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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Texas Eastern Transmission, LP

+ Docket No. PF10-17-000

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LP

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NEW JERSEY - NEW YORK EXPANSION PROJECT

Public Scoping Meeting

James J. Ferris High School  
35 Colgate Street  
Jersey City, NJ 07302  
Wednesday, August 4, 2010

The public hearing, pursuant to notice, convened at 7:00 p.m, before a Staff Panel:

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

With:

EDWARD GONZALEZ, Texas Eastern Transmission, Inc.

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

2 MS. HARRIS: Good evening. I would like to  
3 apologize for the heat. We were told that the air  
4 conditioning broke, so we do apologize for that.

5 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory  
6 Commission, also known as the F E R C or FERC, I would like  
7 to welcome you here tonight. This is an environmental  
8 scoping meeting for the New Jersey - New York Gas Pipeline  
9 Expansion Project proposed by Spectra Energy Corporation  
10 affiliates Texas Eastern Transmission, LP, and Algonquin Gas  
11 Transmission, LLC.

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

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

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

1 Additional federal, state, local and other government  
2 agencies with jurisdiction by law or special expertise are  
3 welcome to cooperate as well.

4 Sitting to my left is Alex Dankanich, who is a  
5 regional Community Assistance and Technical Service, also  
6 known as CATS manager, with the Pipeline and Hazardous  
7 Materials Safety Administration, also known as PHMSA. Alex  
8 will present a brief overview of his agency's involvement in  
9 a few moments.

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

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

25 Tonight's meeting is not a public hearing; we are

1 not here to debate the proposal or to make any  
2 determinations on its fate. We are here to listen to your  
3 concerns so that we can consider them in our analysis of the  
4 potential environmental impacts of the project, and how  
5 those impacts might be reduced or avoided.

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

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

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

25 During prefiling, the goal is to get information

1 from the public as well as agencies and other groups so that  
2 we can incorporate all substantive issues of concern into  
3 our review. The scoping period started when we issued our  
4 Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact  
5 statement, or NOI on July 16, 2010. The Notice of Intent to  
6 prepare an environmental impact statement was mailed to all  
7 affected landowners as defined by FERC's regulations,  
8 federal, state and local agencies and representatives and  
9 other stakeholders.

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

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

1           Extra copies of the NOI are located in the  
2 hallway at the sign-in table. A speakers list is also  
3 located at that table. We will use that list to call  
4 speakers to the podium tonight. If you wish to speak and  
5 have not signed up, please add your name to the list.

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

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

23           Additional public comment meetings will be  
24 announced at that time, where we invite the public to  
25 provide additional comments on our draft EIS and

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

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

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

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

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

15 Now that I've finished the FERC process, I would  
16 now like to hand it over to Alex Dankanich so that he can  
17 give a quick explanation of the DOT's role.

18 MR. DANKANICH: Thank you. My name is Alex  
19 Dankanich. I'm an engineer with the Eastern Region Office of  
20 Pipeline Safety, or OPS, which is a branch of the United  
21 States Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous  
22 Materials Safety Administration.

23 I would like to thank the FERC for the  
24 opportunity to provide an overview of the OPS's Pipeline  
25 Safety Program. Upon request from the FERC, our office

1 provides support on the National Environmental Policy Act  
2 analysis.

3           If Texas Eastern Transmission pipeline receives  
4 permission from the FERC for this natural gas pipeline  
5 expansion project, the Office of Pipeline Safety will  
6 maintain regulatory oversight over the safety of the  
7 pipeline. This oversight includes inspections to ensure  
8 that the pipeline is constructed of suitable materials;  
9 inspections to ensure that the pipeline is welded in  
10 accordance with industry standards by qualified welders;  
11 inspections to ensure that the pipeline is installed to the  
12 proper depth, protected from external corrosion, and  
13 properly pressure-tested before use to ensure its integrity.

14           Once the construction process is completed and  
15 our inspections are completed and gas enters the pipeline,  
16 we conduct periodic inspections of the operations and  
17 maintenance requirements according to the federal code,  
18 which is in Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 192.

19           The operator must establish comprehensive written  
20 procedures describing the types and frequencies of  
21 monitoring to ensure that the continued safe operation of  
22 the pipeline is maintained. The monitoring that the  
23 operator must perform includes such things as monitoring the  
24 adequacy of the external corrosion prevention systems;  
25 monitoring the operability of pipeline valves and pressure

1 control equipment; patrolling the pipeline and conducting  
2 leak detection surveys on the pipeline.

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

10 In-line inspection tools, frequently referred to  
11 as 'smart pigs' provide detailed information about pipe  
12 condition. During an integrity inspection, sensors and  
13 computers are sent through the pipeline. These devices then  
14 indicate pipe deformations and any changes in wall thickness  
15 of the pipeline that may occur. By analyzing the data  
16 collected during these in-line inspections, operators can  
17 locate and repair areas of pipeline that may have suffered  
18 some damage or deterioration.

19 Integrity management programs require operators  
20 to detect and correct any possible damage to their pipeline  
21 before a damage can result in a pipeline failure.

22 A well-constructed and maintained pipeline must  
23 also be properly operated. Operators must ensure that  
24 personnel performing operations, maintenance or emergency  
25 response activities are qualified to perform these

1 functions.

2           The aim of this initiative is to minimize  
3 operator error doing operation and maintenance of the  
4 pipeline. Operators must implement training and testing  
5 programs for their employees and their contractors, whose  
6 performance is crucial to the maintenance of the pipeline.  
7 Pipeline operators must also implement public awareness  
8 programs to improve awareness of the pipeline within the  
9 community. Operators communicate pipeline safety  
10 information to the public along the pipeline right-of-way,  
11 to the emergency responders along the right-of-way, to local  
12 public officials and to excavators in these communities.

13           Public awareness programs emphasize the  
14 importance of notifying the state one-call system prior to  
15 excavating. These notifications allow all participating  
16 utility owners, including pipeline operators, to mark the  
17 location of their facilities and monitor any excavation to  
18 help assure their facilities are not damaged.

19           Another key message for these stakeholder  
20 audience includes how to recognize a pipeline emergency, how  
21 to respond appropriately and how to report the potential  
22 emergency to aid in rapid response by both the pipeline  
23 operator and the community emergency responders. If safety  
24 inspections find inadequate procedures or that an operator  
25 is not following their procedures, the Office of Pipeline

1 Safety is authorized to require a pipeline operator to take  
2 immediate remedial action. The Office of Pipeline Safety  
3 can also assess civil penalties.

4 Safety is the primary mission of the Office of  
5 Pipeline Safety, and we understand how important this  
6 mission is to your community. Thank you for this  
7 opportunity to provide this overview of the OPS pipeline  
8 safety program. I'll be available after this meeting is  
9 over, and you can up and ask me any questions and I'll  
10 attempt to answer in the best way I can. Thank you.

11 MS. HARRIS: Thank you, Alex.

12 We have asked the Applicants, Texas Eastern and  
13 Algonquin, to give a short presentation on the project.

14 Here representing Texas Eastern and Algonquin is  
15 Ed Gonzalez.

16 MR. GONZALEZ: Thank you, Kara, for the opening  
17 remarks, and again, I'd like to welcome everybody here  
18 tonight as well. We are definitely looking forward to the  
19 discussions and comments that are going to be said here  
20 tonight.

21 As indicated, my name is Ed Gonzalez. I am the  
22 Project Director for the New Jersey - New York Expansion  
23 Project.

24 What I'd like to do is a give you a brief project  
25 overview and the scope. Spectra Energy's New Jersey - New

1 York Expansion Project is an expansion of its existing  
2 facilities on the Algonquin as well as the Texas Eastern  
3 system to deliver new critical-needed natural gas to the New  
4 Jersey - New York area.

5 The maps that you saw outside as well as the  
6 overhead that you see here are a proposed alignment; and I  
7 think that's important to understand. We have made a  
8 variety of changes on the alignment within the last six  
9 months; I continue to see that process continue to evolve as  
10 we continue to have our various meetings with key  
11 stakeholders all along the route.

12 So again it is proposed, likely we'll change in a  
13 variety of different instances, and several alternatives are  
14 being evaluated currently.

15 As far as the scope of the facilities, what we're  
16 doing is we have four and a half miles of 42-inch pipeline  
17 that we'll be installing from Linden, New Jersey to Staten  
18 Island. The company has existing facilities in those two  
19 areas, that have been there for over 60 years that we've  
20 been operating, maintaining. The intent is we're going to  
21 come in and replace some smaller lines and replace them with  
22 the 42-inch.

