

24 There are two compressor stations located on the  
25 Cove Point pipeline both Virginia; the Loudoun compressor  
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1 station located in Loudoun County and the Pleasant Valley  
2 compressor station located in Fairfax County. Currently the  
3 compressor stations are needed to pump the natural gas that  
4 is flowing in from the three interconnected interstate  
5 natural gas pipeline systems from a lower pressure to a  
6 higher pressure in order to deliver the natural gas to  
7 existing customers.

8 Dominion currently has fully committed firm  
9 contracts for transportation on the Cove Point pipeline that  
10 utilizes the existing horsepower located at both of the  
11 stations. As a result, in order to pump the additional gas  
12 associated with this project to the Cove Point LNG terminal,  
13 additional compression on the Cove Point pipeline is  
14 required.

15 Therefore, Dominion proposes to install up to a  
16 total of approximately 34,000 horsepower of additional  
17 compression. The new horsepower for the project will be  
18 installed either at the Loudoun compressor station or the  
19 Pleasant Valley compressor station, or a portion of the new  
20 horsepower will be installed at each station.

21 With any of the three scenarios, the total would  
22 still be approximately 34,000 horsepower.

23 The additional compression will ensure that  
24 sufficient pressures are maintained in the pipeline to  
25 enable transportation of natural gas for delivery to  
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1 existing customers and at the LNG terminals for the project  
2 customers.

3 Dominion has signed precedent agreements with two  
4 customers for this project. These agreements are for firm  
5 transportation service and for terminaling services. As  
6 previously stated, it is the responsibility of each customer  
7 to provide its supply of natural gas and have it delivered  
8 to Dominion's Cove Point pipeline.

9 After compressing the gas to raise the pressure,  
10 Dominion will provide project customers with transportation  
11 service on the Cove Point pipeline and will deliver their  
12 natural gas to the LNG terminal, where it will be liquefied  
13 and loaded onto specially designed ships.

14 The geographic location of each customer's supply  
15 for this project will determine where Dominion will need to  
16 add the additional compression. In other words, if the  
17 customer bringing their natural gas supply from an area that  
18 connects to the interstate pipelines that deliver to Cove  
19 Point pipeline at Loudoun, then the additional compression  
20 for this project will need to be located at the Loudoun  
21 compressor station.

22 Or, if the customers bring in their natural gas  
23 supply from an area that connects to the interstate pipeline  
24 that delivers to the Cove Point pipeline at the Pleasant  
25 Valley compressor station, then it would need to be located  
26

1 at the Pleasant Valley compressor station.

2 It would also be possible for the customers to  
3 have a combination of supply sources, with interstate  
4 pipeline deliveries at both stations.

5 Once the location of the supply has been  
6 identified, Dominion will then be able to design where the  
7 additional compression is needed and can inform all  
8 interested stakeholders. If the initial compression is  
9 installed at the Loudoun compressor station, space at the  
10 existing Leesburg compressor station owned by an affiliate  
11 and located across the road from the Loudoun compressor  
12 station will be utilized for temporary construction laydown,  
13 parking, and staging for construction activities. However,  
14 the Leesburg compressor station will only be utilized if  
15 compression is added at the Loudoun compressor station.

16 If the additional compression is installed at the  
17 Pleasant Valley compressor station, no offsite temporary  
18 construction laydown, parking and staging areas will be  
19 needed. However, 0.42 miles of new 36-inch diameter suction  
20 and discharge pipelines, extending from the Pleasant Valley  
21 compressor station to an existing metering and regulating  
22 site, will be installed.

23 There will be no LNG transported through  
24 interstate natural gas pipelines in Virginia or Maryland.  
25 The natural gas will not be liquefied until it reaches the  
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1 Cove Point LNG terminal in Maryland.

2 Next I will discuss where we are in the FERC  
3 process.

4 In June 2012, Dominion began the National  
5 Environmental Policy Act prefiling process with FERC. This  
6 process allows Dominion to work closely with FERC, resource  
7 agencies, communities and individual landowners during the  
8 early permitting stages of the project, with the goals of  
9 having better coordination of major permitting issues and a  
10 more complete project application when filed.

11 Dominion is currently in the initial assessment,  
12 planning, and design stage of the process. At the  
13 conclusion of the prefiling process, Dominion will file a  
14 formal application with FERC. Draft environmental resource  
15 reports for the project will be filed next month, and will  
16 be available for viewing on FERC's eLibrary website.

17 The formal application for a Certificate of  
18 Public Convenience and Necessity and Section 3 of the  
19 Natural Gas Act authorization will finalize the project  
20 scope, and include the environmental resource reports.  
21 These reports, which will consider your public comments and  
22 comments by the agencies, will also be available to the  
23 public for review and comment.

24 In addition to providing comments tonight, the  
25 public will have an opportunity to comment on the  
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1 environmental resource reports and the application.  
2 Dominion anticipates filing the application for the project  
3 in April 2013. After FERC approval, construction of the  
4 compression facilities is planned to begin in early 2016 to  
5 meet a projected in-service date for the entire project in  
6 2017.

7 The construction, operation, and maintenance of  
8 the project will require permits and regulatory approvals  
9 from various federal, state, and local agencies. Dominion  
10 will work with all governing bodies and the local  
11 communities to ensure that the facilities are developed and  
12 operated to meet or exceed all safety, environmental,  
13 regulatory and legal requirements.

14 At the project facility site locations, Dominion  
15 will perform relevant field studies and surveys necessary to  
16 assess the environmental impact of the project. As part of  
17 the FERC process, an environmental document will be written  
18 and distributed by FERC to communicate and establish  
19 environmental conditions and mitigation measures for the  
20 project. Dominion will comply with environmental laws  
21 including but not limited to: the National Environmental  
22 Policy Act, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, National  
23 Historic Preservation Act, Archeological and Historic  
24 Preservation Act, and Endangered Species Act.

25 In addition to compliance with environmental  
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1 laws, safety is a core value of Dominion. Dominion  
2 incorporates this core value into the design of its  
3 facilities, and strives to meet or exceed the safety  
4 regulations in its operations.

5 Dominion must comply with pipeline safety  
6 regulations set forth by the U.S. Department of  
7 Transportation as well as FERC.

8 Dominion has operated its natural gas facilities  
9 for over a hundred years, and has a very good safety record.  
10 Dominion will continue to comply with federal, state, and  
11 local safety laws to achieve and maintain reliable  
12 operations for the proposed facility.

13 In closing, I would like to say that Dominion  
14 strives to be both a good neighbor and a good corporate  
15 citizen. Dominion's field supervision will work with local  
16 residents to address their concerns and inform them of  
17 operating activities that may directly affect them.

18 Dominion will work with the local community and  
19 landowners to address their concerns raised during the  
20 permitting and detailed design period of the project. Your  
21 comments tonight and throughout the FERC process will  
22 provide an opportunity to complete the Cove Point  
23 liquefaction project in a safe and environmentally  
24 respectful manner.

25 I would again like to thank you for the  
26

1 opportunity to provide this information tonight.

2 MS. SUTER: Thank you, Amanda.

3 As a reminder, after our meeting here is  
4 adjourned representatives from Dominion will be available  
5 with project maps and will be on hand to answer questions  
6 about the project.

7 We will now begin the important part of the  
8 meeting where we hear your comments. We will first take  
9 comments from those of you who have signed up on our  
10 speakers list this evening. After those who have signed up  
11 to speak, if there is time remaining we will allow  
12 additional speakers to come up to the microphone and speak  
13 as well.

14 I am sure that have noted, this meeting is being  
15 recorded by a transcription service up here at the front of  
16 the room. This is being done so that all of your comments  
17 and questions will be transcribed and put into the public  
18 record. To help the court reporter produce an accurate  
19 record of this meeting, I ask that you please follow some  
20 ground rules.

21 First, when your name is called, please come up  
22 to the podium and the microphone. Please state your name  
23 and spell it for the record. Identify any agency or group  
24 that you're representing and define any acronyms that you  
25 use. It is very important that you please speak into the  
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1 microphone, face FERC staff so that we can hear you and so  
2 that the court reporter can hear you and everything that you  
3 are saying.

4 I ask that everybody in the audience please  
5 respect the speaker and refrain from any audible show of  
6 agreement or disagreement until they are done speaking. So  
7 that this way again the court reporter and FERC staff can  
8 hear everything that they are trying to say.

9 We are now ready to call our first speaker.  
10 Joseph Bono.

11 MR. BONO: My name is Joe Bono. I'm a board  
12 member of the Greene Mill Preserve Home Owners Association.

13 Good evening.

14 MS. SUTER: Spell your name.

15 MR. BONO: B-o-n-o.

16 I'd like to acknowledge LaVon Conner, the staff  
17 aid to the Honorable Janet Clarke, our representative to the  
18 Loudoun County Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Clarke had  
19 another commitment and could not be with us this evening.  
20 However, she has taken her valuable time to educate herself  
21 on this evening's issues but was on a site visit earlier  
22 today in Greene Mill Preserve for our visit to the Cove  
23 Point Lane compressor station.

24 Supervisor Clarke will always have my admiration  
25 as an elected official who cares about and listens to her  
26

1 constituents.

2 I would also like to welcome the legislative  
3 assistant to J. Randall Minchew, our delegate to the  
4 Virginia House of Delegates. We welcome the representatives  
5 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

6 A special thanks to Maggie Suter from FERC, who  
7 has made certain that we are up to date on what's been  
8 happening throughout this process.

9 Finally, I welcome Dominion's representatives.  
10 Thanks to everyone from our Greene Mill Preserve community  
11 and the surrounding communities for coming this evening.

12 Conscience is what a corporation does when it  
13 thinks no one is listening. Does Dominion have a conscience  
14 in its dealing with communities and the 191 families who  
15 live within one-half mile of the current Cove Point Lane  
16 compressor station? Do they care what will happen when that  
17 station quadruples in size, from 12,000 horsepower to about  
18 46,000 horsepower?

19 As a chemist, I will talk about pollution. I will talk  
20 about the explosive properties of methane gas. One of our  
21 neighbors will talk about noise, and the president of the  
22 homeowners association will talk about property values  
23 impacted by what Dominion is proposing. Another neighbor  
24 will talk about what we discovered when we searched the  
25 records for noncompliance issues facing Dominion.

26

1           For now let's talk about what's happened up to  
2 this point and what we discovered from the bits and pieces  
3 of documentation.

4           We believe that Dominion has fallen short of  
5 complying with its own so-called policies of decision-making  
6 based on whether -- open quotes -- "the construction and  
7 operation of the proposed facility is in the public  
8 convenience and necessity" -- close quotes. Will the  
9 project be, to quote Dominion, consistent with the public  
10 interest?

11           Will our citizens in Loudoun County, the other  
12 counties in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and Maryland,  
13 Pennsylvania and Delaware benefit from what Dominion is  
14 proposing, or will the major beneficiaries of this proposed  
15 expansion be companies who operate outside of the United  
16 States. Say, for instance, in Japan.

17           Three major questions anyone who has  
18 responsibilities in the public domain will be required to  
19 answer when things go wrong are:

20           What did you know? When did you know it? And  
21 what did you do about it when you found out?

22           This evening I will tell you what we know. This  
23 evening I will put information on the record notifying  
24 Dominion and FERC of the dangers posed not only by the  
25 proposed compressor station expansion, but also of  
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1 Dominion's current operations on the Cove Point Lane  
2 compressor station.

3 And finally, I will ask the FERC Commissioners  
4 whether they will still allow Dominion to move forward with  
5 a compressor station on Cove Point Lane, making a  
6 questionable situation worse.

7 Remember the four words no government  
8 policy-maker wants to hear after a man-made disaster: "I  
9 told you so."

10 Does Dominion answer questions directly posed and  
11 professionally when it's a citizen who will be impacted by  
12 its decisions making inquiries, or does it respond only by  
13 pointing concerned citizens to a website?

14 When in September I asked a Dominion employee  
15 about the expected noise and pollution levels at the  
16 proposed expansion sites, he spoke only about EPA  
17 guidelines. What he didn't say and what will be confirming  
18 this evening is that Dominion is out of compliance as we  
19 speak with many of those guidelines that he referred me to.  
20 More about that later.

21 He also went on to remind me that we at Greene  
22 Mill Preserve knew about the compressor station when we  
23 bought our homes. My comment was this: What you're asking  
24 me to do is comparable to asking a resident near the  
25 Leesburg Airport to sit back while that airport expands into  
26

1 Dulles International Airport, Part II.

2 Some of knew that a small compressor station was  
3 behind our home. It's safe to say that none of us knew that  
4 possibly thousands of cubic feet of highly explosive methane  
5 gas were being vented from that site. Nor did we know about  
6 the proposed quadrupling of its compression capacity.

7 Let's talk about the current venting of methane  
8 from the Cove Point Lane compressor station behind Greene  
9 Mill Preserve. Imagine standing on a runway at Dulles  
10 International Airport as a Boeing 777 revs its engines in  
11 preparation for takeoff. That's the noise level the people  
12 of this community experience when Dominion decides to vent  
13 that compressor station.

14 For the first ten months my wife and I lived in  
15 Greene Mill Preserve we recognized that noise as being  
16 louder than anything either of us had ever experienced. At  
17 the same time I thought, "it's only compressed air." What  
18 else could a so-called civic-minded company like Dominion be  
19 venting?

20 As a chemist, I believe that no corporate entity  
21 could possibly be venting anything other than air with  
22 perhaps some particulate matter. And then on August 7th,  
23 2012, I encountered a Dominion employee who wore that  
24 familiar white hard hat with the blue Dominion label who was  
25 walking around our community, The day before the Cove Point  
26

1 Lane compressor station had vented twice: Once at 3:45 and  
2 then again at 8 p.m. He was passing out a flyer that  
3 contained the following statement -- and I quote:

4 "Station operations responded quickly, shutting  
5 off valves and safely venting natural gas as a precaution."

6 Safely venting natural gas in a populated area is  
7 an oxymoron. Natural gas is primarily methane. It's the  
8 stuff that most of us have supplied to our homes to cook our  
9 meals and heat our living spaces. Methane is a colorless  
10 gas; at low concentrations it's odorless. At mixtures more  
11 than about 5 to 15 percent in air, it's explosive.

12 Because methane -- and therefore natural gas --  
13 does not have an odor, the gas utilities add a warning  
14 rotten egg smell, usually a mercaptan, that can be easily  
15 detected by most people. Whenever we smell these mercaptans  
16 inside of our homes, or outside, we know there's a gas leak.

17 However, methane coming out of the Cove Point  
18 Lane compressor station obviously has no mercaptan added and  
19 therefore it's odorless. So even if venting gas were to  
20 float over our community as a cloud, we wouldn't know it.

21 There's no essential difference between a vapor  
22 cloud explosion and a partly confined or unconfined gas  
23 explosion. If the gas cloud formed by the release is  
24 outside the flammable concentration, or if the ignition  
25 source is lacking, no combustion will occur. But the

26

1 pollution effects don't disappear.

2 Methane is a greenhouse gas. In the case of  
3 immediate ignition a fire will develop. The most dangerous  
4 situation; however, occurs when a large flammable methane  
5 air cloud is formed and ignites. A serious explosion will  
6 then result.

7 I know what you might be thinking. That never  
8 happens. Okay. Let's talk about the people who die when  
9 compressor stations blew.

10 People died in North Carolina in 2009. People  
11 died in Fairfield, California in 2003. People died in  
12 Lorraine, Ohio in 2001. People died in Middletown,  
13 Connecticut in 2006. These are just four examples of where  
14 people died when compressor stations blew.

15 If compressor stations were airplanes, the entire  
16 fleet would have been grounded a long time ago. And  
17 Dominion wants to increase the capacity behind Greene Mill  
18 Preserve to four times its current capacity? Remember my  
19 last question from a few minutes ago: What did you do when  
20 you found out about it?

21 Here's another example. Turn on your kitchen  
22 stove but wait to light that burner for let's say ten  
23 seconds. Now hold a spark igniter you might light a  
24 barbecue grill with well above the burner. What happens?  
25 There's a mini-explosion from the available gas, and the  
26

1 burner lights.