23 That is the portion that is being highlighted  
24 that's in yellow on the USGS quad that's on the overhead.

25 The second component is 15 1/2 miles of 30-inch

1 pipeline that will go through Staten Island, Bayonne, Jersey  
2 City, and then terminating in Manhattan. That is the  
3 portion that is reflected on green.

4 Associated with the pipeline facilities, we will  
5 be installing a meter and regulating station in Bayonne, New  
6 Jersey. That will be to deliver gas to Public Service, who  
7 is the local distribution company for the area. We are also  
8 looking at two locations primarily right now for the  
9 proposed meter station here in Jersey City.

10 The first location is south of 17th Street, near  
11 Monmouth, it's the area that's being pointed out right now.

12 [By laser pointer on screen.]

13 The second location is 17th Street west of Jersey  
14 Avenue. Those are the two proposed locations. At that  
15 location we would meter and regulate the gas before it goes  
16 into Manhattan, where we'll will be making deliveries as  
17 well to Con Edison. In addition, we will be installing a  
18 tap at that location for a future meter station for Public  
19 Service to service the area.

20 In addition, what's not reflected on there in a  
21 different area, we have several existing compressor stations  
22 that we're going to be doing piping modifications. That's  
23 at the Algonquin, Hanover, New Jersey compressor station;  
24 Texas Eastern Hanover, New Jersey station; and Algonquin's  
25 Cromwell, Connecticut compressor station.

1           In addition we have various interconnects along  
2           our system that we're also going to be installing additional  
3           meter and regulating facilities. That's in Ramapo, New  
4           York, Mahwah, New Jersey, as well as Hanover, New Jersey.  
5           In addition, along the pipeline route on the 42-inch we will  
6           be doing various piping modifications at existing meter and  
7           regulating stations along that segment.

8           As was indicated and discussed by the USDOT  
9           representative, for Spectra Energy, safety is a major  
10          concern for us. It's one of our core values. It's  
11          important for us to ensure the way that we design, the way  
12          the material is manufactured, the way that we install it and  
13          the way that we operate and maintain it is done to the  
14          highest standards.

15          Some examples of that that we've done associated  
16          with this project is, we are designing the 30-inch pipeline  
17          to the highest standards that USDOT has. We're designing it  
18          to a Class 4 location, which means it's got a thicker wall  
19          of pipe and a higher safety factor associated with that.

20          Another example is, there's requirements for  
21          placing what are called main line valve settings along the  
22          alignment. We are installing the valves at a closer  
23          interval within Jersey City that is greater than what the  
24          code requires.

25          As I indicated, as we kind of continue and work

1 on route refinements, what you see up there as well as the  
2 mapping has continued to evolve and will continue as far as  
3 various modifications. What I'd like to do is briefly talk  
4 about the project schedule.

5 In May of this year we filed with the FERC draft  
6 resource report 1 in 10, as well as mapping associated with  
7 that. In September of this year we plan on filing updated  
8 resource reports as well as additional mapping. That will  
9 be submitted to FERC, we will also have that available in  
10 the public libraries, where it will be available for viewing  
11 as well as on the FERC website.

12 What we're looking at is a formal application  
13 that we submit to the FERC the latter part of this year. At  
14 that same time frame we would also file other federal, state  
15 and local permits sometime in the December time frame of  
16 this year or first quarter of 2011.

17 We are anticipating that the draft EIS would be  
18 issued sometime around the second quarter of 2011. We're  
19 anticipating that the final EIS would be issued sometime  
20 around the third quarter of 2011. Then we're anticipating  
21 that the FERC certificate would be issued somewhere around  
22 the fourth quarter of 2011. And all the remaining permits  
23 within that same time frame or the first quarter of 2012.  
24 The project was going to be constructed over a two year  
25 period; 2012 as well as 2013. That doesn't mean that one

1 specific area is going to have two years of construction  
2 going on. Because of the variety of components that I just  
3 described, what we're going to do is work on discrete  
4 segments throughout those various years; and completing them  
5 in a various fashion, with our in-service date being the  
6 winter of 2013.

7 Again, that's the schedule assuming that  
8 everything continues to move forward through the FERC  
9 process, and on the assumption that we get certificated.

10 What I'd like to talk about is the benefits that  
11 we see that the project brings. The first one is jobs.  
12 There will be direct and indirect jobs associated with this  
13 project. There will be the associated construction workers  
14 that are direct, there are people that will be working  
15 within our office; our office is here in Jersey City, at 150  
16 Warren Street.

17 Then there's the indirect jobs. As we're staying  
18 here and working on the project, the apartments that we're  
19 renting, the hotels that we're staying at, the restaurants,  
20 the continued support of the local economy that continues to  
21 keep growth going.

22 The other is the utilization of local services.  
23 In New Jersey we've used over 100 to date. We're going to  
24 continue to do that. For us it's important to utilize the  
25 appropriate companies that can provide the services we're

1       needing that are local, and there's a variety of companies  
2       here in Jersey City that we've used specifically.

3               The other is taxes. We will be paying almost  
4       \$10 million annually in property taxes for the facilities  
5       that we're proposing to be built.

6               The other is natural gas pricing impact.  
7       Significant energy cost savings for natural gas and electric  
8       consumers in nj and New York. We commissioned a study that  
9       we will be incorporating within our filing with the  
10       Commission that will describe that.

11              The other is reliability and diversity of the  
12       natural gas supply to the New Jersey and New York consumers.  
13       With this proposed pipeline, it will have the ability to  
14       bring gas from all regions of North America based on the  
15       infrastructure that we as Spectra Energy have.

16              The other part is infrastructure enhancement.  
17       What it's going to provide is greater stability and  
18       opportunity for  
19       the local distribution companies that we will be traversing  
20       through with proposed facilities.

21              The other is support of the state and local  
22       government energy goals. New Jersey and New York State, and  
23       New York City's energy plan.

24              Again, I'm glad that everybody is here; we look  
25       forward to listening to the comments. As was indicated

1 earlier, we will also be here at the close of the meeting,  
2 just like we were earlier, to follow up if there's any other  
3 issues or questions that folks may have for us.

4 So thank you.

5 (Applause)

6 MS. HARRIS: Thank you, Ed.

7 After the formal meeting is adjourned,  
8 representatives of Texas Eastern/Algonquin will be available  
9 to answer your questions about the project.

10 We're now going to move into the part of the  
11 meeting where we will hear comments from the other audience  
12 members. As I mentioned before, if you'd rather not speak,  
13 you may hand in written comments tonight or send them to the  
14 Secretary of the Commission by following the procedures  
15 outlined in the NOI. Whether you verbally provide your  
16 comments or mail them in, they will be equally considered by  
17 FERC. This meeting is being recorded by a transcription  
18 service, so all of your comments will be transcribed and  
19 placed into the public record.

20 For the benefit of all in attendance and for  
21 accuracy of the transcript, when I call your name please  
22 step up to the podium and clearly state your name and  
23 affiliation, if any. You might spell your name to the court  
24 reporter to ensure accuracy if misspelling is likely. Also,  
25 please speak directly into the microphone so that you can be

1 clearly heard by the reporter, the panel, and the audience.

2 Before we start, as a courtesy to our speakers  
3 and the rest of the audience, please turn off or silence  
4 your cell phones. Thank you.

5 Due to the amount of speakers signed up on our  
6 speakers list, we ask that people limit their comments to  
7 less than five minutes. That would be appreciated so that  
8 we can get to everyone on the speakers list in the time that  
9 we are allotted.

10 Larry will call each person up to speak.

11 MR. BROWN: Mayor Healy.

12 (Applause)

13 MAYOR HEALY: Thank you for the applause.

14 We want to thank first of all some of our federal  
15 representatives for sending folks down here to participate  
16 and hear what's going on here with this pipeline, and from  
17 Senator Menendez's office, Senator Lautenberg's offices,  
18 Congressman Payne's office, Congressman Sires' office, and  
19 Congressman Rothman, Steve Rothman's office.

20 We also have some State Assembly people, State  
21 Senator Sandra Cunningham, state government is here. Thank  
22 you, Sandra, for coming down.

23 (Applause)

24 Assemblyman Charles Mainor is here.

25 (Applause)

1                   Thank you, guys. And I see our County  
2 Freeholder, Jeff Dublin. I haven't seen anyone else.

3                   And also the public from Jersey City who have  
4 come down here tonight.

5                   (Applause)

6                   You know, I heard Ed's presentation, and Ed is an  
7 absolute gentleman, and I know that he believes what he  
8 said; but I think that Ed's remarks to you were looking at  
9 this project through rose-colored glasses.

10                  (Applause)

11                  No insult to Ed. He's a good guy, and he's very  
12 knowledgeable. But the first order of business for any  
13 government at any level; city, county, state, federal:  
14 protection of its people. Ensure the safety, health and  
15 welfare of the people that they represent. That's why I'm  
16 here.

17                  Issue number one with this thing; issue number  
18 two, and issue number three is: safety, safety and safety.

19                  We've heard that \$10 million was coming this way.  
20 I think that's a conglomeration of all the moneys to be paid  
21 to Staten Island and Jersey; I've only heard about  
22 \$2 million. Not that any amount of money could replace a  
23 risk factor.

24                  The other big problem here is --

25                  (Applause)

1                   Thank you.    -- the risk and benefit assessment.  
2           Originally, and what I've heard, and Ed seems to have  
3           changed that a little tonight, and I appreciate that -- but  
4           originally, this was to get natural gas to our good friends  
5           over in New York City.  So the benefit flows to them, the  
6           risk comes right through just about the entire length of our  
7           city, Jersey City --

8                   (Applause)

9                   -- so the folks on the other side of the Hudson  
10          will reap the benefits, and we will bear the risks here in  
11          Jersey City.

12                   The numbers just don't add up; the \$2 million and  
13          that tremendous, that tremendous risk.  We are a densely  
14          populated city, and county for that matter, the most densely  
15          populated in the State of New Jersey and one of the most  
16          densely populated in these United States.  This particular  
17          pipeline is going to go through several population centers,  
18          public parks, schools, hospitals, commercial plants,  
19          industrial plants including Tropicana.  It's going to come  
20          all the way, just about the full length of our city, make a  
21          right going east, where then it will descend under the  
22          Hudson River.

23                   My point is that all of those people, all of  
24          those businesses are going to be put at risk for this  
25          pipeline if something bad happens; and unfortunately, we

1 know bad things can happen, even under the best-intentioned  
2 projects.

3 (Applause)

4 It's going to go right next to our downtown  
5 financial district in Jersey City. There's over 22,000 jobs  
6 there, and that financial district impacts not only the  
7 Greater New York Metropolitan Area, it's the entire country;  
8 it in fact impacts the world economy.

9 We had two water line breaks just last year in  
10 that vicinity. Jersey City received a phone call from the  
11 Undersecretary of the Treasury -- the United States -- not  
12 because they're worried about Jersey City; they're worried  
13 about the United States and the world market, the world  
14 economy. We impact the world economy because of the  
15 financial jobs and structures that exist in downtown Jersey  
16 City.

17 My point is, we have --

18 (Applause)

19 -- the Holland Tunnel, we have the New Jersey  
20 Turnpike, we have the PATH trains, we have our light rail,  
21 our bus transportation. This is a transportation hub; it's  
22 running right alongside the turnpike; it's crossing over the  
23 light rail, it comes very close to several PATH stops in  
24 Jersey City, not to mention the Holland Tunnel.

25 So there is so much at risk by this route. We

1 would much prefer that this pipeline take a diagonal  
2 northeastern route under the Hudson River, thereby --

3 (Applause)

4 -- bypassing Jersey City and to avoid making what  
5 we consider very valuable land in our city and going down  
6 towards the Hudson River, towards the north end of our city,  
7 for future investment, future development which brings in  
8 more tax dollars and jobs for our citizens all in the  
9 future. This pipeline -- and by the way, from what I've  
10 been told by the experts, it's 8 to 12,000 psi, which is  
11 very high, I've been told, gas pressure in these pipelines.  
12 A pipeline of that magnitude, of course, is going to be a  
13 tremendous disincentive for any private entity to come in  
14 and buy this land, invest in this land, develop on this  
15 land, build on this land, bring tax dollars and jobs to our  
16 city.

17 (Applause)

18 I would have to believe that it would only be  
19 either a foolhardy company or someone dying to risk  
20 everything that would build any kind of a serious structure  
21 over this type of a pipeline.

22 Bottom line is, we really don't want this in  
23 Jersey City.

24 (Cheering, applause)

25 Well, I'm glad the folks here support this idea.

1 (Applause)

2 And Spectra's proffer of \$2 million annually is  
3 an extremely -- I don't get insulted; otherwise I'd say it  
4 was an insulting amount -- but it's nowhere near the  
5 compensation for the safety factor, the future loss of  
6 development and investment that this great area stands, I  
7 think, ready to take. And \$2 million a year is really  
8 insulting. And once again, this is not about money, it's  
9 about safety.

10 (Continuing applause)

11 That's what we're all elected for, that's the  
12 main issue we have to protect our citizens. That is why we  
13 are against this pipeline. Once again, we strongly suggest  
14 that it go through under the Kill Van Kull or the Arthur  
15 Kill, the Kill Van Kull across the Hudson River in a  
16 northeasterly direction and hook up with 14th Street on the  
17 West Side of Manhattan, bypassing our City, it will make  
18 everybody happy.

19 (Applause)

20 Thank you very much.

21 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

22 MR. BROWN: Senator Cunningham.

23 (Applause)

24 HON. SANDRA CUNNINGHAM: My name is Senator  
25 Sandra Boldin Cunningham, 31st District, which is Jersey

1 City and Bayonne.

2 (Applause)

3 As a Senator here, I decided to write a letter to  
4 our Governor Christie to step in about this project. I'd  
5 like to read that letter to you:

6 Dear Governor Christie:

7 Please blow up the Spectra Gas Pipeline Project  
8 proposed for Bayonne and Jersey City --

9 (Applause)

10 before it actually blows up our towns. We need  
11 your attention regarding this gas pipeline project. I'm  
12 writing this letter to you to state my strong objection to  
13 this potential disaster, and ask your help with the  
14 following actions:

15 One, prevent the use of eminent domain by this  
16 private company to take people's homes and  
17 property ---

18 (Applause)

19 -- to implement this project. Since there has  
20 been no alternative routes presented for  
21 analysis, please instruct the appropriate members  
22 of your administration to insist that alternate  
23 routes be evaluated.

24 (Applause)

25 The extreme hazardous potential of this project

1 has in no way been factored into the selection of  
2 a route which is situated next to schools, homes  
3 and businesses. A State of New Jersey-approved  
4 EIS has not been made a part of this federal  
5 approval process. Please instruct your staff to  
6 demand that an EIS be done before any decision is  
7 made.

8 That's a State-approved EIS.

9 (Applause)

10 Please instruct the DEP commissioner to NOT  
11 approve any taking or swapping of public parkland  
12 for this project.

13 (Applause)

14 Please instruct the DOT commissioner NOT to grant  
15 permission for the use of any state waterway or  
16 right-of-way for this project.

17 (Applause)

18 Instruct the attorney general to file the  
19 appropriate legal objections to this proceeding,  
20 and when necessary file any and all lawsuits as  
21 necessary to stop this project.

22 (Applause)

23 This proposed gas line will have a devastating  
24 impact on current Bayonne and Jersey City  
25 residents, as well as all future economic

1 development, housing and public school  
2 construction near to this route. It is bad  
3 enough that New York City wants to dump their  
4 garbage on us.

5 (Applause)

6 But to absorb the negative impact of heating  
7 their buildings goes too far.

8 Sincerely, Senator Sandra B. Cunningham, 31st  
9 Legislative District.

10 (Applause)

11 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

12 MR. BROWN: Mary Pat Noonan.

13 MS. NOONAN: Mary Pat Noonan, Jersey City  
14 Redevelopment Agency.

15 The Jersey City Redevelopment Agency has reviewed  
16 the preliminary alignment of the proposed pipeline that will  
17 run through the city. The Agency has serious concerns  
18 regarding this proposed alignment.

19 The proposed pipeline either runs through or  
20 abuts numerous redevelopment areas, including but not  
21 limited to: State Street, Caven Point, Grand Jersey,  
22 Greenville Industrial, Jersey Avenue, Liberty Harbor,  
23 Montgomery Street, Morris Canal, and Newport.

24 These redevelopment areas were created to attract  
25 and spur economic growth and opportunity throughout the

1 city. The proposed pipeline would severely inhibit these  
2 objectives. The potential loss of future investments of  
3 commercial-industrial market rate and affordable housing  
4 development would not only be lost in monetary dollars, but  
5 also in the City's ability to provide quality opportunities  
6 for its residents. It is therefore that we request folks'  
7 assistance in asking Spectra Energy to find an alternate  
8 route for their proposed pipeline.