2 After you wash away the singed hair on your arm,  
3 get over the smell and apply an ice pack, you may be shaken  
4 up a bit, but you're okay.

5 Now magnify that experience by what could be  
6 thousands of cubic feet of methane. We in Greene Mill  
7 Preserve wonder how much methane is coming out of that  
8 compressor station to generate that kind of a noise at  
9 12,000 horsepower right now.

10 The citizens of North Carolina, California, Ohio  
11 and Connecticut found out the hard way. Dominion has never  
12 told us how much methane is released with each venting.

13 Here's another analogy. Fill a balloon with air.  
14 Now release that air by stretching the orifice and listen  
15 for the squealing pig sound. That's what we used to joke  
16 about when we were kids. This is a micro-scale example of  
17 what occurs when pressurized methane is released on Cove  
18 Point Lane.

19 How much pressurized methane is Dominion  
20 releasing into the air immediately behind our homes every  
21 single time the Cove Point Lane compressor station vents?  
22 Dominion will not divulge these numbers. And venting under  
23 pressure with a roar is the only time you can be certain  
24 that the release of methane is occurring.

25 Walk down Waxwing Drive some afternoon at sunset  
26

1 and watch the sky light up behind the trees where the  
2 compressor station is located. Let Dominion deny that the  
3 venting of methane is occurring then and not just when we  
4 hear the roar. And where is the methane going? Into our  
5 air.

6 What happens when methane encounters an ignition  
7 source like an electrical spark or lightning? Again, the  
8 citizens of North Carolina, the citizens of California, the  
9 citizens of Ohio, the citizens of Connecticut, they found  
10 out the hard way.

11 Again, that's what's happening right now. What  
12 happens when that compressor station is increased by a  
13 factor of four, from 12,000 to about 46,000 horsepower? Is  
14 it four times the amount of gas flowing through the lines?  
15 Is it four times the volume of gas being released during the  
16 venting? Is four times the explosive potential; are those  
17 the probable results? You do the arithmetic.

18 Ryan Road was closed a few weeks ago between  
19 Northstar and Evergreen Mills Road because of a so-called  
20 gas leak. At the same time Dominion says it safely vents  
21 large quantities of methane immediately behind our homes?  
22 This is simply not safe.

23 There is an alternative site in Pleasant Valley  
24 surrounded by very few homes. HOA president Todd Allen will  
25 discuss this in more detail later.

26

1           Has anyone ever wondered why a choice like this  
2 even exists? Sounds like a no-brainer, right? Cove Point  
3 Lane or Pleasant Valley.

4           You've seen the distorted maps that Dominion  
5 provides. And it is still on their website. I know there's  
6 an updated map back there, but the map in the publication on  
7 their website is still outdated which, as we speak, does not  
8 show most homes in Greenville Preserve.

9           Here's a direct quote from a message -- and Jim  
10 has given me permission to use his name -- to Jim Smith, a  
11 Greene Mill Preserve resident from Amanda Prestage, Public  
12 Outreach Representative with Dominion. And I quote:

13           "The reason the flyer states that additional  
14 compression would be installed at the Loudoun County and  
15 Pleasant Valley compressor stations is due to the fact that  
16 Dominion's customers have yet to finalize arrangements for  
17 their own natural gas supply. Once the customers have made  
18 these arrangements, Dominion can then determine where the  
19 proposed additional compression will be needed along the  
20 pipeline to deliver gas to Dominion's Cove Point LNG  
21 terminal. The project is still in the very early stages of  
22 planning and Dominion s customers have not yet made the  
23 final decision on where the gas supply is coming from."  
24 Close quotes.

25           A gaffe is what one says when one thinks no one  
26

1 is listening. We were listening.

2 Contrary to what those who read this explanation  
3 may be led to believe, "customers" -- in quotes -- does not  
4 refer to you, it doesn't refer to me, and it doesn't refer  
5 to anyone else sitting in this room. We read that  
6 Dominion's customers have not yet made a final decision on  
7 where that gas supply is coming from.

8 We do know that at the end of March Dominion  
9 signed agreements with two companies, one of which is the  
10 Sumitomo Corporation, a major Japanese entity with  
11 significant global operations.

12 So think about it. A foreign corporation  
13 operating outside of the United States is the customer who  
14 will in effect decide whether this compressor station will  
15 end up in our backyards on Cove Point Lane or at the  
16 Pleasant Valley site in Fairfax County.

17 I believe in free enterprise. However, I do not  
18 believe in relinquishing any decision-making processes of  
19 Dominion which will impact the safety of 192 homes within a  
20 half-mile of that expanded compressor station to any company  
21 halfway around the world.

22 Regulatory agencies outside of the United States  
23 might not care about the citizens here in Loudoun County. I  
24 believe that FERC does care. I believe that Janet Clarke  
25 does care. I believe that Representative Frank Wolff does

26

1 care. I believe that Delegate Randy Minchew does care.

2 I believe that anyone with any sense of civic  
3 responsibility will listen to those here this evening and  
4 who will express their concerns will believe that FERC, the  
5 FERC Commissioners will give us a fair hearing, consider all  
6 of the facts involving the people who would be impacted, and  
7 place in perspective what Dominion will publish to justify  
8 its needs in providing gas to Japan.

9 By the way, has anyone ever wondered who that  
10 other customer might be? I have.

11 This is more than a NIMBY argument -- NIMBY is  
12 'not in my backyard' -- we've been told exists. This is a  
13 health and safety argument for everyone who lives around  
14 that compressor station, young and old alike.

15 Please do not allow Dominion to quadruple the  
16 size of that compressor station behind our homes in Greene  
17 Mill Preserve or in any other communities along Watson Road.

18 Thank you for listening.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. SUTER: We just want to let -- somebody with  
21 a grey Ford Focus, license plate XCP-5760, your lights are  
22 on in your car. Just so you know.

23 Thank you for your comments.

24 I'm going to try to address some items as we go.  
25 I cannot give answers to every single item that every single  
26

1 person brings up. But there are some points along the way  
2 that I am going to try to address to provide you guys some  
3 information as we go throughout this process.

4 The main gist of your comments were centered  
5 around safety. And that is a point that I do want to bring  
6 up because I know that is a concern for everyone here.

7 In case this hasn't been emphasized enough or you  
8 haven't heard this information before, for some of you, the  
9 Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous  
10 Materials Safety Administration regulates the safety for  
11 interstate natural gas facilities, along with intrastate  
12 natural gas facilities, all across the nation. They are the  
13 ones who develop the safety regulations that Dominion will  
14 have to comply with, particularly when a facility goes into  
15 operation but also with the materials and anything that has  
16 to go into the construction of a facility, they have the  
17 regulations that define all of that information along with  
18 the venting requirements and everything associated with  
19 that. They do have regulations associated with that.

20 I encourage everyone to look on the Department of  
21 Transportation's website; become familiar with some of that.  
22 They have a community Assistance Outreach Programs that you  
23 can reach out to just to gain additional information and  
24 knowledge about their program.

25 We will be providing safety information in our  
26

1 environmental documents. We consider safety an  
2 environmental issue. We provide information that describes  
3 the environmental impact and the regulations that Dominion  
4 must comply with for pipelines and compressor stations in  
5 our environmental document. So you can expect to see  
6 answers to your questions in our document.

7 But in case you want to get some background  
8 information I do recommend looking into the Department of  
9 Transportation because they develop the safety regulations  
10 that have to be complied with. And they do do inspections  
11 as well of the facilities throughout the life of their  
12 operation.

13 The next speaker that we have on the list is --  
14 and I'm sorry if I get this wrong -- but Courtney Bergeron.

15 And just remember to spell your name.

16 MS. BERGERON: My name is Courtney Bergeron,  
17 B-e-r-g-e-r-o-n. I am nine years old.

18 My parents and our neighbors have told me about  
19 the plans to increase the size of the gas terminal that is  
20 located behind our neighborhood. I am worried for my  
21 brothers and soon-to-be-born sister. My older sister will  
22 probably move away to college before the terminal is  
23 expanded, so I am not too worried about her.

24 What I don't understand is why the owners of the  
25 gas terminal won't explain to us how their plans will affect  
26

1 us. Is this going to be dangerous? Will still be able to  
2 play flashlight tag on the village green?

3 Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 MS. SUTER: Thank you for coming up and speaking.

6 And as we did say, additional information will be  
7 coming forward with the draft environmental impacts that  
8 Dominion will be providing in their draft resource reports  
9 at the end of November. And that will be your first look.

10 Our next speaker is Amy Hutchens.

11 MS. HUTCHENS: Good evening. My name is Amy  
12 Hutchens, A-m-y H-u-t-c-h-e-n-s. I'm a resident of Greene  
13 Mill Preserve. I live just outside the half-mile radius of  
14 the facility.

15 I join my neighbors, the Honorable Janet Clarke,  
16 the Sierra Club and the American Public Gas Association in  
17 objecting to the expansion of the Dominion compressor  
18 station at Cove Point Lane in Loudoun County, Virginia. I  
19 respectfully recommend that the Fairfax compressor station  
20 be used to meet Dominion's business needs if the project  
21 must be approved at all.

22 I have three bases for my objection. One is the  
23 past and current inability of Dominion to run their  
24 facilities in compliance with the laws and regulations that  
25 govern them. The second is concerns about the facilities'

26

1 security. The third basis is that the expansion of the  
2 facility will increase the amount of hazardous waste  
3 produced at the facility and increase the amount of toxins  
4 released into the air right next to our neighborhood.

5 I had the opportunity to review a substantial  
6 amount of legal compliance information from the Virginia  
7 Department of Environmental Quality regarding Dominion's two  
8 compressor stations located near our neighborhood in Greene  
9 Mill Preserve. Through the Freedom of Information Act, I  
10 reviewed approximately 793 documents related to Dominion's  
11 permit to operate the facility, its mandatory reporting on  
12 continuing emissions monitoring systems and other compliance  
13 related information, including letters of warning issued by  
14 the Department of Environmental Quality.

15 Dominion has received multiple letters of  
16 warning, including two in the past year. Due to the below  
17 timeline I will share with you of noncompliance with state  
18 regulations, I am seriously concerned about Dominion  
19 expanding any facility.

20 If Dominion cannot stay in compliance with the  
21 laws and regulations that govern it, it should not earn the  
22 right to increase the size, capability, or horsepower of its  
23 facilities, or the amount of toxins released into our  
24 environment.

25 In October 2011 a letter of warning was issued to  
26

1 Dominion for failure to conduct a third-quarter cylinder gas  
2 audit of the nitrous oxide continuous emissions monitoring  
3 system, in violation of its permit. In January 2012,  
4 Dominion filed an excess emissions report, stating that its  
5 continuous emissions monitoring system equipment had 21  
6 hours of downtime in the fourth quarter of 2011 due to  
7 unknown causes.

8 And I'd like to add here for those listening, a  
9 continuous emissions monitoring system is the total  
10 equipment necessary for the determination of a gas or a  
11 particulate matter concentration or an emission rate using a  
12 pollutant analyzer measurement and a conversion equation,  
13 graph, or computer program to produce results in units of  
14 the applicable emission limitation or standard.

15 Continuous emissions monitoring systems are  
16 required under some of the EPA regulations for either  
17 continual compliance determinations or determination of  
18 exceeding the standards.

19 In April 2012, Dominion filed another excess  
20 emissions report due to the extended downtime of its  
21 continuous emissions monitoring system because its  
22 uninterrupted power supply system failed.

23 In June of 2012 the continuous emissions  
24 monitoring system was down again due to a calibration  
25 malfunction of a faulty regulator.

26

1           Between the period of January and June 2012,  
2 Dominion reported 901 hours of downtime of its continuous  
3 emissions monitoring system, stating that of the 901 hours  
4 of downtime, 879 of them were due to unknown causes. The  
5 continuous emissions monitoring system was down 44.5 percent  
6 of the time during this period.

7           July 2012, Dominion is declared out of compliance  
8 with its state permit, according to 9 VAC Virginia  
9 Administrative Code 5-50-40 for failing to maintain its  
10 continuous emissions monitoring system for nitrous oxide.

11           In August of 2012 a letter of warning was issued  
12 to Dominion for unacceptable test results that exceeded  
13 mid-level tests for nitrous oxide.

14           My second basis for objection is the security of  
15 the facility. In November on the 17 and 28th of November  
16 2011, neighbors reported to police, the Loudoun County  
17 Sheriff's Office, a sound like a jet engine going on for 30  
18 to 45 minutes. A strong gas odor was in the air. Loudoun  
19 County Sheriff's office had to wait for Dominion to get  
20 additional representatives on scene to determine what was  
21 wrong. The Dominion rep thought it was an emergency system  
22 blowup.

23           Oddly, I do not find any information about this  
24 incident among documents that I filed a Freedom of  
25 Information Act request for.

26

1                   On March 14th of 2012 an alarm activated. Two  
2 subjects were seen on video surveillance running across a  
3 yard near the main building. The call came in at 8:46 p.m.,  
4 and according to Loudoun County Sheriff Office documents,  
5 Dominion personnel were not onsite until 10:07 p.m.  
6 Dominion declined to have the Loudoun County Sheriff Office  
7 accompany them doing a walk-through.

8                   On August 6, 2012, a cinder block-size package  
9 made of clay with black tape and marked 'C4' was found  
10 attached to a tank. According to the police report, this  
11 was 1000 gallons of antifreeze. The bomb squad was  
12 notified; Watson Road was shut down, and Dominion purged its  
13 lines of 1200 pounds of gas into the air. The hazmat team  
14 recommended evacuation of all persons within a half-mile  
15 radius, which is nearly 90 percent of our neighborhood.

16                   This incident was forwarded for investigation to  
17 the Criminal Investigations Division. The FOIA response  
18 that I received from the Department of Environmental Quality  
19 did not include any of this information on that incident.

20                   In conclusion, it appears that Dominion has had a  
21 difficult time keeping their monitoring system up and  
22 running, which is one of the key controls in place to ensure  
23 compliance with state and federal emissions laws. If  
24 Dominion struggles so much with that monitoring system, one  
25 cannot help but wonder what else they may have difficulty  
26

1 maintaining.

2 My third basis for objection relates to the  
3 environment.

4 The facility is already rated as a large quantity  
5 generator -- or LQG -- by the Environmental Protection  
6 Agency, meaning it produces more than 2200 pounds per month  
7 of hazardous waste, including benzene and arsenic. The  
8 facility is also obviously emitting toxins into the  
9 environment in the form of several noxious gases.

10 My husband is a 100 percent combat disabled  
11 veteran with severe respiratory disease from 9/11 at the  
12 Pentagon. I'm concerned for him and others like him who  
13 struggle with respiratory disease.

14 The proposed Dominion expansion is only 1600 feet  
15 from the closest house in our neighborhood. I believe that  
16 allowing expansion of this facility over another facility  
17 that's located in a more remote area would be detrimental to  
18 the health of our community and demonstrate poor stewardship  
19 of our community environment.

20 Based on these reasons, I object to the Dominion  
21 compressor station expansion project, the subject of Docket  
22 Number PF12-16.

23 Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 MS. SUTER: Thank you for commenting.

26

1           To keep going through, just one thing I do want  
2           to point out. Although I did identify earlier in my  
3           comments that the Department of Energy is currently a  
4           cooperating agency with us thus far, we are working with  
5           other federal, state and local agencies in evaluating this  
6           project. They just have not signed up -- other agencies  
7           have not signed up yet to be formal cooperators.

8           And if I've not explained that role completely,  
9           just the difference is that formal cooperators help us  
10          prepare the NEPA document that goes out for issuing. But we  
11          do coordinate, we hold conference calls, we contact other  
12          agencies, do gain their input and ask for their comments  
13          about the project.

14          Virginia DEQ is an agency that we are talking to,  
15          along with Maryland agencies and the like, the air  
16          permitting division in particular is one. But all different  
17          sections of Virginia DEQ is one group that we are in  
18          consultation with, along with federal counterparts as well.

19          So we do coordinate with everyone and invite them  
20          to participate as cooperating agencies with us. So that  
21          process is ongoing throughout the entire pre-filing process.  
22          We encourage agencies to participate with us, or just in  
23          general coordinate in any way that they can and provide us  
24          feedback.