9 (Applause)

10 MR. BROWN: Thank you.

11 Robert Cotter.

12 MR. COTTER: Thank you. My name is Robert Cotter  
13 [spelling] and I live about 600 feet away from here.

14 I'm the Planning Director of Jersey City, a job  
15 and a responsibility and a pleasure I've had for more than  
16 20 years. I want to talk to you tonight about my  
17 experiences in the City, Jersey City and how much progress  
18 I've seen in the 30 years since I started working here, and  
19 give you my professional opinion. I'm a Licensed Certified  
20 Planner in New Jersey and I'm certified on the national  
21 level by the American Institute of Certified Planners.

22 The bottom line, in my professional opinion is,  
23 is that this pipeline in this location will have a chilling  
24 effect on Jersey City's economic development and future.  
25 And what's critical about that is the economic development

1 of our city over the last 30 years or so has led to  
2 substantial environmental cleanup. All of the development  
3 sites that we see in Jersey City had an industrial past, for  
4 the most part, and most of that past was the legacy of, "Who  
5 cares about the toxics that you're dumping into the soil?"

6 So the economic development projects, all of them  
7 require remediation of those environmental degradations that  
8 are part of the environment of Jersey City. Chilling  
9 development potential leaves toxics and contaminants in the  
10 soil for further years, perhaps for generations. So that's  
11 a significant impact that I think, as the Mayor pointed out  
12 so well, the sort of diminishing of the desirability of  
13 locating anywhere near this pipeline.

14 Now I wanted to tell you, I looked at the right-  
15 of-way from the southern end all the way to the northern  
16 end, and in the southern end that's a warehousing district,  
17 and there you are probably talking about 15 jobs per acre;  
18 that's a typical scenario for warehousing.

19 When you get to the northern end where the office  
20 potential is, we have buildings here like the Goldman Sachs  
21 Tower, 42 stories at 101 Hudson, where we have in the  
22 neighborhood of 3,000 jobs per acre.

23 So if we can't produce those jobs, then those  
24 jobs will wind up going somewhere else, and probably not in  
25 the place where more than 50 percent of the people can

1 commute to those jobs by mass transit, saving gas and not  
2 polluting the air. So this is a very green city because  
3 we've gone up with our development and our employment base.

4 So I'm not too opposed to the southern end  
5 because of the warehousing nature and industrial nature; but  
6 as it starts to move north and out of the industrial park,  
7 it does things like pass Cochrane Stadium, which is the  
8 largest athletic stadium for our high school kids to play  
9 football and baseball. It passes Chapel Avenue, which is  
10 the only means of egress for the people that live at Port  
11 Liberte. If something happens to the pipeline there, they  
12 can't get out of their facility by automobile; they'd have  
13 to be evacuated by boat, and that won't be able to be done  
14 on an emergency time frame. Not to mention that it's also  
15 right in front of the Army Reserve unit, so if there's a  
16 catastrophe there, the Army won't be able to mobilize.

17 (Applause)

18 It also passes right in front of the front yard  
19 of the residences at Liberty, which is attached to the  
20 Liberty National Golf Course, which brought Jersey City and  
21 New Jersey international fame when the Barclays Golf  
22 Tournament was played there last summer. This is a very  
23 important part of the City's image as a place that has  
24 changed from a gritty industrial city to a green city of the  
25 21st Century. Very significant impacts on that proposed

1 project.

2           It also passes in back of the Jersey City Car  
3 Pound and the Municipal Utilities Authority. The Car Pound  
4 is on its way out; the City has purchased a new facility for  
5 our public works garage, and we will relocate the car pound  
6 to that facility off of Linden Avenue. And the MUA doesn't  
7 do any sewerage treatment on that spot anymore; it's simply  
8 a pumping station that sends the sewerage effluent over to  
9 Passaic Valley Sewerage Treatment in Newark. So we can  
10 redevelop that site. The Car Pound is designed for a  
11 townhouse development, residential, and the MUA site is  
12 being proposed for a hotel-convention center that hooks up  
13 with Liberty Science Center and Liberty State Park.

14           Then we start to hit the populated areas.  
15 Currently, using a 2000 Census, found that 6,600 people live  
16 on a block that's within 400 feet of the pipeline; and of  
17 those 6,600 people, 71 percent are minority. We can't tell  
18 what the incomes are because block data doesn't give  
19 incomes, but two of the three housing developments that  
20 we're talking about with population are public housing  
21 projects with people of low and moderate incomes. So I'm  
22 fairly sure that the majority of the people within the 400  
23 feet distance are people of limited income. So the issues  
24 of environmental justice are clear in our face.

25           (Applause)

1           Now when it gets to 17th Street, it really begins  
2           to affect the future, and that's what I do: I try and  
3           project the future and provide for it so that we're prepared  
4           when the future arrives. At 17th Street, it begins to hit  
5           areas that are recognized in the 2009 Master Plan  
6           circulation element of Jersey City as having high potential  
7           for future growth.

8           We estimate up to 9,000 residential units can be  
9           built in that area known as the Jersey Avenue Redevelopment  
10          Area and the Newport Redevelopment Area.

11          They look fallow today because they're being  
12          cleared for redevelopment. We're proposing, and we've  
13          worked with New Jersey Transit on a new light rail transit  
14          stop at 18th and Jersey. Well, the pipeline is right there,  
15          too, at 18th and Jersey.

16          So its impact on the ability to develop those  
17          blocks is significant, and most of this development is  
18          essentially within about 600 feet of the people on either  
19          side.

20          Finally, we get to the Newport area where the  
21          data complexes for Wall Street and the global markets, and  
22          the Mayor pointed out, have been affected by water main  
23          breaks. And that location on 18th Street, we suspect that  
24          the water main breaks are the result of electrical current  
25          that's straying from the light rail system and is affecting

1 the soils, and that there has corroded the pipe that we're  
2 talking about that broke, which is only about 25 years old.

3 And finally, the Long Sip Canal, New Jersey  
4 Transit has apparently agreed to that right-of-way; I'm not  
5 quite sure if they've agreed or not, but it's being proposed  
6 by Spectra. The Long Sip Canal was to be filled in and be  
7 developed with high rise buildings in the coming decades as  
8 a way of getting New Jersey Transit income to help defray  
9 the cost of mass transit in New Jersey. If the pipeline  
10 goes there, that idea of LCOR's of building 60-story  
11 apartment buildings and office buildings is gone forever.

12 So I agree 100 percent with Mayor Healy, the  
13 pipeline needs to get underwater sooner, the sooner the  
14 better. There are several areas it can escape the land and  
15 get out into the water, in the industrial tracks in Jersey  
16 City; or better yet, take it right from Staten Island  
17 straight up into New York City.

18 (Applause)

19 I thank you.

20 MAYOR HEALY: I just want you folks to know and  
21 all the people here tonight to know that there's a city  
22 council meeting going on right now; otherwise, all nine  
23 council people would be here tonight, standing with us. And  
24 as a lot of you folks know, we don't always agree, but it's  
25 unanimous on this issue.

1 (Applause)

2 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

3 MR. BROWN: Maria Mayo?

4 (Applause)

5 MS. MAYO: Good evening. My name is Maria Mayo,  
6 I'm the Executive Director of the Jersey City Housing  
7 Authority, and I want to thank Bob for talking about  
8 environmental justice, because that's what I'm here to talk  
9 about.

10 The Jersey City Housing Authority represents  
11 15,000 people who are served under our public housing and  
12 assisted housing programs. Many of our residents live in  
13 close proximity to the proposed gas line. Unfortunately,  
14 this would not be the first time that our public housing  
15 residents get exposed to brown field and contaminated sites.  
16 You can look at A. Harry Moore, and for many years, those  
17 residents lived right across the street from the PJP  
18 landfill which thankfully now is being remediated, and we,  
19 because of the federal government, were able to obtain a  
20 \$10 million grant to continue with revitalizations efforts  
21 at A. Harry Moore. And it was through the remediation that  
22 we were able to capture those funds, and I think that's an  
23 important part of this.

24 And I find it interesting because I like to think  
25 of us as little 'b' bureaucrats, and with this -- the

1 federal administration continues to talk about tearing down  
2 silos between departments, and here's the Department of  
3 Housing and Urban Development talking about sustainability,  
4 energy efficiency, green neighborhoods, moving people out of  
5 isolated situations; and yet now we have the federal  
6 government, through the Department of Energy and through  
7 other departments talking about a proposed gas pipeline.

8 People need to talk to each other, and we're not  
9 doing that on the federal level.

10 (Applause)

11 You can't continue to speak out of both sides of  
12 our mouths. It puts all of us in the worst predicament.

13 So I urge you to deny this application, to think  
14 of the money that has been generated because of the  
15 remediation that has been done throughout Jersey City; we  
16 have been able to bring in \$100 million worth of Hope VI  
17 revitalization money, which has leveraged \$300 million in  
18 other private funding. This has led to a tremendous amount  
19 of jobs; and I hear a lot about jobs, but I'll tell you,  
20 jobs is one thing, jobs for local people is an entirely  
21 different matter --

22 (Applause)

23 -- and that's what this should be about. Thank  
24 you very much.

25 (Applause)

1 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

2 MR. BROWN: Catherine Grimm.

3 (Applause)

4 MS. GRIMM: Good evening, everyone. Our City  
5 representative and State representatives have said mainly  
6 what everybody is concerned about. My statement consists of  
7 a list of questions which some people have thought about and  
8 others haven't. I don't expect answers right away, but it  
9 is things to be considered.

10 Have you given consideration to running the line  
11 along the Jersey side of the river, in the river?

12 What is the difference in cost between the gas  
13 line going over land as opposed to going under the river to  
14 Brooklyn power station?

15 Why not go in a straight line through the Kill  
16 Van Kull and the River as opposed to zigzagging through the  
17 cities?

18 What is the material that the pipe is made of?

19 What effect will this have on private property  
20 owners at a later date on selling their property?

21 Does it mean that there be an increase in their  
22 insurance because they have this gas line outside their  
23 property? Or near it.

24 (Applause)

25 What is the lifetime limit on the pipes?

1                   What jobs are open for residents and for how long  
2 will these jobs exist?

3                   How frequently are the lines inspected in  
4 residential areas, and along the highways like 440, which  
5 has tremendous trucking traffic and vibrations?

6                   How would Public Service differentiate between  
7 your line and if it was one of the private gas lines going  
8 to a residence or a business?

9                   Jersey City is also subject to terroristic  
10 threats. Thank you.

11                   (Applause)

12                   MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

13                   MR. BROWN: Michael Dorian.

14                   (Applause)

15                   MR. DORIAN: Good evening. My name is Michael  
16 Dorian, I'm the owner of the Dorian's Red Hen Restaurant,  
17 located in the heart of Newport. We were the third  
18 restaurant in Newport and our business has grown along with  
19 the development. We currently have about 30 employees, and  
20 anticipate another 15 to 20 employees with the development  
21 of the northeast quadrant of Newport.

22                   I am testifying against routing the pipeline  
23 through Newport and Jersey City, along 18th Street.

24                   (Applause)

25                   If the pipeline were to run through the northern

1 area of the development, the developer would be unable to  
2 complete the additional apartment units. Our rent, on the  
3 other hand, will continue to increase, our restaurant will  
4 become stagnant and less profitable. We came to Newport for  
5 growth and with the growth in Newport comes growth of mine  
6 as well as many other businesses. The retail business in  
7 Newport hires local people and supports the Jersey City  
8 community. Newport residents can live anywhere in New York  
9 and New Jersey but they choose to live in Newport. Newport  
10 offers something special, and so does Jersey City.

11 I think the pipeline will have an extremely  
12 negative effect on my business and the businesses around me.  
13 It is unfair to those who invested with the knowledge of the  
14 planned redevelopment of Newport to face a dramatic turn of  
15 events. It's for this reason that I ask you to reroute the  
16 pipeline, and it will not destroy our business, my business,  
17 and business around me. Thanks a lot.

18 (Applause)

19 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

20 MR. BROWN: Dale Hardman.

21 (Applause)

22 MR. HARDMAN: In 2000, the Gas Research Institute  
23 was hired by the gas industry to prepare a special report.  
24 The title of that report was, A Model for Sizing High  
25 Consequence Areas Associated with Natural Gas Pipelines. In

1       that particular report, they detailed essentially the  
2       thermal blast radius that extends from the epicenter of gas  
3       pipelines based on the diameter of that pipe.

4               They note, however, that whereas the  
5       interpretation of the reported burn areas and the burn  
6       distances is obvious, caution should be exercised in  
7       interpreting the maximum distances to injury and fatality.  
8       The reason is, given that most of the incidents to date  
9       occurred in sparsely populated areas, the reported injury  
10      and fatality offsets are more indicative of where people  
11      happen to be at the time of failure rather than being  
12      representative of the actual maximum possible distances to  
13      injury or fatality for the incident in question.

14             Right now --

15             (Applause)

16             -- we're all gathered here at Ferris High School.  
17      The plan, proposal for the pipeline route by Spectra, is to  
18      run directly behind here. All of us sitting here right now,  
19      if this pipeline was currently built and there was to be a  
20      pipeline blast, a 30-inch pipe operating at what Spectra has  
21      declared as the operating range of 800 psi to 1400-plus psi  
22      would be a minimum of 660 blast feet on either radius side  
23      to a distance as great as 905-plus feet.

24             In actuality, when you look at the reports from  
25      this study, as one example, in 1986 near Lancaster,

1 Kentucky, the National Transportation Safety Board reported  
2 that a rupture that took place at 2 a.m. on February 21st  
3 due to ignition failure, that the actual burn area was 900  
4 feet by 1000 feet. That was a 30-inch pipe, the same as the  
5 pipe that is proposed here.

6 What we further see in this study is that the  
7 actual possible fatalities or burns that would be  
8 experienced would be greater or could be greater than the  
9 amount of the actual study itself, and as I said if that was  
10 to take place now, everybody here would be subject to  
11 fatality or burns on a particular pipeline incident.

12 I am definitely opposed to the routing of this  
13 pipeline through Jersey City, and --

14 (Applause)

15 -- ask that the pipeline alternatives be utilized  
16 that take it north of the Staten Island metering station,  
17 and as a direct route as possible into New York City. Thank  
18 you.

19 (Applause)

20 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

21 MR. BROWN: Steve Lanset.

22 (Applause)

23 MR. LANSET: Good evening. I live in downtown  
24 Jersey City and I'm representing the Hudson Meadowlands  
25 Group of the New Jersey Sierra Club. We share the

1 widespread concern about the environmental and safety risk  
2 of a new gas pipeline through this heavily populated area.  
3 When considering the larger entity picture, the larger issue  
4 of public convenience and necessity, we need to look at all  
5 the options for decreasing our region's vulnerability to  
6 energy supply disruptions.

7 This pipeline may not be the only way to go.  
8 There may be other commercially viable but safer means to  
9 deliver natural gas to New York customers; there may be  
10 other cleaner energy technology that can make a difference  
11 throughout --

12 (Applause)

13 More aggressive and imaginative approaches to  
14 energy conservation by business, government and industry can  
15 also help. We hope that the Federal Energy Regulatory  
16 Commission and other public agencies will facilitate the  
17 broader public discussion about all the options available to  
18 us. Thank you.

19 (Applause)

20 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

21 MR. BROWN: Sam Pesin.

22 (Applause)

23 MR. PESIN: Good evening. My grandparents from  
24 Latvia had a dry goods store at Brunswick and Wayne Streets,  
25 about a block from here, and they fought against these

1 czars' anti-public policies, and I know that they would have  
2 strongly opposed this abomination.

3 I'm opposed to this pipeline --

4 (Applause)

5 -- through our densely populated community. I  
6 believe Hudson County is the sixth most densely populated  
7 county in the United States. Our Mayor, Jeremmiah Healy,  
8 and our State Senator, Sandra Boldin Cunningham, are strong  
9 champions of jobs. So the fact that they oppose this  
10 pipeline shows that there are much more important priorities  
11 than Spectra's job promises.

12 (Applause)

13 Running through our crowded neighborhoods by  
14 schools, by hospitals, is crazy. On the perimeter of  
15 Liberty State Park, the pipeline would wreck a wetlands  
16 restoration project which is due to start this fall. And it  
17 also would severely harm the economic development on the  
18 perimeter planned for Liberty State Park, which Bob Cotter  
19 spoke about.

20 If you asked the people of Manhattan if they  
21 would approve a pipeline through New York City for Jersey  
22 City to get gas --

23 (Laughter, applause)

24 -- you know they would laugh, and they would say  
25 no. The pipeline will damage our economy, our quality of

1 life and risk our safety. I ask you to just say no now, not  
2 waste more of our time, and find another route. Thank you.

3 (Applause)

4 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

5 MR. BROWN: John Thieroff.

6 MR. THIEROFF: Hi. I just have a couple of  
7 comments. I think most of the previous speakers really kind  
8 of hit on the obvious safety risks.

9 One thing that Catherine brought up about  
10 terrorism; just this week -- either this week or last week -  
11 - two men were -- just this week two men were convicted,  
12 potential terrorists, for plotting to try to blow up JFK  
13 Airport; and the way that they were going to do that was to  
14 try and tap into the pipeline that feeds JFK.

15 The maps that are being presented here are all  
16 available on line; anybody who is so inclined to want to use  
17 the pipeline as a tool to wreak havoc could do so simply by  
18 using their Google search box and finding the maps.