25          The next speaker on the list is Jane Kelly.

26

1 MS. KELLY: Thank you for this opportunity to  
2 voice our concerns. My name is Jane Kelly, J-a-n-e, Kelly,  
3 K-e-l-l-y. And I'm a resident of Greene Mill Preserve.

4 I would like to address the cumulative health and  
5 safety issues associated with the multiple compressors we  
6 have in the immediate vicinity of our community, Greene Mill  
7 Preserve. Besides the Dominion Loudoun  
8 compressor station of 12,000 horsepower, which is within  
9 approximately less than 1600 feet of our homes, we also have  
10 two other compressor stations just off of Watson Road, Route  
11 860, which is the road that runs immediately behind our  
12 community. They are within walking distance of our homes.

13 These two compressor stations are both Title 5  
14 facilities, which means they are -- quote -- "major sources"  
15 -- unquote -- of air pollutants. The tonnage of pollutants  
16 they emit a year is staggering.

17 One of these Title 5 stations located in  
18 Compressor Lane, is owned by Columbia Gas. As of September  
19 2009 it had eight compressors of 1350 horsepower each, and  
20 also a solar Centaur compressor with a 4390 horsepower  
21 capacity. In 2008 it emitted multiple tons of nitrogen  
22 oxide, carbon monoxide, and other air pollutants.

23 Dominion's second compressor site, Leesburg  
24 Station, is also located within walking distance to us and  
25 is, as I mentioned, also a Title 5 facility. An example of  
26

1 its actual emissions in tons for the year 2008 is as  
2 follows: 15.75 tons of nitrogen oxide, which creates ozone;  
3 8.9 tons of VOC, which includes methane, hydrocarbon and  
4 ethane; and 2.75 tons of carbon monoxide. There was also  
5 sulfur dioxide and almost a ton of particulate matter  
6 emitted in 2008.

7 In addition, in the same year the Leesburg  
8 compressor emitted over three tons of the hazardous air  
9 pollutant formaldehyde.

10 When we consider these numbers, along with  
11 Columbia Gas's Title 5 emissions plus Dominions other site,  
12 which is practically in our back yards, it is fair to say  
13 our community and Loudoun County already have more than  
14 enough tons of air pollutants.

15 It is widely believed ill effects from most  
16 harmful substances are cumulative. That is, the more a  
17 person is exposed, the greater chance there will be an  
18 unhealthful effect. Surely at this point we should stop and  
19 say this all creates more than enough pollution for our  
20 community, which is comprised mainly of young families with  
21 children.

22 A less populated site should be found for the new  
23 compressor station that is being proposed for our community.  
24 The Pleasant Valley site appears to have no homes in such  
25 close proximity and is run on electricity, which is much  
26

1 less polluting at the site.

2 In closing, I would like to address the practice  
3 of venting large volumes of explosive methane gas in the  
4 midst of our homes.

5 Until recently it was thought the loud roaring  
6 sound of the venting was just air being released from the  
7 pipes. We are now learning it is in fact highly flammable  
8 methane gas. It is reckless and dangerous to knowingly  
9 construct a facility that either routinely or by accident  
10 could release large volumes of methane gas within 1600 feet  
11 of homes.

12 In spite of the most stringent attempts at  
13 safety, accidents happen at compressor stations and  
14 pipelines from a variety of causes, such as faulty equipment  
15 and human error. Needless to say, families and property  
16 have been impacted within a half-mile, sometimes fatally.  
17 We have only to look at recent history to see utility  
18 accidents have happened near homes where families have  
19 previously been assured of safety.

20 Common sense tells us a large industrial  
21 undertaking such as the 29,000 to 34,000 horsepower  
22 compressor station being proposed does not belong in a  
23 residential community. The more activity there is at this  
24 site, including construction, testing and start-up, the more  
25 possibility the families next door could be at risk.

26

1 Thank you again.

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. SUTER: And to quickly respond, I would just  
4 like to emphasize, all NEPA analyses do include a cumulative  
5 impacts analysis. We will analyze the cumulative effects of  
6 this project with other projects. And that may not include  
7 just the two compressor stations. We will evaluate any  
8 facilities in the area, any other projects that may be going  
9 on construction-wise in the area.

10 Cumulative effects analyses are always evaluated  
11 in all of our NEPA documents. And we look into all projects  
12 and all expansions that go on. And we encourage that  
13 analysis.

14 And anything that you can identify for us, we do  
15 encourage. If you know of other projects or other  
16 facilities in the area, please identify them to us and we  
17 will include them in our cumulative effects analysis.

18 The next speaker on the list is Adam Bruno.

19 MR. BRUNO: Good evening. My name is Adam Bruno,  
20 A-d-a-m B-as in bravo-r-u-n-o.

21 One thing I want to -- a couple things I want to  
22 touch on. I don't have a speech prepared, but I do have a  
23 few points that I think need to be talked about here.

24 We live in Greene Mill Preserve. And, oh, I'm a  
25 resident of Greene Mill Preserve. I meant to say that.

26

1           But we live in Greene Mill Preserve. And for  
2 those of you who don't know, when you drive into Greene Mill  
3 Preserve, we have about a mile or so of nice curvy roads,  
4 nice mature trees, open fields. Nine times out of ten  
5 you're going to see deer jumping across the street coming  
6 across the park, maybe greeting you on the way home when you  
7 pull into the driveway.

8           We have mature trees, we have common areas,  
9 fields, flowers, bushes, everything, all around the  
10 neighborhood. It's a nature conservancy; it was built on a  
11 nature conservancy.

12           A nature conservancy by definition is a body  
13 concerned with the preservation of nature, specific species  
14 or natural resources, or the conservation of something --  
15 especially wildlife and the environment.

16           Now Dominion made a comment that they're good  
17 neighbors. Now a good neighbor has your back. A good  
18 neighbor looks out for your community. A good neighbor  
19 looks out for you and your best interests for the community  
20 as a whole.

21           Well, I don't see how Dominion could be a good  
22 neighbor when the maps they're using from the start don't  
23 even include all the neighbors -- I'm making quotation marks  
24 -- the neighbors in the community.

25           I myself was not included. I must have missed  
26

1 the memo. I live in one of the houses that are going to be  
2 closest to this expansion. Not only me, the Scott family  
3 who is here tonight, you have been left out also. Bono,  
4 Joe, you guys have been left out, too. Us, the Scott  
5 family, you guys have been left out. You're not included,  
6 either.

7 So Dominion doesn't know you. They don't know  
8 what you're about. They can't even call you by your first  
9 name. How can that be a good neighbor?

10 A couple of things. I moved into Greene Mill  
11 about a year ago. And I used to live backing to a busy  
12 parkway. Also to the side of me was the Dulles Toll Road.

13 Now according to the highway traffic noise study  
14 that was conducted by the Department of Transportation, the  
15 average residential traffic noise is 67 decibels. Buffer  
16 zones usually reduce the noise by seven decibels; that makes  
17 it about 60 decibels in total. The federal requirement says  
18 the acceptable noise for this type of facility is 56  
19 decibels. Just in comparison, when you go to the bathroom  
20 and you flush your toilet, that sound refilling is 55  
21 decibels. Now we've all seen tonight what the introduction  
22 of other noises and things can do to the environment.

23 (Laughter.)

24 MR. BRUNO: Now I don't mean that to knock you  
25 guys; I love kids. I love kids.

26

1 (Laughter.)

2 MR. BRUNO: I love coming outside of my door and  
3 hearing the kids laugh because they're across the street  
4 playing on their bounce house or they're going down the  
5 slide in their back yard. I love hearing the laughter. I  
6 like hearing them drive down the street on their bikes. I  
7 like hearing the road noise and them hitting their little  
8 chime, the ching-ching. It's nice.

9 But the difference between this environment and  
10 the environment that Dominion is going to create: it  
11 stopped. We have control over the environment here.

12 Dominion is going to have a constant sound, a  
13 constant hum, not to mention -- not to mention the backflow  
14 or the venting of their gas, which -- there's a number of  
15 documentations referencing the East Ohio Station where  
16 decibels have gotten over 90 decibels during the venting,  
17 sustained decibels in the upper 80s for two to three  
18 minutes. That's louder than an airplane going directly over  
19 your house on takeoff, which we get to experience that  
20 lovely sound from time to time, too.

21 But the point is you have an alternate site. You  
22 have an alternate place where you're not going to affect  
23 your -- quote, unquote -- friends, your neighbors. You're  
24 not going to affect them in a detrimental way.

25 We talked about property prices going down. I

26

1 mean you don't need a realtor to come in here and tell you  
2 that, hey, there's a chance that your home that you put your  
3 nest egg in has a chance of being depleted. If you do, let  
4 the record show I'm also an active real estate agent here in  
5 the State of Virginia, and that is a possibility.

6 So in closing I just want to say on behalf of me,  
7 my friends, my neighbors of Greene Mill Preserve: Not here,  
8 not now, not ever. And definitely not Greene Mill.

9 Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MS. SUTER: Thank you for coming up and speaking  
12 even though you didn't have a prepared speech, which is  
13 perfectly acceptable.

14 You know, I know we talked about this a lot this  
15 afternoon. And for those of you who couldn't be out during  
16 that time, FERC staff does extensive analysis on the noise  
17 impact.

18 We were out there and we took some ambient levels  
19 while we were out there and we did take some measurements  
20 while we were by the compressor station itself. We do  
21 include a lot of information about how we do those  
22 calculations, what the projected levels will be.

23 There will be post-construction requirements.  
24 FERC does have required levels that they have to meet. And  
25 we do explain how all of that works.

26

1           To give you kind of a really quick summary,  
2 because I know a lot of you do want to know what some of  
3 that information is, at any given point in time it's 48.6.  
4 That's what we have required at any given point in time.

5           What that equates to -- and the number that you  
6 see that we put in our documents is 55 day or night. And we  
7 call it a day-night equivalent. And that is because we  
8 penalize the nighttime equivalent by ten decibels because we  
9 recognize that your hearing is more sensitive at night  
10 because the rest of the sound tends to be a little bit  
11 quieter. So we do do that in our calculations.

12           And it is a logarithmic calculation that is done  
13 during the nighttime hours when we take that measurement.  
14 So there is a daytime measurement, a nighttime measurement,  
15 and then we average those together to make that into 55.

16           But that comes out to, at any given point in time  
17 if you were to take a measurement it has to equal 48.6. And  
18 that's the measurement from the station.

19           Whether you agree with that or not, I can  
20 definitely understand whether you believe that's right or  
21 not; but I do want to clarify what the numbers are for  
22 everyone. And that is again explained in our environmental  
23 document that will be put out, along with the projected  
24 numbers from the station, what the background levels  
25 currently are, and how they will meet all of that  
26

1 information.

2 The next speaker on our list is Gary Cuppett.

3 For those of you who have questions -- and I know  
4 you're going to want to come up for more -- we're going to  
5 try to get through all of the speakers first and then after  
6 that we'll allow additional time to come up for more  
7 speakers. But I want to make sure that everyone who signed  
8 up does get their opportunity to come up and speak.

9 MR. CUPPETT: Gary Cuppett, G-a-r-y  
10 C-u-p-p-e-t-t.

11 And for the record, I'd like to submit copies of  
12 this that you can look at as targets. I really need to  
13 bring them to you, possibly. Is that?

14 MS. SUTER: Yeah. You can bring them up.

15 He has some visual aids. What we will do is, for  
16 the visual aids we will submit that into the record for you  
17 after the meeting.

18 MR. CUPPETT: Also for the record, I am retired  
19 CIA. I'm not sure members will know that. I had the  
20 pleasure of serving in all four directorates. That would be  
21 administration, intelligence, science and technology, and  
22 operations. And I'm not speaking as a CIA person because  
23 I'm obviously retired, but I'm speaking from that level of  
24 experience and understanding of how things work in the  
25 world.

26

1           Let me -- I'm very proud of these people behind  
2 me. I mean this is -- Let me just read about who we are.

3           Greene Mill Preserve. We are several hundreds of  
4 homeowners in a new development called Greene Mill Preserve,  
5 which enjoys the natural beauty and rare wildlife of Loudoun  
6 County, Virginia's countryside. Our home is a unique  
7 village green-style community of single-family homes and  
8 townhomes scattered with ponds, parks and butterfly gardens,  
9 all nestled within 340 open/conservancy acres of woods and  
10 grassland.

11           It's an awesome community. And it's not just the  
12 acreage, the nice wildlife and the natural beauty; we have  
13 awesome neighbors, which I'm very proud of you all. I'm  
14 going to just cap for you --

15           (Applause.)

16           MR. CUPPETT: That's who we are.

17           But what I'm concerned about is, if you turn to  
18 page three -- and I apologize. I tried to get an overview  
19 so you guys could see as well the targets. You see them on  
20 page three there?

21           I'll try to explain it to you in back of me here.  
22 Pleasant Valley looks like the Mojave Desert. Greene Mill  
23 Preserve looks like downtown New York City, Times Square.  
24 All right? It's important you have that visual.

25           The recent news -- the Mideast is on fire with  
26

1 anti-American acts of terrorism. Okay? People hate us out  
2 there. We can't change them. We can't bring them in and  
3 hug them and in any way influence what they want to do to  
4 us. They want to kill us. Okay? And they're successful  
5 overseas.

6 The question is are we immune here at home? How  
7 long is it going to be before they come here?

8 I can tell you from my experience -- again, not  
9 officially as a CIA person because I can't -- I don't want  
10 to get in trouble with my former agency -- that they are  
11 looking for opportunities to do that, to kill us. And one  
12 of those areas would be a gas pipeline, especially a gas  
13 pipeline that intends to quadruple its capacity.

14 Terrorists desire to maximize collateral damage.  
15 If you look at the targets, Pleasant Valley to them is not a  
16 target; it's the Mojave Desert. If they're going to throw a  
17 suitcase bomb over the fence and take advantage of the  
18 quadrupled accelerant explosive power, it's sure to make a  
19 big boom, but it's not going to take any collateral damage.  
20 It's not going to take any people out, all these beautiful  
21 people behind me, it's not going to do that.

22 You look at Greene Mill Preserve, yes, they will  
23 look at that and say, 'Okay.' Look at the houses around  
24 that, lots of collateral damage.

25 We had the privilege today of going out and  
26

1       seeing the actual site, which I looked at with great CIA  
2       scrutiny. I tell you, I was incredibly disappointed with  
3       the security at the site. It's almost embarrassing.

4               For those who were not there, I'll explain it to  
5       you. Basically they have cameras and some motion detectors  
6       inside the fence compound. That's it.

7               The way the site is set up, they actually dug  
8       into a hillside, created a 20 to 30 foot bank on the back  
9       side -- unfortunately exactly where the current compressor  
10      site is located. Basically there's nothing in the woods,  
11      there's no motion detectors in the woods. There's no  
12      cameras in the woods. Anybody can walk up into those woods  
13      undetected, walk right to the -- almost roofline at the  
14      current compressor building, which I understand the proposed  
15      compressor building will be built along the same line of  
16      that.

17              Again, imagine yourself 20 to 30 feet up in the  
18      air already. You don't need a ladder; you're there. And  
19      basically you're a terrorist. You're homegrown; you're  
20      here. Nobody knows who you are. But you have a suitcase  
21      nuke in your hands, okay? All you have to do is simply lob  
22      that onto the roof of that compressor building that has been  
23      quadrupled in accelerant explosive power, and you've got  
24      yourself one heck of a mess. You have a lot of dead people  
25      and you have something we all don't want.

26

1           We don't want to give terrorists a target. So if  
2 Dominion were to, say, not do Greene Mill Preserve and to do  
3 just Pleasant Valley, that would not be a target to them.  
4 Even though it's going to quadruple in size, they would not  
5 even approach it. So it benefits Dominion to think along  
6 these lines. Do not create targets of opportunity for the  
7 people that want to kill us.

8           Along those same lines, I mean we're all sitting  
9 here tonight talking about this. We're putting it on record  
10 -- which I'm very impressed with what you're doing here.  
11 That's really incredible. I think that's amazing. It's the  
12 first time I've seen this. Well, it's on record. It's on  
13 record what we're talking about here. So Dominion's on  
14 record with our concerns. All right?