19 Another thing to consider as well is I think  
20 probably more than most places, we battle with aging and  
21 crumbling water and sewage infrastructure. It seems like a  
22 couple days don't go by without the roads being dug up to  
23 repair burst lines -- obviously a risk when you have a large  
24 interstate pipeline nearby.

25 The other thing is I think the potential routing.

1 In talking to some of the other agencies that are involved,  
2 it seems as though the other bidders in the project all  
3 submitted plans that went through the river, that came down,  
4 never came up through Bayonne and Jersey City, stayed in the  
5 river. Clearly, Spectra was able to provide a low bid by  
6 staying on land; and certainly the cost of going in the  
7 water is greater. And that's what it's all about; it's  
8 profitability, clearly.

9 Spectra is not a mom-and-pop shop; they generated  
10 \$963 million in profitability last year, they paid out  
11 \$800 million in dividends and distributions. I can't  
12 imagine why we should have to be put in the position of  
13 subsidizing those dividends and distributions with our  
14 safety and our lives.

15 (Applause)

16 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

17 MR. BROWN: Robert Sutton.

18 MR. SUTTON: Good evening.

19 My name is Robert Sutton, I'm the owner of a Cosi  
20 sandwich bar franchise located on Washington Boulevard in  
21 Jersey City.

22 (Applause)

23 We employ approximately 30 full and part-time  
24 employees who are for the most part local residents. I'm  
25 here to protest the possibility of the construction of the

1 gas pipeline in the northeast quadrant of Newport. My  
2 reasons are several.

3 I invested in the long term growth of Newport  
4 when we opened this restaurant. A significant part of that  
5 growth has to do with the future development of the  
6 northeast section of Newport itself. That would translate  
7 to more sales for us and more employment for the community  
8 itself.

9 This would be stopped by the construction of this  
10 proposed pipeline. I ask that you please stop the  
11 construction of the pipeline and help our community. Thank  
12 you.

13 (Applause)

14 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

15 MR. BROWN: Werner Bargsten.

16 (Applause)

17 MR. BARGSTEN: Hi, thank you.

18 MR. BROWN: State your name, please.

19 MR. BARGSTEN: My name is Werner Bargsten, I live  
20 in Jersey City and I have a small business here.

21 I don't know where to start; I've heard so many  
22 reasons why this isn't a good idea, and the only reason I  
23 can come up with that makes it a good idea is that it's  
24 going to save some money. Now being in business I know  
25 that's important and you have to kind of try to do that

1 whenever possible; but in this situation I think the only  
2 two words of advice that I have for Spectra Energy and for  
3 the federal group that's here tonight is: "British  
4 Petroleum."

5 (Applause)

6 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

7 MR. BROWN: Steven Fulop. And I'd ask people  
8 just to please state their name when they come to the mic  
9 for the stenographer. Thank you.

10 Not here? (Audience advice.)

11 Okay. Denise Ipsen.

12 (Applause)

13 MS. IPSEN: Good evening. My name is Denise  
14 Ipsen, I'm the General Manager of Newport Center Mall,  
15 Newport Plaza, and Newport Crossing. These three shopping  
16 venues are owned by the Simon and LeFrak families, who are  
17 partners in the Newport Associates Development Company.

18 I am here tonight to discuss the concerns of  
19 these shopping centers with regard to the pipeline. Newport  
20 Center Mall is a 1.2 million square foot regional shopping  
21 mall, and the first of its size in Hudson County. It is  
22 anchored by four major department stores, and over 150  
23 stores, generating tens of millions of dollars in annual  
24 sales and collectively employing over 2500 people.

25 There are over 12 million visitors annually, as

1 it is the prime shopping destination for residents of Hudson  
2 County and parts of Essex County, as well as over 30,000  
3 commuters from throughout the state who work on the Jersey  
4 City waterfront.

5 Newport Plaza and Newport Crossing are located on  
6 18th Street and Washington Boulevard respectively. Stores  
7 include A&P, Best Buy, Staples, Modell's and Pier One. In  
8 total, both those shopping centers employ over 350 people,  
9 and also generate tens of millions of dollars in annual  
10 sales. Local residents, many who have no vehicles, rely on  
11 these shopping centers to do their grocery shopping and  
12 laundry.

13 These shopping venues are significant  
14 contributors to the New Jersey and Jersey City economies, as  
15 they generate thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in  
16 sales tax, and real estate taxes annually.

17 (Applause)

18 These tax dollars are critical to both the state  
19 and local municipality. There is a concern about the damage  
20 and hazards, both during and after construction to the  
21 critical infrastructure of the area. Such damage and  
22 hazards would directly impact the mall operations and would  
23 be detrimental to retail sales and employment.

24 Patrons rely on access to and from the mall by  
25 car and mass transit. There is concern with the disruption

1 to transportation during the construction, the loss of  
2 revenue to the mall and its stores, and its effect on  
3 employees. As an example, Newport Center is the number one  
4 stop on the New Jersey Light Rail, which brings hundreds of  
5 employees and shoppers to the mall daily. Any disruption in  
6 service will not only significantly impact our retailers'  
7 ability to open for business and directly impact sales, but  
8 will also result in loss of income for hundreds of employees  
9 who will miss a day or day's work.

10 The same will be true should there be any  
11 disruption on the New Jersey Turnpike Extension and/or Route  
12 9 and 139 leading into Newport. The mall has already  
13 suffered from problems with the water main breaks on 18th  
14 Street, which have broken several times in the last two  
15 years. These water main breaks have required a shutdown of  
16 the entire food court and other stores, resulting in  
17 substantial loss and inconvenience. Fortunately, the city  
18 has had the ability to work closely with the Municipal  
19 Authority and NADC to make the repairs quickly, with minimal  
20 loss of business. However, should this procedure be  
21 impacted by additional bureaucracy caused by the pipeline,  
22 it will significantly affect our ability to open for  
23 business.

24 Lastly, the safety and security of our employees  
25 and patrons is our number one priority.

1 (Applause)

2 The mall is a quasi-public place where thousands  
3 of people gather daily. Should an emergency occur, whether  
4 related or not related to the pipeline, a project of this  
5 magnitude and of this nature would negatively impact  
6 emergency response time to the mall, and could result in  
7 injury or the worst case scenario, loss of life.

8 This pipeline does not have a place in this  
9 highly developed urban area and an alternative location must  
10 be found. Thank you.

11 (Applause)

12 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

13 MR. BROWN: Anna Fishman.

14 (Applause)

15 MS. FISHMAN: Hi, my name is Anna Fishman. I am  
16 resident of Jersey City and have been one since 2003. I  
17 have my own consulting business from my home here. And in  
18 that time I have watched the population of Jersey City  
19 explode exponentially. From what was a relatively quiet  
20 place, with all the increased number of high rise buildings,  
21 we have a very large population of young people and young  
22 families, having babies in this area.

23 (Applause)

24 And quite frankly, I just want to echo what has  
25 been said before. But the risk to the civilian population

1 here is enormous if there were to be an explosion. But  
2 quite apart from that, I wonder what studies have been done,  
3 ongoing-ly, of the health effects of such a pipeline, in  
4 terms of the long term ecological effects on health?

5 (Applause)

6 And quite apart from that, I ask -- and I don't  
7 say this tongue in cheek -- would the executives of Spectra  
8 be willing to build such a pipeline 600 feet from their own  
9 home? Or from the school of their own children?

10 (Applause)

11 And finally, I just would like to say that I  
12 think individuals and citizens are really sick and tired of  
13 seeing large companies who apparently appear to be ruled  
14 solely by a profit motive, with very little concern for the  
15 natural environment, for the earth, for indigenous  
16 populations, and for the health and well-being of civilian  
17 populations. We are sick and tired of watching the earth  
18 being run like this.

19 (Applause)

20 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

21 MR. BROWN: Alan Blake.

22 (Applause)

23 MR. BLAKE: Good evening. My name is Alan Blake,  
24 I'm the Newport Manager for Central Parking, which operates  
25 nine parking garages at Newport.

1                   On behalf of Central Parking and our dedicated  
2 workforce of men and women, several of whom are in the  
3 audience here this evening --

4                   (Applause)

5                   -- I appreciate the opportunity to speak on their  
6 behalf. We employ a staff of nearly 60 dedicated men and  
7 women at Newport. More than 50 percent of these employees  
8 are residents of Jersey City. 16 employees have worked in  
9 excess of eight years and another 21 have worked at Newport  
10 between four and eight years.