15           Now if they decide to ignore our concerns and  
16 press forward, and FERC also kind of rubber stamps their  
17 desire to quadruple the capacity behind us, now they're  
18 setting themselves up for a future financial and reputation  
19 impact. It's on record that we now know that, all right,  
20 this is a concern of ours.

21           So let's say, heaven forbid, the terrorists are  
22 successful, which to me would be very easy -- there was a  
23 recent -- I think Amy already talked about there was a  
24 recent package that was left on the doorstep of Dominion  
25 which was disguised as a C4 bomb, which would also probably  
26

1 do a lot of damage. And that was very easily done.

2 Today we had a tour of the facility and we  
3 understand that somebody actually just rolled under the gate  
4 there and got into the compound. The sad thing about  
5 security there is not only is it just simply contained with  
6 inside the fence, there's no onsite security whatsoever.

7 If something gets tripped within that fence it  
8 alerts somebody all the way down in Richmond, Virginia. And  
9 somebody all the way down in Richmond, Virginia will then  
10 call the Loudoun County Police Department, which will then  
11 respond.

12 I can tell you, as a former CIA officer, retired  
13 CIA officer, that those minutes, possibly hours, are just a  
14 joke to terrorists. They're not stupid. They know our  
15 frailties, they know our weaknesses. And they will  
16 capitalize on those.

17 Again to me it's a no-brainer. Put this -- we  
18 didn't really talk about how this all ties together. You  
19 know, can it just be Pleasant Valley? If it can be just  
20 Pleasant Valley, then let's just do that. I mean, number  
21 one, you don't have a target for the terrorists, you know,  
22 the bad people in the world because of its relative  
23 isolation.

24 To me it's a win-win situation for everybody if  
25 it just gets put at Pleasant Valley.

26

1                   That's it.

2                   (Applause.)

3                   MS. SUTER: I'm going to address two parts of  
4 this, the first being the terrorism aspect, which I know  
5 it's going to sound like a lot of the same, but our  
6 environmental documents do address terrorism as part of our  
7 safety analysis. So you can expect to see that in there.

8                   You probably won't see that as much in Dominion's  
9 portion because it's more FERC's analysis. We do that  
10 independently. So expect to see that when the environmental  
11 document comes out. But we do take that very seriously and  
12 we do address that.

13                   The other part of your question -- or that you  
14 were talking about, I know a lot of you have really been  
15 asking, 'Can it just go at the other station? When are we  
16 going to know if it can just go at the other station?'. We  
17 talked about this a little bit earlier. And Amanda did talk  
18 about that a bit in her notes earlier on at the beginning of  
19 the speech today.

20                   That is something that Dominion is evaluating.  
21 And we talked about this in terms of the customer supply.  
22 And I know that this is a very difficult concept to grasp.  
23 And we have asked Dominion to try to clarify this as much as  
24 possible. And hopefully their draft resource reports will  
25 have it in writing even more clarifying for you folks.

26

1           It really does determine where the supply comes  
2 from, the people who have the gas who want to ship it along  
3 Dominion's system, which is not Dominion. Dominion is not  
4 the shippers themselves. But the people who want to ship  
5 the gas and who choose Dominion's pipeline system, where  
6 that supply comes from, what state, what region, et cetera.

7           It's going to go through pipeline interconnecting  
8 systems. And where that enters into the pipeline system  
9 will determine which compressor station is needed. And  
10 that's roughly what was explained. And we're still waiting  
11 to find out where those supplies are coming from.

12           That information will be determined later on this  
13 year and it will be known before this project ever moves  
14 forward with a formal application. By the time they come in  
15 with their formal application in April, way before that we  
16 will know whether or not it is needed here, whether it is  
17 needed at Pleasant Valley, or whether a combination thereof  
18 based on a mixture of those supplies.

19           And so that -- and that's sort of what that was  
20 talking about, and Dominion representatives will be happy to  
21 explain that I think in more detail at the end of this  
22 evening, this meeting because, you know, this is their  
23 diagram up here and they can explain it a lot better and who  
24 all of their interconnects are with and how that works.

25           But there will be answers to those questions, and  
26

1 we hope to have them by December or January of next year.  
2 December of this year, January of next year is around when  
3 we expect to know the answers to this question of where will  
4 the compression go.

5 The next speaker on our list is Carolyn Strain  
6 Stewart.

7 MS. STEWART: Hello. My name is Carolyn,  
8 C-a-r-o-l-y-n, Strain, S-t-r-a-i-n Stewart, S-t-e-w-a-r-t.  
9 I am a resident in Greene Mill Preserve and I have  
10 significant concerns about the proposed expansion of the  
11 Loudoun compressor station.

12 I have thoroughly reviewed the Notice of Intent  
13 to prepare an environmental assessment for the Cove Point  
14 project, and I am very concerned that you are not addressing  
15 thoroughly enough or overtly enough one of the areas of most  
16 concern: the impact of this expansion on the short- and  
17 long-term health of the individuals immediately surrounding  
18 it, particularly our community's large population of very  
19 young children.

20 The Notice of Intent states that NEPA -- the  
21 National Environmental Policy Act -- requires that the  
22 environmental impact of the expansion be taken into account.  
23 However, the impact on the environment will be evaluated  
24 based on how you define it.

25 In the Notice, various general headings to be  
26

1 addressed in the environmental assessment are listed out,  
2 including, among other issues, air quality and public  
3 safety. However, concerns specific to public health are not  
4 overtly listed and thus will not be directly addressed.

5 You can measure air quality and report out on  
6 emissions levels and say that the EPA -- the Environmental  
7 Protection Agency -- expectations are being met. But those  
8 emissions readings cannot be translated into meaningful  
9 health outcomes, like how much of those measured emissions  
10 our children are actually being exposed to, or what chronic  
11 exposure to those emissions means to their long term health.

12 NEPA requires you to discover and address the  
13 concerns of the public. My concerns are these:

14 Methane is not the only chemical of concern being  
15 emitted from the compressor station. Various other  
16 chemicals, some of which are known carcinogens, are also  
17 being released into the nearby environment. The emissions  
18 from compressor stations have been causally implicated in a  
19 variety of diseases that range in severity from asthma to  
20 cancer.

21 The processes of identification and measurement  
22 of the emissions are subject to legitimate criticism. The  
23 few studies that have looked at the health impact of  
24 compressor emissions have only looked at short term  
25 outcomes, when in fact chronic diseases such as cancer often  
26

1 take decades to manifest themselves.

2 And there are no respectable studies on the  
3 cumulative impact of the compressor station pollutants on  
4 long-term public health.

5 From this lack of convincing research statements  
6 have been made that no causal relationship exists between  
7 compressor station emissions and negative public health  
8 consequences. However, it absolutely can't be said that  
9 that relationship doesn't exist.

10 The research just isn't there yet. In fact, a  
11 relationship probably does exist. It will just take decades  
12 to demonstrate it in the research literature.

13 I don't want my community and the very young  
14 children that are innocently growing up in it to be the  
15 public health testing grounds for these emissions. It's  
16 already unfortunate that the compressor station is as close  
17 to our community as it is. I certainly object to any  
18 expansion of it based on health concerns alone.

19 The simple truth is that no matter how you spin  
20 the data, none of us knows the long term impact of these  
21 toxic emissions on our health. Yet you are being asked to  
22 make decisions on expansion despite this incredibly  
23 important uncertainty.

24 In your decision-making please don't put the  
25 health of our children at risk by assuming there isn't any  
26

1 risk. Please consider the possible unknown health  
2 consequences of this project and encourage expansion at a  
3 different location that is not as close to a community full  
4 of little children.

5 Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. SUTER: Thank you for your comments.

8 And we do look beyond just emissions themselves  
9 and we do look into impact numbers. We do consider --  
10 although it was not specifically listed in our Notice of  
11 Intent, we do look into additional issues as they are  
12 brought up. Those were just the initial identification of  
13 topics that we cover, although we do go into much greater  
14 depth of resources and topics throughout the document.

15 And as you guys all bring them up, we will add to  
16 our list of topics that we need to address. So we do  
17 appreciate all of your comments and do add to our  
18 ever-growing list. It's just an initial identification of  
19 generic topics to be covered.

20 The next speaker on our list is Tom Stewart.

21 MR. STEWART: Hi there. I am Tom Stewart,  
22 S-t-e-w-a-r-t.

23 I also don't have a prepared speech,  
24 unfortunately. I'm going to go through a couple of -- I  
25 have some pages of notes I want to go through. I'll  
26

1 probably deviate a little bit because I just want to address  
2 a couple of things I heard from you, from FERC.

3 I actually originally intended to come up here  
4 and hum for about five or ten minutes straight because that  
5 is about the -- by your definition, the level of 55 db,  
6 which is a human conversation. And that is, by what I have  
7 read -- and maybe there's a subsection somewhere I haven't  
8 seen -- but what I have seen says that they're allowed to  
9 create noise at the nearest -- in our case, home -- at a  
10 level of 55 db. And I'm not an attorney, but I am an  
11 engineer. And that's very clear; there's no ambiguity.

12 To me, that alone is a quality of life issue. To  
13 hear a monotonous tone over -- constantly.

14 By the way, feel free to research this on your  
15 own. It's out there; I've read it. That is the effects of  
16 a constant monotone sound on animals, including humans.  
17 There are studies that I have read about that were involving  
18 humans particularly.

19 So moving on. So that on its own is again a  
20 quality of life issue, which I am -- which to me is worth  
21 fighting over to stop the expansion. But far more important  
22 even than that to me are the health concerns. I've heard a  
23 couple of people talk about them tonight. I want to go into  
24 just a little bit more detail about where these elements  
25 that people are mentioning are coming from, these compounds

26

1 and elements.

2 When you burn -- these engines that they are  
3 going to put out there, if they get the expansion, are  
4 internal combustion engines or turbines -- one or the other.  
5 And when natural gas combusts it produces, in addition to a  
6 huge amount of heat-gas -- I've lost my train of thought  
7 here -- global gases -- greenhouse vent gases, I'm sorry.

8 Far more importantly to us in the local community  
9 is the nitrogen oxides they produce and the carbon  
10 monoxides, which are dangerous, harmful to humans. No  
11 argument there. And as a previous person mentioned, they  
12 are cumulative in their effect. You don't just walk away  
13 and the effect goes away. They're there to stay.

14 Also, and even more importantly, are the VOCs,  
15 the volatile organic compounds, that are by-products of this  
16 combustion. I'm just going to read a small section I took  
17 from a report that I found on-line -- and there's many of  
18 them. And in this report they refer to something called  
19 HAPS. I don't recall what the acronym is; it's not  
20 important.

21 The HAPs analyzed in this report are a subset of  
22 the VOC compounds, including -- and it's whited-out. But  
23 BTEX is the acronym for the word that is whited-out.

24 BTEX stands for benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene  
25 and xylene. Benzene is a known carcinogen that has been  
26

1 shown to cause blood disorders and to impact the central  
2 nervous system and the reproductive system. Toluene may  
3 affect the reproductive and central nervous system. Ethyl  
4 benzene and xylene may have respiratory and neurological  
5 effects.

6 BTEX compounds can be emitted during various oil  
7 and gas operation activities, including flaring, venting,  
8 engines, and dehydration of natural gas. Not only do they  
9 constantly emit these pollutants -- and at 45,000  
10 horsepower, you'd better believe that's a huge quantity -- a  
11 huge volume of pollution.

12 But as the equipment ages they create more  
13 pollution because they burn less effectively. The engines,  
14 just over time -- it's like fireplaces and any sort of an  
15 engine; they become less efficient over time. And they  
16 increase more pollution and even more complex chemicals are  
17 likely to develop as efficiency goes down.

18 Also a source of not insignificant chemical  
19 pollution is what is referred to as transmission fugitives.  
20 These come from pipes, fittings, flanges, et cetera. And as  
21 they age the pollution from these also grows.

22 And I know that you've addressed this and that  
23 EPA and whoever else will come out and will test and will do  
24 all these things. But they won't. And we've already heard  
25 -- I believe it was Amy who gave some very compelling

26

1 information that proves it won't happen.

2 And my fear is that you guys -- and you're doing  
3 a job and I'm not trying to knock you for it, but please  
4 have a human element here because we know it's not going to  
5 happen. So to simply say 'somebody else will handle that;  
6 they'll check on it; you'll be safe, that's not good enough  
7 because we know it won't be that way. It's already been  
8 proven.

9 And there's too many lives -- what? We've got  
10 probably about a thousand people living in our community --  
11 200 homes, townhomes -- there's probably about a thousand  
12 people in our community on its own as of today. And more  
13 communities are going to be built down Watson Road, as I  
14 understand it.

15 I was going to go on and read off a couple of --  
16 there are many cases that have been presented and they're  
17 on-line. They were presented to the boards of supervisors  
18 and on up about families who have encountered significant  
19 health issues being in close proximity to these compressor  
20 stations.

21 There's a very compelling one I have here; I  
22 won't take the time to read it because there's so many  
23 people behind me. But I will say that the thing that was  
24 very interesting to me that she mentioned was about all the  
25 testing they had done.

26

1           The elements they found in their yard from the  
2 testing, which included benzene, styrene, toluene, xylene,  
3 hexane, heptane, acetane, acrolane, propane, carbon  
4 tetrachloride and chloromethane. Her house is 780 feet from  
5 a compressor station and the state finally did a test, per  
6 her constant nagging. And that's what they found.

7           Along with what the previous speaker just said,  
8 Carolyn -- and this is very -- this is key -- the State, the  
9 Department of Environmental Protection in Pennsylvania did  
10 this test. But in their test results they mentioned the  
11 sampling results were used to characterize the acute  
12 non-cancer health risk associated with industry emissions.  
13 The report further states that they did not address the  
14 cumulative or long-term impact of air emissions or the  
15 lifetime cancer risks.

16           This was a short-term study. To my knowledge,  
17 all that I have found are short-term studies. I believe I  
18 heard you quote that you will do long-term studies or gather  
19 data from long-term studies that have been done. To my  
20 knowledge they have not been done. I don't think these  
21 plants have been in existence long enough to know what the  
22 long term effect are. They don't exist.

23           And it looks like our community, along with many  
24 others, are going to be the guinea pigs. We're the test  
25 subjects. We'll find out 20 years from now if in fact these  
26

1 actually are harmful. And what she said is -- I like -- her  
2 report was:

3 I have likened the Marcellus industry to that of  
4 the asbestos industry years ago. Both our government and  
5 the asbestos industry, through very elaborate public  
6 relations schemes, led us to believe there is no harm in  
7 being exposed to asbestos, only to find out years later the  
8 true cancer risks. I truly believe we could be facing a  
9 similar situation as a result of a Marcellus industry which  
10 is nothing more than compression -- it's natural gas  
11 production and compression stations.

12 So we're seeing the same thing here.

13 So one other thing I did want to bring up as well  
14 is if it ends up that they have to do it here, for some  
15 ungodly reason I can't even imagine -- the point you brought  
16 up about when the people bring gas they want -- it depends  
17 -- whether it's here or Pleasant Valley depends on whether  
18 people who supply the gas -- I don't buy that.

19 If they're going to go to where the gas-line is  
20 -- if they want to sell their gas, that's what they have to  
21 do. And they will do it. I don't buy for a second that  
22 they should build the pipes in a more convenient location  
23 for truckers to get their gas or whatever the case may be.

24 But if they have to build it here I strongly  
25 recommend -- and this would be something I would like

26

1 feedback from them -- is why they couldn't go to electric  
2 motors. I've done research -- limited research. And one  
3 particular test case in Texas they found a detailed -- I've  
4 read a detailed study comparing both gas turbine turbines  
5 versus electrical motors. And in this study the up-front  
6 costs of the electric solution were higher, but due to  
7 significantly lower maintenance costs the costs were  
8 balanced within one year of operation.

9 They would probably have to pay for the  
10 infrastructure to get the power to their facility, but so  
11 what. That's the price of doing business, in my opinion.

12 The value to the health of my community and my  
13 neighbors, you know, is so -- I'm sorry if you listen to the  
14 prophecies a little bit. But that's how I feel.