11                  Newport Garage, from a financial standpoint --  
12 Newport Garage's operations generate \$2 million in parking  
13 tax annually. Newport staffing positions include manager,  
14 assistant managers, bookkeepers, valet attendants, cashiers  
15 and porters. At Central Parking, there are entry level jobs  
16 where candidates do not need a high school diploma. Along  
17 with career advancement, Central Parking provides living  
18 wages, excellent medical and retirement benefits to its  
19 employees.

20                  Our expectation is to continue to grow with  
21 Newport in the northeast quadrant of the complex, with a  
22 build-out in the additional 1,550 parking spaces in the  
23 northeast quadrant, Central Parking would add another 30  
24 jobs. If the northeast quadrant is not built out because of  
25 the proposed pipeline by Spectra Energy, these job

1 opportunities will be lost.

2 In closing, I ask to consider all the  
3 alternatives for placement of this gas pipeline. Don't blow  
4 up the future of Newport jobs, as they are real and  
5 permanent for those who seek gainful employment.

6 (Applause)

7 Thank you.

8 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

9 MR. BROWN: David Greenwood.

10 (No response.)

11 William Simpson.

12 MR. SIMPSON: Good evening. I would like to read  
13 remarks from Congressman Donald Payne.

14 Thank you for inviting me to comment on the  
15 proposed Spectra gas pipeline in Jersey City.

16 Unfortunately, my duties in Washington are  
17 preventing me from joining you here tonight.

18 As you know, the pipeline will be built between  
19 the New Jersey Turnpike Extension bridge and the  
20 area, 17th and 18th Streets between Monmouth and  
21 Jersey Avenues. The proposed pipeline would run  
22 through some of Jersey City's most heavily  
23 populated neighborhoods and would also pose as a  
24 hazard to some of the neighboring infrastructure.  
25 These infrastructures include the New Jersey

1 Turnpike, PATH train, Holland Tunnel, Hudson and  
2 Bergen Light Rail line. I strongly believe the  
3 possibility of having a gas pipeline through  
4 these areas offers the potential for disastrous  
5 situations.

6 These are situations that we cannot risk.

7 (Applause)

8 Previous events involving gas pipeline breaks are  
9 frightening and a real possibility with the  
10 proposed pipeline. In 1994, natural gas  
11 explosions in Edison, New Jersey that damaged  
12 several apartment buildings is one example of the  
13 events. The explosion occurred when a pipeline  
14 broke and exploded into flames next to the Durham  
15 Woods Apartment Complex along New Durham Road at  
16 its juncture with Interstate 287.

17 The resulting explosion severely damaged 14  
18 apartment buildings, leaving over 100 residents  
19 homeless.

20 Another example is the more recent gas pipeline  
21 explosion in Middletown, Connecticut. The  
22 pipeline explosion in Connecticut occurred on  
23 February 7, 2010; took the lives of six men and  
24 injured more than thirty people. Workers were  
25 cleaning the natural gas pipeline when the

1 explosion occurred. Residents up to 20 miles  
2 away reported hearing the blast.

3 The mere possibility of these events happening in  
4 Jersey City can and will have an adverse effect  
5 on the area. Having a hazardous pipeline  
6 underneath the city will negatively impact the  
7 property values for local homes and businesses.  
8 These impacts will not be short-term. I strongly  
9 believe that the pipeline will have lasting  
10 effects on local residents of Jersey City. This  
11 is especially the case when the proposed pipeline  
12 is in close proximity to Department of Homeland  
13 Security's Tier 1 and Tier 2 critical  
14 infrastructure.

15 According to a recent article on the Jersey City  
16 website, having such a close proximity to the  
17 critical infrastructure will make the pipeline a  
18 possible target for future terrorist attacks.

19 (Applause)

20 In closing, after reviewing these issues, I  
21 cannot fully support the current plans for the  
22 construction of the Spectra Energy pipeline in  
23 Jersey City.

24 (Applause)

25 Although the proposed pipeline will provide

1                   needed jobs in the district, I believe the risk  
2                   of a possible disaster and lives lost outweighs  
3                   the potential benefits of the pipeline. Thank  
4                   you.

5                   (Appause)

6                   MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

7                   MR. BROWN: Paul Bellan-Boyer.

8                   (Pause) (Applause)

9                   MR. BELLAN-BOYER: Thank you for the good will of  
10                  Jersey City.

11                  (Appause)

12                  I am Paul Bellan-Boyer, a resident of Jersey City  
13                  and the President of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in downtown  
14                  Jersey City.

15                  I'll be brief. Whenever these things come up,  
16                  the name NIMBY is mentioned. And I'm not a fan of that. I  
17                  think you always have to look closely at those arguments.  
18                  But this is not our back yard; this is our front yard. And  
19                  there are some projects which shouldn't be put in anybody's  
20                  yard, front or back.

21                  (Appause)

22                  We right now are within two miles of most of the  
23                  major terrorists incidents in the United States: The  
24                  bombing of Wall Street by anarchists, the Black Tom  
25                  munitions explosion during World War I, the two World Trade

1 Center bombings.

2 Now, this project doesn't make sense in its  
3 current location.

4 (Applause)

5 The risks to us don't outweigh the benefits,  
6 especially when there's a great alternative available,  
7 running the pipeline underwater where no people live, in a  
8 safe location.

9 (Applause)

10 This project doesn't fly. Thank you very much.

11 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

12 (Applause)

13 MR. BROWN: Frank Hoffmann.

14 (No response.)

15 Dale Anders.

16 (Applause)

17 MR. ANDERS: Good evening. I hate to have my  
18 back turned here, but I guess this is the way it's set up.

19 MR. BROWN: Can you state your name, too, please.

20 MR. ANDERS: My name is Dale Anders, and I'm with  
21 Henkels & McCoy. We're a contractor, a family-owned  
22 business, third generation, 87 years in business, and we  
23 live where we work. We work in all 50 states, we have  
24 offices in Linden and Burlington, New Jersey, and we build  
25 energy and communication infrastructure all across the

1 United States.

2           Whatever you people tell you tonight, and where  
3 you decide to put the pipeline, what I can assure the people  
4 is that Henkels & McCoy, the core values that were mentioned  
5 earlier: Safety is number one, quality is number two.  
6 Getting our people home safely every day is the most  
7 important thing that we do. Not profit; we want to do that,  
8 but we have to bring our people home safe every day.

9           I certainly understand all the concerns that the  
10 people have expressed tonight, and certainly with their  
11 guidance and what you people put into this process, I'm sure  
12 you'll pick the safest route. What I'd like to assure the  
13 people is that they have a much higher chance of being  
14 injured walking across the street or driving their car.  
15 Federal energy transportation in pipelines is the safest  
16 transportation of product in the United States.

17           So wherever you decide to put this, it will be  
18 done safely --

19           (Audience boo-ing)

20           -- it will be done with people like the people  
21 here tonight. We bring in approximately 50 percent of the  
22 work force that will stay in hotels, use your restaurants,  
23 use your retail stores. The other people will come right  
24 from the surrounding area, from the local union halls.

25           So alls I wanted to say is that if Henkels &

1 McCoy has the opportunity to build this pipeline regardless  
2 of where you put it, I'd like to assure the people that it  
3 will be done as safely as humanly possible. Thank you.

4 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

5 Excuse me. I know that everyone wants an  
6 opportunity to speak, but if you could, respect the people  
7 that are up there speaking at the moment. It's not easy  
8 getting up in a group of people to state your opinions. So  
9 for each person that comes up, I ask that you just hold your  
10 opinions and let them get out what they need to say. Thank  
11 you.

12 (Applause)

13 MR. BROWN: Ellen Simon.

14 MS. SIMON: Hi, my name is Ellen Simon. I would  
15 urge the committee to walk the route of the proposed  
16 pipeline and ask yourselves, (1) How are we going to keep  
17 this safe? (2) Take some core samples while you're there.  
18 How much chromium is going to be kicked up by building this?  
19 How much lead?

20 (Applause)

21 How much arsenic?

22 Our city has been a dumping ground for too long,  
23 and it's because we weren't organized, but we're organized  
24 now.

25 (Applause)

1                   Secondly, the gentleman from Spectra Energy said  
2                   that this would bring in \$10 million worth of taxes a year.  
3                   Those of us who know Jersey City well know how corrupt it is  
4                   -- and if we thought that a penny of that would go to better  
5                   schools or a safer road, or faster police response times,  
6                   we'd be impressed, but we know that won't happen.

7                   (Applause)

8                   Those are my comments. Thank you.

9                   (Applause)

10                  MR. GONZALEZ:

11                  MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

12                  MR. BROWN: Sal LoNero.

13                  (No response.)