15 So if you could, if you could please give us  
16 feedback on why they can't go with electric motors instead  
17 of gas-driven turbines or reciprocal engines.

18 And that's all I have.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. SUTER: There was a lot of really good  
21 information in there that I'd like to give you guys some  
22 good feedback for. The first is going to be, I'd like to  
23 mention our dispute resolution service help line.

24 Once the facility goes into operation -- and even  
25 during construction -- if you believe that there is

26

1 something going on that is not right, that they're out of  
2 compliance with FERC requirements or others, if there's ever  
3 a facility that's under our jurisdiction you can always call  
4 our dispute resolution service help line. There's a number  
5 on our website for it. And you can always make a call.  
6 Identify the name of the facility and we will investigate  
7 that.

8 When there's an active project and if this  
9 project were to move forward and construction was going on  
10 and something didn't look right, you had a complaint about  
11 construction, we can actively investigate that.

12 And the same goes with operation. If you ever  
13 felt the noise was too loud and there was something going  
14 on, or you had a question. If there's ever a blow down and  
15 you want to know what happened, or anything like that, and  
16 you feel that Dominion is not responding to your questions  
17 and you've tried to go down that venue, you can always call  
18 our dispute resolution service help line. We will try to  
19 help you.

20 Even if it's with working with other state or  
21 federal agencies to get answers, if they're the ones  
22 responsible we will try to aid you to get you those answers  
23 as quickly and efficiently as we possibly can.

24 So that's the first thing I did want to mention.  
25 I don't have the number with me off the top of my head, but  
26

1 it is on our website and we can look that up for you at the  
2 end of the evening.

3 Secondly, you did ask me about going  
4 electric-driven. We did mention this earlier today at one  
5 o'clock. Alternatives is the heart of a NEPA analysis.

6 We will be requiring Dominion to analyze whether  
7 or not electric capability is possible at the Loudoun  
8 compressor station. We already know that they will propose  
9 to do electric-driven at Pleasant Valley since it is  
10 currently electric-driven.

11 They are currently proposing to go natural  
12 gas-driven if they were to put compression here at Loudoun.  
13 However, we have asked as an alternative, they must evaluate  
14 going electric-driven. So that will be in their -- what we  
15 call resource report 10, which is alternatives. And it will  
16 go into our NEPA document and that will describe, you know,  
17 if they can't why they can't. And we do a full evaluation  
18 on that.

19 And so we may have additional questions, et  
20 cetera. And we do our independent analysis on top of  
21 theirs.

22 The next speaker on the list is Tasha Beall.

23 MS. BEALL: Good evening. My name is Tasha  
24 Beall, T-a-s-h-a B-e-a-l-l. Also on the list was Dr.  
25 Brooke Schmisser, who did have to leave.

26

1           I am speaking tonight as a Greene Mill Preserve  
2 resident, a mother of young children, a wife, et cetera, et  
3 cetera; but most importantly tonight for this evening's  
4 purposes, a practicing and licensed audiologist.

5           I spend all day and every day educating people  
6 about noise, noise levels, the impact that noise has on our  
7 overall health. So you can imagine that my biggest concern,  
8 amongst many, is what I'm hearing and reading in the  
9 Dominion publications about the proposed 55 to 56 decibel  
10 noise level at night, which you have addressed a little bit  
11 in the question and answer section.

12           What I have not seen that you've addressed a  
13 little bit is what will the noise levels be during the day.  
14 And I question why is this level not in the publications.

15           Now you mentioned that there will be an average,  
16 averaging out to I believe you said 48.6 decibels. You  
17 know, my concern is who is going to control and oversee  
18 these levels so that they remain at an average 48.6.

19           Now you just mentioned the dispute resolution  
20 hotline -- I'm sorry, I don't know exactly how you said it.  
21 You know, again, back to the day and night equivalents must  
22 average 48.6, let's just really be honest -- or at least  
23 this is a question I have -- Who is controlling this and  
24 overseeing it on a daily basis? And that's a real concern  
25 of mine.

26

1           You know, this is certainly not going to be  
2           overseen and controlled by the noise ordinance department of  
3           Loudoun County police. So if you don't know what the  
4           proposed levels mean -- and obviously the two of you do -- I  
5           did bring a little simulation.

6           And please let the record show that I have turned  
7           on a white noise machine to about 55, 53 decibels. As you  
8           can clearly see, this level is very annoying. And what we  
9           still don't know is, again, what will be the levels during  
10          the day. You mentioned that there has to be an average.  
11          I'm still unclear, what will be the levels during the day?

12          What will be the pitch and frequency of this  
13          noise? Obviously different pitch frequencies have different  
14          wave lengths traveling at different distances. What will  
15          that pitch and frequency be?

16          What will be the consistency of the sound source?  
17          Will it be continuous? Will it be transient? Will it be in  
18          brief durations? In a rhythmic pattern? It doesn't matter;  
19          this is annoying.

20          So what we do know is that not only is this  
21          annoying, but it's going to affect the quality of life for  
22          all of us affected.

23          So we're asking that FERC consider the full  
24          account of the detrimental effects that this proposed  
25          project will have on our families' quality of life and  
26

1 overall health.

2 Thank you so much.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. SUTER: Just to follow up and clarify some of  
5 my previous information that I have provided about noise.  
6 All right.

7 So it is a continuous noise source. So when I  
8 say 48.6, that's 48.6 at any given point in time all the  
9 time. So if you were to take a measurement during the day  
10 or at night, the maximum noise that we can allow at any  
11 given point in time is 48.6.

12 When we say that averages out to 55, that is  
13 because we take that 48.6, we add ten decibels to that  
14 number during the nighttime hours, and then we average that  
15 total number. And there's an -- every single hour gets a  
16 time -- gets a value associated with it for a decibel level,  
17 and then we logarithmically add all of that together, and  
18 that's where we come out to a 55 average of day and night  
19 combined.

20 But at any given point in time, whether it was  
21 day or night, it would be equivalent to 48.6. That is the  
22 maximum that's allowed.

23 Another question is -- I'm sorry, I just want to  
24 make sure I got all of these.

25 This is a maximum level. We require  
26

1 post-construction -- and this is a condition that goes into  
2 every single compressor station FERC certificate that we  
3 issue. There is a requirement for a post-construction noise  
4 survey that must be done at max capacity of the compressor  
5 station. They must have all equipment operating at full  
6 load.

7 That must meet the FERC requirement of that 55  
8 decibel day/night equivalent, or 48.6 at any given point in  
9 time.

10 So that is how we determine that when they take  
11 that noise measurement they are doing it under the worst  
12 case operating scenario, full load, so that at any other  
13 point in time if they were operating under a lesser capacity  
14 it would be quieter because there would be less equipment  
15 operating.

16 However, as I did mention earlier, if there was a  
17 discrepancy in these numbers -- if somebody were to say,  
18 hey, all of a sudden this thing is really loud and something  
19 is not right -- if a year or two down the line after we've  
20 done these post-construction noise surveys and something  
21 didn't seem right, that is where that FERC helpline that I  
22 mentioned, that DRS -- dispute resolution service helpline  
23 -- comes into play.

24 We have had folks call in and say, "Something  
25 doesn't sound right." You know, maybe something has gone  
26

1       faulty with a piece of equipment and it needs to be taken  
2       down for maintenance or, you know, something has happened.  
3       And that's where you can call into us and we contact  
4       Dominion. We can come out with noise meters. Dominion can  
5       come out with noise meters and check to see if something has  
6       gone wrong. And they can, you know, perform maintenance at  
7       that point in time if it is necessary.

8                 We have checked on the phone number. For those  
9       of you who want to write this down, the dispute resolution  
10      service helpline phone number for future is 877-337-2237.  
11      I'll say that again: 877-337-2237. And that's also on the  
12      FERC website. And it will be printed in the environmental  
13      document when it's issued so you'll have that thrown back at  
14      you multiple times throughout our process.

15                I think I got most of your questions that you got  
16      in.

17                And as I did mention, our environmental documents  
18      really do throw at you how we calculate it, what's required,  
19      what the projected levels are. When we're saying this  
20      maximum of 55 or 48.6, that's the maximum that FERC allows.

21                However that doesn't even mean that that's what  
22      Dominion is going to project or that that's what the project  
23      will be. We still don't have those numbers; they're still  
24      putting that together. And those will go into the  
25      environmental document as well. So it's still a bit early  
26

1 yet to know what it's going to be.

2 And if I missed more, you can come back  
3 afterwards and ask me and we can talk about it.

4 AUDIENCE: Ma'am.

5 MS. SUTER: I want to get to the next speaker.  
6 But if I missed a main point, I do really apologize. I'm  
7 sorry.

8 I just want to make sure we get through  
9 everybody.

10 AUDIENCE: How many more speakers on the list?

11 MS. SUTER: The next speaker on the list is Ellen  
12 Berkeszi. And I'm sorry if I say that wrong.

13 AUDIENCE: How many more?

14 MS. SUTER: How many more speakers are on the  
15 list. After Ellen are six more.

16 STAFF: Plus three.

17 MS. SUTER: Oh. Sorry. Plus three.

18 MS. BERKESZI: My name is Ellen Berkeszi,  
19 E-l-l-e-n B-e-r-k-e-s-z-i.

20 I want to say I'm not prepared to make a speech.  
21 This is kind of a surprise for me. But I have lived on Red  
22 Hill Road since 1964.

23 MS. SUTER: Can you talk closer into the  
24 microphone?

25 MS. BERKESZI: I have lived at Red Hill Road  
26

1       since 1964. And I can say I don't know any of the people  
2       here. And I would like to educate you a little about the  
3       history of these gas facilities.

4                We had problems first of all with Columbia when  
5       they expanded. They had eight turbine engines and they were  
6       expanding to another engine. And during that time they  
7       provided no muffling system in their facility. So that was  
8       eight turbine engines going full blast for one solid year,  
9       24 hours a day.

10               And I'm not exaggerating when I say I would stand  
11       outside and look at the Concorde go over and not hear it. I  
12       would scream as loud as I could and could not hear my own  
13       voice. People who talked to me just moved their mouths, and  
14       that's all it was.

15               We went before the board and we actually had  
16       members of the board come out and see it. And Frank Wolff  
17       came out; he was interested in it. Chuck Robb. And bottom  
18       line, it was one thing that held up the construction of  
19       Dominion because of the way Columbia was behaving at that  
20       time.

21               It was -- They also have blow-offs. And if  
22       you've ever see these blow-offs, it's not just what you  
23       hear, it's a plume of gas that goes straight up into the air  
24       two or three times higher than the trees. And along with  
25       that gas is oil, a lubricating oil.

26

1                   Now the gas they say evaporates. And Columbia  
2 and Dominion will tell you that that's not a problem because  
3 it's evaporating. But in addition to the gas, my property  
4 has been sprayed four times with oil, a lubricating oil.  
5 And I'm going to leave these pictures with you of the last  
6 spray because the last spray was Dominion.

7                   They had compensated me for the damage to the  
8 cars. I have been paid and had the cars washed. But as I  
9 said, this is four times this has happened. This is oil.  
10 And that's a massive area.

11                   As far as security is concerned, years ago in the  
12 '50s when my father first bought the farm -- he had 250  
13 acres there. There was a family that lived on the Columbia  
14 site in a house. His name was Mr. Bell. He was a member of  
15 the community; his kids went to school there. But more  
16 importantly, he oversaw that facility. He was there; he  
17 lived there.

18                   Years later -- and it's been probably 30 years --  
19 they've abandoned that. No one lives there. And as far as  
20 I know, there is no one on that facility at all.

21                   I have a neighbor who rides his motorcycle up and  
22 down the facility without any intervention. It's very easy  
23 to get to that facility. I've done it myself.

24                   I've talked about the noise. It far exceeds any  
25 levels that you have put forth here. The pollution, as I've  
26

1       said, I'm going to leave these hear and I want you to see  
2       it. If you see this on your car after a blow-out, think  
3       about the possibility of oil on your property.

4               We were told by the Board of Supervisors when we  
5       upheld Dominion that in the future all blow-offs without  
6       prior written notification to those living within a  
7       half-mile radius can be considered as accidents and should  
8       be reported to 911. And they have had many blow-offs  
9       without notification, both Dominion and Columbia.

10              And therefore, it's because of the issues that I  
11       have mentioned here, I would recommend you consider another  
12       site so as not to further burden the residents of this  
13       community.

14              Thank you.

15              (Applause.)

16              MS. SUTER: I'd like to thank you for giving  
17       comments about the history of the facilities in the area.

18              What we're going to do, given the number of  
19       speakers that we have still signed up to speak, is we're  
20       going to take a quick ten-minute break just to let everybody  
21       stretch their legs, grab a sip of water, use the facilities  
22       if necessary. We're going to pick back up right away, even  
23       if you're not sitting down. We're going to try to wrangle  
24       everybody back up.

25              So a quick ten minutes. It's 9:15 right now. So

26

1 at 9:25 we're going to start right back up.

2 (Recess.)

3 MS. SUTER: We re going to get started again. So  
4 if everyone can please take your seats.

5 (Pause.)

6 MS. SUTER: All right. Our next speaker on the  
7 list was Todd Allen.

8 MR. ALLEN: Hi. My name is Todd Allen, T-o-d-d  
9 A-l-l-e-n.

10 And I want to ask a question I think a lot of us  
11 having. Looking at the diagram that's up here, I am not  
12 sure whether you're going to be able to answer -- after I'm  
13 done. But it appears that there are two lines that are  
14 connecting to the Loudoun County facility, and only one line  
15 connecting to the Pleasant Valley facility.

16 So if I make an analogy, I would say that if  
17 calling the supply like a lake, how big is the lake  
18 connecting to the two lines as compared to the lake that  
19 connects to the one line at Pleasant Valley? I think that  
20 would give us all an indication of the probability that  
21 Loudoun County facility is chosen over the Pleasant Valley  
22 facility.

23 So I don't know if you can answer that. But if  
24 you could, that would be helpful.

25 So a little bit about who I am. Todd Allen. I'm  
26

1 a husband, I'm a father of three. I' a past real estate  
2 appraiser; I' a current local realtor. I'm a managing  
3 partner of a local real estate firm. I'm a Greene Mill HOA  
4 board member and a proud Green Mill Preserve homeowner.

5 Like many of the people in this room, my wife and  
6 I worked very hard when we were selecting our -- selecting  
7 the next neighborhood that we were going to live in. We had  
8 the hopes that this could be the next home we live in for  
9 the next 15 to 20 years, giving my family and our children  
10 the opportunity to be able to put down roots in a community  
11 and around friends that my wife and I didn't have the  
12 opportunity of, having moved around a lot when we were  
13 younger.

14 So we felt like we chose wisely. We love the  
15 scenic views, the serenity of the community -- but still  
16 having the close proximity to amenities around us up in  
17 Brambleton. We felt great about the choice we'd made until  
18 this summer when we received the first notification from  
19 Dominion Power about the potential expansion that may take  
20 place in the woods behind us.

21 And then a few weeks later when I was outside and  
22 in my driveway talking to a few neighbors and a noise from  
23 the woods started coming out. And that noise got louder and  
24 louder to the point where it sounded like the space shuttle  
25 was actually going to land on the street in front of us.

26

1           We found out from talking to other neighbors that  
2           have been in the community longer than us that that sound  
3           was venting. And it was part of a normal process of  
4           maintenance or done at times of emergency. We obviously  
5           found out it was done because of concern about a package  
6           found outside the building.

7           So that made us think back, obviously, to the  
8           notification we got from Dominion Power about the potential  
9           expansion. So we started digging in and finding more out  
10          about that potential expansion and what that means to our  
11          community.

12          Obviously, as everybody has mentioned tonight,  
13          the potential expansion would be increasing the capacity or  
14          the horsepower four times, taking the current horsepower  
15          from 12,000 to just under 50,000. That additional capacity  
16          is obviously, as people have mentioned, is probably going to  
17          increase the noise levels coming from the facility. It's  
18          also going to increase the emissions coming from the  
19          facility, impacting our community and the children that  
20          breathe the air in our community.

21          The other way that it's obviously going to impact  
22          our community is in property value. It's going to create a  
23          negative perception about our community. Whether it's  
24          accurate, whether the facility and Dominion Power is meeting  
25          the regulations set by our governments, it doesn't matter.

26

1 We're in an area of Loudoun County where we are surrounded  
2 by lots of beautiful communities.

3 When somebody goes to put up their home for sale  
4 in Greene Mill Preserve after this expansion is complete,  
5 word of mouth will spread about the expansion and about the  
6 negative impacts. And you'll be lucky to get a home-owner  
7 -- or a potential buyer to come and see a sale in our  
8 community.

9 Word of mouth will spread throughout the real  
10 estate industry about our community. And realtors will be  
11 hesitant to even show homes in our community that are for  
12 sale for the concern that if they don't explain to their  
13 potential buyer what the negative impacts of that facility  
14 behind our homes will be, that they will lose business,  
15 obviously, in the future.

16 You have to ask yourself how much lower would a  
17 home price have to fall for you to consider dealing with the  
18 negative impacts of a site like this behind your community.  
19 I for one wouldn't even consider it. I would have just  
20 moved on to the next community down the street that's that  
21 much further away from the Dominion Power site.

22 The good thing that everybody has mentioned  
23 tonight is there's another option. The other option is  
24 Pleasant Valley. Within a half-mile radius of Pleasant  
25 Valley let the public record show that there's not a single  
26

1 home site. It's a site sitting out in the middle of a  
2 field.

3 At Cove Point or the Loudoun County location  
4 there are -- within a half-mile radius there's over 180  
5 homes. That number grows every day as builders continue to  
6 build out our community and other communities around it.

7 Within a mile radius of the Cove Point or the  
8 Loudoun County site there's over 400 homes and families that  
9 would be potentially impacted.

10 So the answer seems simple. And we're asking --  
11 and we're making a plea to FERC and to Dominion Power today  
12 to allow people to continue to have that dream of being in  
13 their homes for the next 15 to 20 years, allowing their  
14 children to raise and be able to put down roots.

15 So we're making a plea for them to make the smart  
16 choice, to make the obvious choice and select Pleasant  
17 Valley over the Loudoun County site.

18 Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. SUTER: To answer your question about the map  
21 up here, it is Dominion's map. And I'm going to ask them  
22 after the meeting, if you have specific questions about  
23 their interconnects and what all the lines mean, that you  
24 ask them after the meeting. And I'm sure they'd be more  
25 than happy to explain how their system works in detail. And  
26

1 I am certainly not an expert on Dominion's entire system.  
2 So they can do that after the meeting.

3 The next speaker on the list is Kirsten Ancona.

4 MS. ANCONA: My name is Kirsten Ancona. It's  
5 K-i-r-s-t-e-n. Ancona is A-n-c-o-n-a. And I'm here tonight  
6 as a soon-to-be resident of Greene Mill.

7 I would like to say that I oppose the expansion  
8 of the Cove Point Lane compressor station. And I'm  
9 representing my husband, John Ancona, and my two sons, Davis  
10 and Price Ancona. And we will live on Waxwing Drive backing  
11 up to the compressor station.

12 Anyone who's moved to a new state can appreciate  
13 the amount of effort that goes into such a process. There  
14 are many details to research before deciding on a new home,  
15 and then getting your family settled.

16 My husband and I are deliberate, intelligent,  
17 careful people. Just ask the sales rep at Stanley Martin  
18 who finally sold us our lot and home after months of us  
19 asking questions about liability, the area, the details  
20 involved with a conservancy lot, which is what we will own.  
21 She actually complained that we asked more questions than  
22 any other buyers. And yet now it seems like we should have  
23 asked even more questions of different people.

24 Had we known then what we know now we would never  
25 have purchased this home.

26

1                   So I find myself without any of the pleasure or  
2                   anticipation that can accompany a new home and all its  
3                   promise. I have spent my time researching natural gas  
4                   compression and asking questions about easements at the  
5                   Loudoun County Department of Building and Development.

6                   I must give a heartfelt thanks, though, to the  
7                   members of the Homeowners Association in the neighborhood of  
8                   Greene Mill. If it weren't for them, I would still know  
9                   nothing about this potential expansion since I don' t live  
10                  in the community yet, despite the fact that I did look into  
11                  the site early last year when shopping for this home. Of  
12                  course, they didn't state anything until June it sounds like  
13                  now.

14                 We are completely opposed to the expansion of the  
15                 station for a multitude of reasons. For one, we're  
16                 concerned about the construction traffic and pollution in  
17                 and out of this area of Loudoun County. The lack of  
18                 security of the facility has been brought up as a concern as  
19                 well.

20                 And noise is a major factor. My home will be one  
21                 of the closest to the station. And I confirmed today that  
22                 FERC will make sure to take decibel readings from what will  
23                 be my back yard. But I understand the decibel range must  
24                 meet with DOT and FERC regulations. However, there is still  
25                 great concern over the increased droning noise and the  
26

1 scheduled and unscheduled blow-down noise, which apparently  
2 sounds like a plane is landing in your back yard.

3 I'm curious as to whether or not a larger  
4 capacity means that a larger -- you've stated one-half mile  
5 is the radius of notification and et cetera. If the  
6 compressor station is allowed to expand, does that make the  
7 radius a larger concern, you know, that they are required to  
8 educate or, if you will, announce when they're having their  
9 issues to a greater number of people.

10 I' also concerned about all the pollution  
11 generated at this plant. These toxins come through the air  
12 as Dominion blows off methane gas and with the exhaust  
13 emissions that are common with energy generation. The  
14 pollution is also inevitable in the form of particles that  
15 come from Dominion's hundreds of drums and trucks filled  
16 with thousands of gallons of antifreeze and other chemicals  
17 that are in and out of the station heading to their --  
18 quote, unquote -- appropriate disposal sites.

19 Another downside of course now mentioned for the  
20 local residents is the drop in property values. I myself  
21 stated that had I known all of this was on my horizon I just  
22 would have said no, let's just skip that neighborhood and go  
23 someplace else. And I agree wholeheartedly with our HOA  
24 president when he says that's what people will do.

25 So the property values, the money that we've  
26

1       invested which, let's face it, for most people their home is  
2       their biggest investment. It's rendered -- it's hobbled, I  
3       guess.

4                   And finally, there's the risk of explosion and  
5       fire, similar to the one in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania  
6       in March of this year, which literally blew the roof off the  
7       facility and had black and grey smoke billowing off of it  
8       for hours.

9                   So none of this can be good for the hundreds of  
10      local residents and their families. And I plead with you to  
11      evaluate this carefully from the humanistic standpoint.

12                   Thank you very much for your time.

13                   (Applause.)

14                   MS. SUTER: I just want to touch on two points  
15      that you asked or that you mentioned really quick.

16                   The first is, as many of you may not have been  
17      out with us earlier this afternoon, yes, FERC staff is  
18      requiring that the noise analysis be done for all planned  
19      homes, even if they're not currently built yet. As long as  
20      they're in with the zoning board, the planning board, they  
21      are considered noise-sensitive areas. And so the noise  
22      analysis will be projected out to those planned homes as  
23      well, even if they're not currently built.

24                   In addition, your answer about notification, the  
25      FERC regulations require that Dominion send out  
26

1 notifications within a half-mile of a compressor station.  
2 The horsepower size is not part of that requirement; it's  
3 any size, it's for a half a mile limit.

4 The next speaker on our list is Richelle Brown.

5 MS. BROWN: Hi. I am Richelle Brown. That's  
6 R-i-c-h-e-l-l-e B-r-o-w-n.

7 I've been a resident of Loudoun County for about  
8 six years. And I'm also a volunteer working on natural gas  
9 issues with the Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club.

10 I'm not speaking for the Sierra Club tonight. I  
11 think that they have gone on record numerous times as being  
12 opposed to the entire Cove Point expansion process. And, of  
13 course, there is now a legal case under consideration by a  
14 judge that has the possibility to forestall this entirely.

15 But the fact that I'm not speaking officially  
16 means that I can be a little more emotional and a little  
17 more personal in my comments.

18 Ms. Suter, did I understand you to say that one  
19 of the things that FERC considers is markets, the effects on  
20 the market of the proposed project?

21 MS. SUTER: The Commission considers that in  
22 making its decision.

23 MS. BROWN: Okay. Thank you.

24 I'm glad to hear that because this is about the  
25 market. This is about the natural gas market. It's not  
26

1 surprising -- Dominion is a company; they're not a charity.  
2 But that also means that this project goes beyond that  
3 schematic that you have up there showing Cove Point,  
4 Pleasant Valley, Loudoun and the pipelines.

5 Now I understand that when it comes to this  
6 particular facility, Dominion will not have anything to do  
7 -- you know, will not decide what sources will be used for  
8 the gas that passes through it.

9 But the whole reason that all of this is going on  
10 is because we're in the middle of a shale gas boom of  
11 unprecedented scale. And it has far outstripped the ability  
12 of the marketplace to maintain gas prices, natural gas  
13 prices. This is what they were just half a decade ago. But  
14 it's also outstripped regulatory apparatuses all throughout  
15 the country.

16 I have gone to, you know, several of the points  
17 on that schematic. I've gone to Cove Point, or I was there  
18 last night at the scoping meeting out in Calvert. And I  
19 heard a lot of concerns from the community. Of course there  
20 were some statements in support, but there were also similar  
21 concerns in the community out there concerning noise,  
22 construction traffic, impact on their quality of life.

23 Of course, I've heard it in great detail this  
24 evening from my neighbors, county neighbors here. And they  
25 have educated me enormously. And I'm very concerned for  
26

1 both of these communities. But I'm also concerned for the  
2 communities that I have seen particularly out in West  
3 Virginia who have been impacted by this shale gas explosion,  
4 basically.

5 I've never been to one of these, or had -- last  
6 night I had never been to one of these scoping meetings.  
7 And it's very thorough. I, you know, you will go and you  
8 will make this decision. But you have gotten lots of public  
9 input and it seems to be a very thorough process.

10 And I admire that because a lot of the people out  
11 in West Virginia, their first notification -- their first  
12 and last notification that their lives were going to be  
13 completely changed was a knock on the door saying either  
14 'We're going to be putting in a well pad on your neighbor's  
15 property because they have leased the gas -- the rights to  
16 us,' or saying, 'We own your mineral rights and so we are  
17 now going to put up a nine acre well pad.'

18 I've spoken with people who have experienced, you  
19 know, a wide range of impacts to their quality of life,  
20 everything from dead and dying farm animals and pets to  
21 constantly runny nose and eyes, colds that won't go away.  
22 Abominable tap water; that's something that's pretty well  
23 known.

24 It's still not clear -- there are studies ongoing  
25 as to whether these can be mitigated with appropriate  
26

1 regulations. Methane releases, preventing methane  
2 migration, things like that. But even if you do shale gas  
3 extraction right -- and I'm not sure that it's possible --  
4 the change is still for a lot of people, particularly in  
5 rural areas, on a scale that in a lot of ways dwarfs what  
6 would happen here.

7           People here live in a suburban area, have a lot  
8 of construction going on here. There's some industry around  
9 here. In a lot of cases the people out in West Virginia --  
10 and I have not visited people in Pennsylvania but I've heard  
11 stories -- they witness a complete and utter turning  
12 upside-down of their lives within a couple of months.

13           They have the roar of gas flares going all of the  
14 time. They have the noise of the construction of the well  
15 pad, the diesel engines on the pumps, the truck traffic  
16 going up and down. As a matter of fact, one of the major  
17 complaints I've heard, it's hard to talk about -- sometimes  
18 about the sort of invisible things that are in water. And  
19 again, fights are ongoing about that.

20           But just the fact that there are two-lane roads  
21 that are the only ingress and egress of different  
22 communities have trucks that will overturn on them and block  
23 them off for nine, ten, eleven hours is a significant  
24 community impact. And the list goes on and on and on.

25           I again, as I've said, don't think that shale gas  
26

1 extraction can be done properly. And so I think that the  
2 FERC should take into account the impacts on the communities  
3 beyond those that are represented on this schematic when  
4 considering this, also the natural environmental in those  
5 communities, forest fragmentation, loss of biodiversity.

6 And I personally am against the entire project,  
7 the Cove Point terminal, Pleasant Valley, anything located  
8 at Pleasant Valley, and anything that might be put at the  
9 Loudoun station.

10 Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MS. SUTER: For those who are wondering, the  
13 topic of shale gas extraction and production -- which is not  
14 regulated by FERC, it is done at the state level -- is a  
15 topic which falls under cumulative impacts. And that is  
16 where you will see it addressed in our environmental  
17 documents to the extent that we do address them. And so  
18 that's where you can look to for all of the projects with  
19 that connection.

20 The next speaker we have on our list is Irene  
21 Ward.

22 MS. WARD: Hello. I'm Irene Ward, I-r-e-n-e  
23 W-a-r-d.

24 I want to make a couple of comments before I read  
25 what I have just read, based on the comments of my  
26

1 neighbors. I have severe to profound hearing loss. And  
2 background noises absolutely drive me crazy. They make me  
3 extremely nervous until I just begin to go like this. And I  
4 don't even realize that.

5 When I was teaching, my teacher assistant used to  
6 beg me to play background music. She was a music major.  
7 And I always would have to say no. I said I love music, but  
8 I can't have it as background music because it bothers me  
9 too much.

10 And so I just want to make you aware that  
11 background noises are detrimental. They do bother people.  
12 They do make your nervous. They do impact your quality of  
13 life.

14 I'm going to read something that I wrote down  
15 very quickly this afternoon after one o'clock, and then I'll  
16 go on and read an item that I prepared which is in a  
17 completely different vein as far as how I feel about how our  
18 community will be impacted.

19 Approximately ten years ago FERC gave Dominion  
20 the go-ahead to build the current compressor station behind  
21 our neighborhood. FERC also gave their blessings to the  
22 expansion of the Lusby, Maryland terminal, where the LNG  
23 will be exported.

24 In other words, this is something that is not new  
25 to FERC.

26

1                   Why am I so concerned about the pollution? One  
2                   reason is because I grew up in Lake Charles, Louisiana.  
3                   Most of you have never heard of Lake Charles, but I can  
4                   assure you that FERC and Dominion have because it is a  
5                   major, major hub of the petrochemical industry.

6                   Lake Charles has the dubious distinction of being  
7                   the first port from which the first tanker carried LNG.  
8                   That was in 1959.

9                   Before moving to Virginia I lived in the Houston  
10                  area for 20 years, about 15 miles or so from the infamous  
11                  Texas City refinery explosions. You probably heard about  
12                  the one in 2005, but I can assure you there have been other  
13                  explosions.

14                 I grew up breathing polluted air. I have seen  
15                 large glass bottles melted flat as a plate from the intense  
16                 heat of a refinery explosion. I have seen miles of dead  
17                 cypress trees along the bayou due to pollution. I've been  
18                 in the homes of women made widows by refinery explosions.

19                 And I didn't put this in the written part, but I  
20                 might add that these widows are also now millionaires  
21                 because of the lawsuits brought against these petrochemical  
22                 companies that they lost because they were not following  
23                 health regulations.

24                 And I have seen an entire middle class  
25                 subdivision -- yes, an entire middle class subdivision,  
26

1 including its elementary school razed to the ground because  
2 of pollution: The Brio site in southeast Houston. You can  
3 research this; you will see that I'm not making any of this  
4 up.

5 I realize these examples are not everyday  
6 occurrences. But explosions of compressor stations do  
7 happen. And their intense heat can catch the trees on fire.  
8 Also the emissions from the station pollute the air.

9 Another concern I have is that 2.8 miles from the  
10 entrance of Greene Mill Preserve is the Loudoun County  
11 landfill, which accepts from homeowners hazardous materials  
12 such as mercury, antifreeze, medical waste, and brake fluid,  
13 to name a few.

14 In the opposite direction three miles down  
15 Evergreen Mill is an electric substation. If this  
16 substation uses SF6 or sulfur hexafluoride gas as an  
17 insulator against electrical arcing, then we need to be  
18 concerned because it is a major greenhouse gas.

19 I do not want to see another industry of such a  
20 hazardous nature near our homes and along Evergreen Mill  
21 Road. This area should be a safe residential area, not an  
22 industrial road.

23 Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 MS. WARD: I have something else that I would  
26

1       like to read. It's entitled, Carolina Road.

2                       This morning I went to the home of Eugene  
3       Schiele, historical and mapmaker, who lives in Waterford.  
4       He draws maps of the historic roads of Loudoun County and  
5       has written numerous articles and books. He was kind enough  
6       to give me some of his valuable time, and from him I  
7       verified that Watson Road and Evergreen Mill Road are part  
8       of the Carolina Road, a rogue's road as some call it because  
9       of the thieves who plundered travelers.

10                      The Carolina Road is ancient as it was first used  
11       by the Iroquois and Algonquin Indians. Later colonists  
12       followed the Carolina Road because of -- open quote --  
13       'numerous springs along the route, milder temperatures east  
14       of the mountains, and relatively safe fords across major  
15       rivers and streams.' Close quote. This quote is from an  
16       article Mr. Schiele published in the Washington Post.

17                      The Watson section of the Carolina Road begins  
18       where the Zion Baptist Church is now located and continues  
19       until it intersects with Evergreen Mill at Goose Creek.  
20       That means all of Watson Road was part of the Carolina Road  
21       and at Goose Creek, Evergreen Mill as it proceeds north was  
22       the Carolina Road.

23                      Mr. Schiele's article which he wrote for the  
24       Washington Post is a fascinating history that shares  
25       anecdotal accounts by travelers. Because the article is

26

1       lengthy, I will not have time to read it tonight. But I  
2       will leave a copy of it for the members of FERC along with a  
3       downloaded copy of one of his maps showing how Watson and  
4       Evergreen Mill Roads were clearly parts of the Carolina  
5       Road.

6                I have also brought with me one of the maps I  
7       bought from him. And if you are interested, I can show you  
8       the roads after the meeting tonight.

9                I mention this because how they drill -- well,  
10       there won't be drilling, but in the development phase and on  
11       into the production phase of the compressor station, that --  
12       I don't think it's FERC but I think it's another agency that  
13       does look into how it impacts cultural resources.

14               I want to quote from the government's site for  
15       Tribal Energy and Environmental Information Clearinghouse  
16       about the potential impact of the developmental phase of the  
17       compressor station upon Watson Road and the historic Riticor  
18       House that Gary Cuppett has so thoroughly researched:

19                Potential impacts to cultural resources during  
20       the development phase could include destruction of cultural  
21       resources in areas undergoing surface disturbance;  
22       unauthorized removal of artifacts or vandalism as a result  
23       of expanded scientific study and educational and  
24       interpretive uses of these resources.

25                I think I may have left something out there

26

1       because that doesn't make sense.

2                   Other impacts are visual, resulting from large  
3       areas of exposed surface, increases in dust, and the  
4       presence of large-scale equipment, machinery and vehicles  
5       for cultural resources that have an associated landscape  
6       component that contributes to their significance. In other  
7       words, sacred landscapes on historic trails.

8                   While the potential for encountering buried sites  
9       is relatively low, the possibility that buried sites could  
10      be disturbed during pipeline or access road construction  
11      does exist. Unless the buried site is detected early in the  
12      surface-disturbing activities, the impact to the site can be  
13      considerable.

14                  Vibration resulting from increased traffic and  
15      development activities may also have effects on rock art and  
16      other associated sites. In other words, sites with standing  
17      architecture.

18                  Close quotes.

19                  And I have cited the website from which I got  
20      this quote.

21                  In closing, I would like to say that the  
22      expansion of the Cove Point compressor station is in no way  
23      beneficial for our community or our county. It will create  
24      more pollution, noise pollution, and will negative impact  
25      hallowed ground.

26

1 Thank you.

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. SUTER: Thank you for your comments.

4 Just to clarify for you, we do address cultural  
5 resources. Under NEPA, we do a Section 106 evaluation under  
6 the National Historic Preservation Act. And we do that  
7 through working with each state's State Historic  
8 Preservation Officer. So we do reach out to every state and  
9 do look at both historic and cultural resources. And so  
10 that will be done for this project.

11 The next speaker that we have on the list is Phil  
12 LoPresti.

13 (No response.)

14 MS. SUTER: Did he leave?

15 AUDIENCE: I believe he left.

16 MS. SUTER: All right.

17 Next, Sarah Marquigny.

18 MS. MARQUIGNY: Hi. My name is Sarah, S-a-r-a-h,  
19 Marquigny, M-a-r-q-u-i-g-n-y. I go by Sally, so everybody  
20 here is surprised to hear that my name is really Sarah.

21 I've lived in Greene Mill Preserve two years now.  
22 And ever since I moved in I have spontaneously thrown my  
23 hands up and exclaimed, "I love my neighbors."

24 If you've ever lived in an unneighborly area, you  
25 know how priceless good neighbors are. And thank you all

26

1 for coming out tonight.

2 Whenever I have heavy furniture to move my  
3 neighbors haul it up- or downstairs for me in exchange for a  
4 thank you. When we had our first snowfall my neighbor  
5 shoveled my driveway before I even got out of bed. When my  
6 dog cut an artery during an evening walk, my neighbors  
7 helped me transport him to the emergency vet.

8 Our neighborhood may be relatively young, but  
9 it's terrific. Something about the front doors close to the  
10 sidewalks, the porches, the village green, the nature  
11 trails, all this attracts residents who want to interact and  
12 who feel vested in the common amenities.

13 Each of us chose this neighborhood for various  
14 reasons, but all of us chose it for the 300 acres of  
15 conservation land that surrounds it. Visitors always remark  
16 that they didn' t know we were back here; that it's so  
17 quiet, so rural, so peaceful.

18 We live in a suburban neighborhood, but we get to  
19 watch deer near the playground, wild turkeys on the nature  
20 trails, and bald eagles overhead.

21 But we all know that in every neighborhood  
22 there's that one neighbor, the one who doesn't feel a part  
23 of it and who doesn't care about it; the neighbor who  
24 intrudes, who selfishly does whatever he pleases on his  
25 property without regard to whether it affects or disturbs

26

1 his neighbors, even after they have politely requested that  
2 he please stop.

3 There's always that one bad neighbor who thinks  
4 his interests trump the rights of all the other neighbors.  
5 Dominion is already that neighbor.

6 Dominion is not our gas provider. Dominion Power  
7 is not even our electric provider. Residents at Greene Mill  
8 Preserve have no business relationship with Dominion, so we  
9 have nothing to gain in any expansion of the compressor  
10 station.

11 Moreover, until the open house this summer,  
12 Dominion had never communicated with most of us. We had to  
13 figure out ourselves what the God-awful random jet noise  
14 was. And we're only just now learning that it's not just  
15 air coming out.

16 I've never received a warning nor an explanation  
17 -- let alone an apology -- for these sudden  
18 life-style-altering noises that last an hour or more. We're  
19 never informed of what's really occurred even after the  
20 fact.

21 We have no contact information for Dominion, not  
22 even a website to check for real-time updates on these  
23 events to explain what dangerous emergency event has  
24 required the noisy dangerous venting of flammable methane  
25 into our local atmosphere. We are never told if there is  
26

1 anything we should watch for, nor any precautions we should  
2 take, nor any estimate of the duration of the current  
3 venting, nor any information on how the emergency was  
4 resolved, nor how such a situation will be prevented in the  
5 future.

6 I have learned more about current operations from  
7 the expansion hearings than ever directly from Dominion up  
8 until now. The most we ever get from Dominion when we press  
9 them is, "Trust us." And here we go again, with Dominion  
10 telling us to trust them in this expansion.

11 We live in a neighborhood filled with children  
12 and pets. No one moved here to flip a house for profit. We  
13 all moved here planning to make this home for as long as  
14 possible. We all moved here in spite of the present  
15 compressor existence -- certainly not because of it. But  
16 that was not a tacit agreement to accept anything Dominion  
17 wants to do in the future.

18 If the compressor had already been four times  
19 larger when we bought our houses, none of us would have  
20 moved here. In fact, no one in their right minds would buy  
21 homes close to such an industrial site, which means we will  
22 not be able to sell them if the compressor is expanded.

23 Our homeowner association rules empower us to  
24 allow reasonable changes to the neighborhood. But if a  
25 family of five suddenly invited 15 more people to live with  
26

1       them, quadrupling their size, it would change the character  
2       of the whole neighborhood. Likewise, Dominion wants to  
3       quadruple their size because it will make them money.

4                We also have HOA rules to keep residents from  
5       partying all night. But Dominion wants the right to throw a  
6       party 24/7 for the rest of eternity. Why? So they can sell  
7       gas to a couple of overseas companies.

8                What's in it for Greene Mill Preserve? Only bad  
9       things, culminating in plummeting property values in an  
10      already depressed market. We are the ones who will pay the  
11      price. This is not reasonable.

12              But more importantly, why us? Yes, an existing  
13      compressor station is located here, but there is another  
14      viable site for the expansion, a site that is completely  
15      rural, a site with no neighborhoods, no playgrounds, and  
16      very few people who would be affected by the expansion.  
17      Pleasant Valley is the appropriate place for this expansion.  
18      This should be obvious. But for some reason the nearby  
19      site next to us is still on the table. That's because the  
20      customers get to choose the location of the expansion, not  
21      the residents who will be affected by it. The customers are  
22      not here tonight. And we do not get to appeal to them even  
23      though they apparently hold our quality of life in their  
24      hands.

25              From the other side of the world Dominion's  
26

1 customers are choosing a preferred route based on the bottom  
2 line, not based on what we say here tonight. And clearly  
3 they want it on Watson Road or we would not be holding this  
4 hearing.

5 If FERC does not stop them, Greene Mill Preserve  
6 will become a farce. After all, what will we have left to  
7 preserve once our tranquility, wildlife, and home values  
8 have been destroyed by the Cove Point expansion.

9 To sum it up, none of us should be here tonight.  
10 If Dominion were in fact the good neighbor they claim to be  
11 it would have already told its customers that this location  
12 is not an option. But Dominion doesn't care about us.  
13 Dominion is behaving like a bully, which it historically  
14 does in these situations.

15 Therefore we residents are here tonight to appeal  
16 to FERC to be forceful about ensuring that Dominion does the  
17 right thing by us, the stakeholders, not just its customers  
18 or its own pocketbook. The right thing in this case is for  
19 Dominion to move the entire compressor expansion project to  
20 Pleasant Valley, period.

21 They've had the answer all along and could have  
22 saved us all a lot of time and energy if they'd simply  
23 applied common sense instead of greed by moving the project  
24 where it affects the fewest people, regardless of cost  
25 saving.

26

1                   Trust them? Dominion has consistently been less  
2                   than forthcoming with us, its neighbors. They have given us  
3                   no reason to trust them at all.

4                   (Applause.)

5                   MS. SUTER: I just want to encourage -- we always  
6                   encourage Dominion and all of the company representatives  
7                   that we regulate to work with the community, to work with  
8                   the landowners. And we encourage the same landowners to  
9                   communicate your concerns to Dominion and to FERC staff, as  
10                  you all have been doing tonight.

11                  I think when we were out earlier today there were  
12                  definite areas for improvement that were identified. And I  
13                  think Dominion has taken note of that and is going to work  
14                  towards improving that. And we strongly encourage that  
15                  improvement.

16                  And as I've mentioned several times, there's  
17                  always the landowner help line, the dispute resolution  
18                  service help line that you can call when you do have  
19                  questions or concerns. We can help you try to get answers  
20                  when you do have that question about an event that has  
21                  occurred or something like that.

22                  Also, you will see as part of this project there  
23                  was a question about a website. It doesn't give you answers  
24                  about the current existing facilities, but there is a  
25                  project website for this project that was in materials  
26

1 earlier. And we'll make sure that that's provided for  
2 anybody who is interested. I don't know it off the top of  
3 my head, but we'll get that for you for anyone who is  
4 interested so that you can follow for information about this  
5 project.

6 The last speaker that I have signed up on the  
7 list -- Oh, I take that back; not the last one: the second  
8 to last -- Robert Coulter.

9 MR. COULTER: Hi. Robert Coulter, C-o-u-l-t-e-r.

10 I appreciate the opportunity to speak. I really  
11 do. But Ms. Marquigny and Mr. Bono have already trumped you  
12 in informing that I was going to be here. So for better or  
13 for worse, here I am.

14 And moreover -- that's a good word; I haven't  
15 used that in about six months now. I'm going to try to work  
16 that in somewhere -- you'll soon see that my opinion of my  
17 public speaking is actually better than my capability.

18 I'm a resident of Greene Mill Preserve -- or  
19 ground zero -- since 2006. I've seen a lot of changes in  
20 our area. But one change has not changed: It is still a  
21 preserve. It's a very, very quiet community. That's why we  
22 moved there. And I think Sally so aptly put it: What's  
23 left to preserve? We want to preserve what we have.

24 The hazard, of course, of speaking later is all  
25 the remarks are already made. So I've changed my notes a  
26

1 little bit. I'll be a lot more brief.

2 I feel very interested, and somewhat qualified to  
3 speak. I have a degree in safety; I've got a degree in  
4 mechanical electrical technology; a degree in government  
5 contract management. I served the government for 30 years,  
6 now an independent contractor.

7 I've been all over the world -- four continents.  
8 I've offered advice; I've been an inspector, an advisor, a  
9 compliance officer on several continents. And my advice  
10 always to senior leaders and folks at large is, what is the  
11 potential? The potential here in my opinion is great.

12 This just isn't a good fit. We're a small  
13 community, we're quiet; there's nature, there's children,  
14 there's pets, as has been spoken. It isn't an industrial  
15 area. It just doesn't fit. We're too close; we're not  
16 geared. We're setting ourselves up for a fall.

17 If you just want to talk about noise, just  
18 straight noise, the first night that I heard that roar I had  
19 an idea what it was but I didn't know. It turned out I was  
20 wrong, but it was the exact same sound that I heard for  
21 about a year when I was stationed in Korea right on the  
22 front line in Kunsan where the jets roared all night and all  
23 day long. We didn't sleep; we were very tense. We had a  
24 lot to do. This is our home. It's not an Air Force base.  
25 It's not a war zone.

26

1                   55 decibels. A nomenclature equivalent of 55  
2                   decibels is loud conversation -- and it's irritating if it's  
3                   just for a few seconds. If it goes on, it's intolerable.

4                   If you want to talk about potential, LNG and high  
5                   pressure vessels are a bomb. They're lethal combustivity  
6                   just waiting to go off. Leaks turn into devastating  
7                   explosions and disasters.

8                   I stood in the parking lot of the Pentagon on  
9                   9/11 and I watched that flume go up in the sky, and I  
10                  brushed the Pentagon out of my clothes and hair for about a  
11                  half an hour.

12                 High pressure vessels can be set off by anything.  
13                 In the Air Force we had several boilers that we had to keep  
14                 track of. We had won awards for our pressure vessels. We'd  
15                 had several years without an incident anywhere. And one  
16                 night a strike of lightning erased all of that.

17                 We couldn't prevent that. But it was just a  
18                 small little spark that hit a facility that was --  
19                 thankfully away from housing. In this case it's not. We're  
20                 too close. It's just too close. There's too much  
21                 potential.

22                 There's an air park close by. What if a small  
23                 airplane goes down and hits that bomb that's already been  
24                 built here?

25                 Potential. What do you do with potential? As a  
26

1 safety engineer you have to engineer the hazard out of the  
2 job. You take all means, precautions to engineer that  
3 hazard out. You try to isolate it. You try to cover it.  
4 You secure it. And when you can't engineer the hazard out  
5 of the job then you start trying to contain it.

6 I'm sure the folks there, if they're there when  
7 that noise goes off when they start to release those  
8 chemicals in that air, they have to wear some sort of  
9 protective personal equipment. They are probably required  
10 because they can't guarantee the safety of those individuals  
11 if they don't wear that.

12 Now here, they know it's coming and they've got  
13 gear on. We don't know it's coming; we don't have any gear.

14 This has now gone past a potential. It is an  
15 accepted risk. And a risk assessment code evaluates  
16 severity and probability. Cove Point has already had  
17 fatalities with a leak. That's documented. Probability?  
18 It's already happened once. The severity if something were  
19 to go off is devastating. There would be multiple  
20 fatalities.

21 So with all due respect, a help line won't help:  
22 It will be too late. Prevention is only effective if we  
23 practice it up front. Afterwards it's just a cleanup and  
24 there's no way to defend that.

25 Thank you.

26

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. SUTER: I want to thank you for coming up and  
3 speaking.

4 The last speaker on our list is Randy Minchew.

5 MR. MINCHEW: Good evening. My name is Randy  
6 Minchew. I live in Leesburg, Virginia. I'm a lawyer, a  
7 Scoutmaster, and I had the honor of serving in the Virginia  
8 House of Delegates representing Greene Mill Preserve.

9 And let me go on record as supporting the many  
10 speakers you've heard tonight in stressing my strenuous  
11 opposition to the choice of this Loudoun County site on  
12 Watson Road near Greene Mill Preserve as the compressor  
13 station.

14 Thomas Jefferson once said that whenever the  
15 people are well informed they can be trusted with their own  
16 government. And I think the testimony tonight shows how a  
17 citizenry that has chosen to educate itself, even though  
18 there's been what I would call a dearth of adequate public  
19 notice, have provided many reasons why this site should not  
20 be chosen. And I will not glom on now that I'm battling  
21 cleanup and reiterate a lot of those comments. But let me  
22 touch on the key points.

23 First of all, I also have practiced law involved  
24 in land use. And the Greene Mill Preserve community is a  
25 very, very special community. It was chosen to be the situs  
26

1 of a rural village. That's the nature of the development as  
2 it was approved by the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors.

3 That's a special development mode that's chosen  
4 only for certain environmentally-sensitive areas. A high  
5 degree of clustering surrounded by open space where there  
6 are proven conservation areas. That can be everything from  
7 historic resources, that could be critical areas of wildlife  
8 habitat and other botanical features; also environmental  
9 features such as steep slopes, highly erodible soils and the  
10 like.

11 Greene Mill Preserve was chosen to be a place  
12 where this rural village was chosen as the development  
13 model. And it didn't add additional density like many other  
14 zonings in Loudoun County. It was done as a highly  
15 clustered, special community with open space around the  
16 peripheral.

17 And I want to mention that because that  
18 development tool, which was chosen by the Board of  
19 Supervisors, is challenged by the expansion of this  
20 compressor station. Badly challenged. The people who have  
21 bought into this community, they weren't buying into a  
22 regular tract housing community like we have in Loudoun  
23 County. They were buying into a very special community with  
24 covenants and a very special zoning tool that had conserved  
25 open space around the peripheral.

26

1           And I would suggest to you that the placement of  
2 this compressor station expansion in the context of what  
3 Greene Mill Preserve is is a far greater impact than would  
4 be almost anywhere that you could do that, simply because  
5 you have a very special residence community that is premised  
6 upon the conservation ethic approved by the Board of  
7 Supervisors.

8           In other words, the assessed value, the appraised  
9 value of these units in many ways is premised upon the fact  
10 that this community has a reputation as a place you go if  
11 you want to live not only in a great community with good  
12 people -- that's self-apparent -- but also where you've got  
13 conserved open space. You come here because you want to  
14 live in a conservation-minded community. And that would be  
15 threatened much more if the compressor station expanded here  
16 than in Pleasant Valley.

17           Now I know Pleasant Valley very well. That's an  
18 area that has been down-zoned. You will not see additional  
19 communities coming in here. You will not see extension of  
20 water and sewer.

21           It also is an area that, unlike this area, does  
22 not have not only the topographical rolling areas in an  
23 erodible soil base, but also has a great historical  
24 standpoint. And I'll tell you, on July 6, 1864 a Civil War  
25 Battle took place up and down the Old Carolina Road that the  
26

1 prior speaker said is also the Watson Road. That's one  
2 reason why the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority was  
3 establishing a park just a very small distance down the road  
4 where Watson Road comes into Gilbert' Corner.

5 That was one of Colonel John Singleton Mosby's  
6 great confederate cavalry officers' last critical battles.  
7 It was done during Jubal Early's attack on Washington, the  
8 Union cavalry force under Major Forbes came down. And those  
9 two armies of cavalry met and basically engaged themselves  
10 up and down Watson Road.

11 It's a very famous battle; one of the many  
12 battles that happened in Loudoun County that has not really  
13 been fleshed out. It is quite possibly that segments of  
14 this battle happened on the area where this compressor site  
15 is being proposed for expansion.

16 At some place in the battle, Colonel Mosby and  
17 Major Forbes actually took out their sabers and engaged in  
18 hand-to-hand combat. We know where it is, of course. But  
19 one reason why the Northern Regional Park Authority chose  
20 this area to be a park is because of the rich history of up  
21 near Watson Road.

22 And I would suggest that when you do your 106  
23 review, that will be a very important thing for you to put  
24 into the overall matrix. And added to the other comments  
25 given, environmental, quality of life, the critical aspects  
26

1 to this community, I think it will be demonstrable evidence  
2 that this is not the right place to expand that area.

3 I'm going to wrap up by saying that I believe  
4 that natural gas has a great future in our country. It is a  
5 -- albeit a fossil fuel, but one that our country has great  
6 amounts of. And I am -- I don't currently have in my docket  
7 to study whether or not the Cove Point liquefaction project  
8 makes sense from an environmental standpoint or whatever.  
9 But I can assure you that if this compressor station is the  
10 one chosen -- it has to be the site of expansion -- I will  
11 become a highly educated Delegate and will educate myself on  
12 whether or not the Cove Point project really is needed in  
13 the first place.

14 I urge you, as the batter cleanup tonight, please  
15 do not choose this site. Choose the superior, less  
16 environmentally-sensitive site in Pleasant Valley for this  
17 expansion if indeed it is required.

18 I yield back.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. SUTER: Can I just have you spell your name  
21 for the court reporter?

22 MR. MINCHEW: Sure. It's Minchew, M-i-n-c-h-e-w,  
23 first name Randy, and I represent the 10th District of  
24 Virginia in the Virginia House of Delegates.

25 And if you need any more information, let me  
26

1 know.

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. SUTER: All right.

4 I'd like to thank everyone who has so far signed  
5 up to speak. That was the end of our speakers list,  
6 although I know there may be a few of you who have some  
7 lingering questions or comments, or have built up the  
8 courage to come up and speak at the microphone.

9 So what we're going to do is you can raise your  
10 hand, and one at a time -- you do need to still come up to  
11 the microphone. If you have already spoken, I still would  
12 need you just to come up, state your name, spell it for the  
13 record, and give any comments really quick.

14 So is there anybody who has any questions or  
15 comments?

16 Sure. Come on up.

17 MR. FOX: For the record, it's Tom Fox,  
18 T-h-o-m-a-s, last name Fox, F-o-x. Just a couple of  
19 questions.

20 Regarding the audible noise that we're going to  
21 hear, one gentleman mentioned that it was the closest house  
22 that you were going to be hearing the decibel from. In the  
23 future meetings or publications could you identify which  
24 house that is specifically, and also identify an overlay  
25 with range rings of, you know, five to ten decibels  
26

1 decreasing over distance from the original -- the worst case  
2 scenario; also, anticipating -- or with the engineering  
3 anticipating the topography and how that will affect the  
4 audible effects of the noise.

5 Another request -- I don't know if this would be  
6 the county or you all providing these range rings and these  
7 graphics. But if you could actually provide -- folks  
8 mentioned different natural gas explosions over the past ten  
9 years. If you could provide a graphic overlay of the  
10 effects of those explosions in range rings as well and how  
11 that would affect Greene Mill Preserve and the surrounding  
12 community -- worst case scenario or, you know, least  
13 effective scenario.

14 Another thing that you mentioned previously, you  
15 said that there was going to be a voting board from your  
16 organization. Is it three out of five yea-nay? Is it  
17 everyone, five out of five yes or no? How does that work  
18 exactly? That's a question for now, actually.

19 MS. SUTER: I'm going to answer both of your  
20 questions so far.

21 The closest home -- and that's in every direction  
22 -- is what we evaluate. Pretty much for the most part  
23 that's because that's where its noisiest. Once you go  
24 further out the noise goes down. And so they have to meet  
25 our regulations at the closest home.

26

1           Those will be identified on a map so you will  
2 know where the closest points were measured at and what  
3 those noise levels are. We do include things such as  
4 vegetative cover, topography. All those types of things do  
5 go into our calculations and into the measurements and  
6 projected levels.

7           And then, of course, obviously, the actual  
8 measurements and the both pre-construction and  
9 post-construction are actual measurements. So those don't  
10 take into effect any type of calculations but are based on  
11 actual measurements.

12           In terms of your question for the voting members,  
13 there are five currently. So if there are five still seated  
14 at the time when this project goes in front of them then,  
15 yes, it's a majority vote.

16           You know, at any given point in time -- they each  
17 serve various terms and they don't have the same term at the  
18 same time. So depending on when this project goes in front  
19 of them, there could be four, there could be five. But it's  
20 a majority vote.

21           MR. FOX: Okay. And what are their names?

22           MS. SUTER: I don't remember all of them off the  
23 top of my head.

24           MR. FOX: But is that --

25           MS. SUTER: We've got new ones. We've got  
26

1 Chairman Wellinghoff, Jon Wellinghoff --

2 MR. FOX: Actually, hold on. The reason I asked  
3 was because I don't want that to be publicly available.  
4 There could be elements within Dominion or the people that  
5 they're working with that might have the ability to  
6 influence these individuals, and we might never hear about  
7 it.

8 So it should be individuals that are off the  
9 public record that are making these decisions that can't be  
10 influenced financially or by other means.

11 MS. SUTER: All five of our chairmen are on our  
12 website. And they are selected by the President and then  
13 voted in through Congress. So it's publicly available.

14 However, we maintain independence as an  
15 organization. We have to submit what we call OCI, or -- I'm  
16 trying to think of the whole -- Organizational Conflict of  
17 Interest Information, which shows that they are not allowed  
18 to own stocks; they are not allowed to obtain money or any  
19 type of information from any of the companies that we  
20 regulate.

21 MR. FOX: Okay.

22 MS. SUTER: And let me tell you, the list is very  
23 extensive. Google is on the list.

24 So we cannot obtain money -- none of FERC staff  
25 can obtain any donations from any of the people that we  
26

1 regulate.

2 MR. FOX: Right. I completely agree. And I know  
3 you probably have precedents in place. I just know that you  
4 don't have access to the bank accounts so you don't really  
5 know.

6 MS. SUTER: They have to submit information for  
7 their bank accounts because --

8 MR. FOX: Yeah.

9 MS. SUTER: -- for their marketing -- I'm sorry,  
10 for their stocks.

11 MR. FOX: Okay.

12 MS. SUTER: When you get that high up you do have  
13 to submit that information.

14 MR. FOX: Well, I'm not talking about stocks; I'm  
15 talking about their personal accounts and transactions into  
16 their personal accounts. Does that occur on a yearly basis?  
17 Is someone reviewing that?

18 MS. SUTER: I can't speak for every single one of  
19 our commissioners and how that works. But I can tell you we  
20 do have to submit conflict of interest information.

21 MR. FOX: Okay.

22 MS. SUTER: And we are not allowed to have  
23 conflict of interest information. And we do have lawyers  
24 that look into that information.

25 MR. FOX: Okay.

26

1                   And who would provide those range studies?  Would  
2                   that be you all or the county?

3                   MS. SUTER:  Can you specify what you mean by the  
4                   range studies?  I'm sorry.

5                   MR. FOX:  Like the actual visual overlays of the  
6                   impact of the noise, as well as the impact of the possible  
7                   explosion similar to the explosions that have occurred over  
8                   the past ten years?

9                   MS. SUTER:  So we will be doing the -- Let me  
10                  specify.

11                  Dominion will be providing draft results, and  
12                  then we will be evaluating those results and providing you  
13                  with an environmental document that will have in it the  
14                  results of that analysis.

15                  I can't guarantee that we're going to give you  
16                  ranges.  We will be having definitely the closest.  We do  
17                  the same thing with impacts from a safety perspective as  
18                  well.  We do identify where those impacts lie for what you  
19                  did bring up.

20                  The ranges and the overlays, I can't guarantee  
21                  that we're going to depict it exactly as you are asking.  
22                  But I can guarantee that we do provide you with information  
23                  that you're asking for.

24                  MR. FOX:  Okay.  Thank you.

25                  (Applause.)

26

1 MS. SUTER: Is there anybody else who has any  
2 questions?

3 Come up.

4 MR. STEWART: Tom Stewart, S-t-e-w-a-r-t.

5 Just a quick question for you. A lot of people  
6 have certainly put a whole lot of time and energy and effort  
7 and thought into what they've presented here tonight. And  
8 it will continue to weigh on our minds. We have people who  
9 are potentially regretting the decision to move into the  
10 community. There's just a ton of energy going at this  
11 process.

12 And I realize you're here tonight, and I  
13 appreciate that very much. We all do. But the question I  
14 have is there's going to be four or five other people -- I'm  
15 not even sure if you're one of the four or five people --  
16 who are going to cast a decision about all of this. And  
17 they didn't hear any of this. And they -- you know, again,  
18 I don't want to -- human nature being what it is, my guess  
19 is they're not going to read that either. Maybe they will  
20 do it, reading over -- eating a sandwich or something. But  
21 they're never going to feel the passion nor really  
22 understand the information that was presented here, in my  
23 opinion at least.

24 So if you could, could you talk and explain to us  
25 how they are going to understand this, if they are; and if  
26

1 they're not, just because human nature being what it is,  
2 what other avenues do we have to get in front of the people  
3 who will actually make the decision on this process?

4 Thanks.

5 MS. SUTER: Sure.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. SUTER: First, I need to -- I do want to -- I  
8 am not one of the commissioners. I am an environmental  
9 staff member, as I mentioned.

10 I can promise you, first, that myself, our  
11 contractors, and everyone who is doing the environmental  
12 review for this project, we read every single letter. And I  
13 literally mean that in terms of, I know a lot of you are  
14 submitting what we consider a form letter where it's  
15 essentially the same letter that you all kind of submit.  
16 However, we are reading every single one of them.

17 We have noticed a lot of you are tacking on an  
18 extra sentence here or there, or an extra paragraph. We  
19 have read every single one of those. We make a note of the  
20 differences between those.

21 We keep track of every single comment that does  
22 come in. And those do go into our environmental documents.  
23 We identify how many people commented on the project, the  
24 different types of comments; how many people commented about  
25 air quality; how many people commented about noise, safety,  
26

1 every single topic.

2 We do keep track of all of that information. It  
3 goes into our environmental document, what you commented  
4 about. It also goes into -- it gets presented to the people  
5 who make the decision so that they know how many people  
6 commented about the project and the issues that you  
7 commented about and what you were concerned about.

8 I can promise you that every single time we've  
9 had one of these projects -- I know that you may think that  
10 they're not listening to you, but they do. They ask staff  
11 questions all of the time. You know, 'This community or  
12 these people asked these types of questions; how did you  
13 address it?' We get those kinds of questions all the time.  
14 And we are pointing to them, "Well, the environmental  
15 document says this here," or "The environmental document  
16 says that there."

17 They do read your comments. They do read our  
18 environmental document to see where we pointed out what your  
19 issues were and to see how we addressed them. So they are  
20 reading and they do take note of your concerns.

21 They also identify all of the congressional  
22 constituents that you have that comment on the record and  
23 they respond to them as well. So they are keeping in touch  
24 with the project and they are notified.

25 And both FERC staff at my level and above do know  
26

1 about the project and do keep informed with the community.

2 I can promise you that.

3 Did anybody else have any questions?

4 (No response.)

5 MS. SUTER: All right.

6 As that's the end of all the speakers, we're  
7 going to conclude the formal part of this meeting.

8 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory  
9 Commission, I'd like to thank you all for coming tonight.

10 Let the record show that the Cove Point  
11 Liquefaction scoping meeting in Ashburn, Virginia concluded  
12 at 10:39 p.m.

13 (Applause.)

14 (Whereupon, at 10:39 p.m., the scoping meeting in  
15 the above entitled matter was adjourned.)

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