14                  Mario Gaztambide.

15                  MR. GAZTAMBIDE: Good evening. My name is Mario  
16                  Gaztambide, I am a resident of Newport. I'm here to express  
17                  my opposition to any proposed location near or around the  
18                  northeast quadrant of the Newport community.

19                  I live in Newport with my wife and my five month  
20                  old baby. We moved to Newport for the quiet peace and  
21                  tranquility which that community has offered us, and to be  
22                  part of the great Jersey City renaissance.

23                  One of the things that attracted us to Newport  
24                  was the proposed expansion of parks, of public areas, and  
25                  retail to service our community. We feel that the proposed

1 location of the pipeline will negatively affect those plans  
2 and affect our quality of life.

3 Other than the many safety concerns that have  
4 been expressed here tonight, I really question the proposed  
5 location of projects such as this in densely residential  
6 areas like we have in Jersey City. Thank you.

7 (Applause)

8 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

9 MR. BROWN: Jean Marie Potter.

10 (Applause)

11 MS. POTTER: Good evening. My name is Jean Marie  
12 Potter, and I am the Chief Executive of TFC Partners, and we  
13 manage Newport Swim and Fitness Club, located in Newport.

14 I have been involved in the Newport community for  
15 over ten years, and our business plan is predicated on the  
16 continuing and future development of the area. The club  
17 employs 30 to 40 full and part-time local community members,  
18 most in entry level positions, from which people can advance  
19 in careers in the fitness industry and also the service  
20 industry. We are a big small business in this town, and  
21 with the expansion of Newport, we anticipate hiring 20 or  
22 more additional staff. Although a health club may not be an  
23 essential service in some people's eyes, my business employs  
24 teenagers, young adults in possibly a first job situation as  
25 well as family people who rely on a local job to sustain a

1 family.

2 I am testifying against routing the pipeline  
3 through Newport, Jersey City most specifically through  
4 Newport's northeast quadrant and along 18th Street west of  
5 Newport. The club is located in the center of Newport, and  
6 the 28,000 square foot facility has doubled from its  
7 original size to accommodate the present and future growth.  
8 If the pipeline were to run through the northern area of  
9 Newport, the club would not see the additional members or  
10 the jobs needed to sustain this operation.

11 Thank you very much.

12 (Applause)

13 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

14 MR. BROWN: Dan Frohwirth.

15 MR. FROHWIRTH: Good evening. I'm Dan Frohwirth,  
16 I'm the Director of Real Estate and Marketing for the Jersey  
17 City Economic Development Corporation, and I'm a Newport  
18 resident -- in Jersey City, actually.

19 Much of our opposition to the pipeline going  
20 through Jersey City has been well spelled out by Mayor Healy  
21 and certainly by Robert Cotter, the Planning Director. I'm  
22 not going to go through that again, and I can do it in  
23 written remarks I'll send in.

24 But the issue for us -- many issues. One of them  
25 is that we market the City to businesses and developers, and

1 we've been doing this since the mid-Eighties; I've been  
2 doing it since 1996. And we've made the Jersey City,  
3 especially the waterfront -- really the whole city, an  
4 economic engine for the State of New Jersey. I mean, it  
5 produces huge amounts of money for the State of New Jersey.  
6 There's a multiplier effect that people don't even think  
7 about.

8           If Goldman Sachs has 5500 people at 30 Hudson  
9 Street, which is the 3,000 people per acre, employees per  
10 acre, many of them over time move to New Jersey. Many, by  
11 the way, to Jersey City and Hoboken and Bayonne, which is  
12 terrific for us; but also to places like Bernardsville and  
13 Far Hills, and they buy homes and they put in pools and they  
14 have nannies, and they really spend a lot of money in Jersey  
15 City. And they have some very high incomes; I mean, people  
16 make \$400,000, \$500,000 a year. This is a huge engine for  
17 the State of New Jersey.

18           And today, just to be sure that what I thought I  
19 was going to say was valid, I reached out to several people  
20 in the major corporations on our waterfront to ask if their  
21 real estate divisions, when they're scoping out possible  
22 places to move their business and move 300 employees or a  
23 1000 employees or 5000 employees, do they look at  
24 infrastructure which might cause an accident such that the  
25 wonderful transportation system is badly impacted, their

1 health is impacted, the buildings are impacted, their  
2 residences if they've moved to the area are impacted; and  
3 the answer was: yes, they do.

4           And one of the reasons that we could grow Jersey  
5 City the way we have since the mid-Eighties is that we've  
6 really managed the marketing really well; we've had  
7 wonderful incentives both from Jersey City and from the  
8 State of New Jersey, and we coordinate those; we administer  
9 the Urban Enterprise Zone program in the City of Jersey City  
10 for the Jersey City -- obviously in concert with City Hall.

11           And the City has to be better, cheaper, better  
12 transportation, a nicer place to live, a nicer place to do  
13 business than for instance New York City or Brooklyn or a  
14 Long Island city, or people are not going to come here. And  
15 we've had that going on for a very long time, and this would  
16 be a very negative impact on the further development of  
17 Jersey City.

18           I have some personal issues. I mean, one is I'm  
19 one of the people on the Foundation Board of Liberty Health.  
20 We own and manage the Jersey City Medical Center. This  
21 pipeline comes really close. We are the trauma center for  
22 the region, we have the only cardiac open heart surgery --  
23 you know, heart surgery for the region. We do almost all  
24 the emergency services for the region with the 911 center  
25 within that building, not far from the pipeline, which does

1 all of Hudson County I think except for Bayonne has its own  
2 services, which might be impacted by -- goes through Bayonne  
3 as well, in your current plan.

4 If something were to happen such that there was  
5 some sort of explosion in the pipeline not far from the  
6 Jersey Medical Center, I mean, not only would there be  
7 dreadful loss of life, but we couldn't respond to it because  
8 the medical center would be adversely impacted, and that  
9 would impact all of Hudson County and the surrounding areas.

10

11 (Applause)

12 So we feel extremely strongly that this is the  
13 wrong way to go; and personally, since I'm in Newport I  
14 think it's personally the wrong way to go; I don't want to  
15 it near my condo. Thank you.

16 (Applause)

17 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

18 MR. BROWN: Darryl Ng.

19 MR. NG: Hello, my name is Darryl Ng, and I'm a  
20 long time business owner in the Newport section of Jersey  
21 City. I'm also a homeowner and a board member for the  
22 largest condominium building in the area.

23 Now, my home and business are located less than a  
24 few hundred yards away from this proposed pipeline. Now  
25 this pipeline would create an unnecessary risk for the

1 thousands of the neighbors that live in my area and for the  
2 people that are working in the area.

3 What kind of guarantee can you give us that an  
4 accident won't happen on this line? One of the most recent  
5 natural gas explosions, in Bushland, Texas in 2009 created a  
6 30-yard diameter hole and incinerated houses hundreds of  
7 yards away? There is no guarantee that you can give us.  
8 This is an unsafe pipeline.

9 The location of the proposed gas line is so close  
10 to our homes that it would be a nightmare for all its  
11 residents and for any new development in the area.

12 I have made a substantial investment in this  
13 area, both in my business and my home, and do not wish to  
14 take on the additional burden of having to worry about my  
15 safety. It does not make sense to put people in any kind of  
16 risk when such risk can be avoided by rerouting the pipeline  
17 somewhere else.

18 (Applause)

19 I speak for all businesses and residents in  
20 Newport to say that a study should be done to find alternate  
21 routes. Risk to human life should never be weighed against  
22 any kind of cost savings.

23 (Applause)

24 Thank you.

25 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

1 MR. BROWN: Michael Dorata.

2 (No response.)

3 Eliza Wright?

4 (No response.)

5 AUDIENCE: What number speaker are you on?

6 MR. BROWN: 42.

7 AUDIENCE: I was number 16.

8 [Discussion about speakers list.]

9 MR. BROWN: I apologize; I got a page out of  
10 order.

11 Timothy Chou.

12 (No response.)

13 Jeremy Raben.

14 (Applause)

15 MR. RABEN: Hello, my name is Jeremy Raben, I'm a  
16 private citizen.

17 I came here in part because I've been involved in  
18 the issues of living close to a major gas pipeline. A lot  
19 of what people are thinking about right now are the  
20 immediate problems that are going to be created by this  
21 pipeline. But once this pipeline is finished, the problems  
22 are going to continue for every decade that that pipe stays  
23 there.

24 The pipeline that's near me is about 50 years  
25 old. I didn't know about it when I bought my apartment and

1 moved in, and I became aware of it when a developer decided  
2 they wanted to build adjacent to it. And I found out that  
3 there was no real protection of these pipelines.

4 So my first comment to everyone involved in  
5 trying to approve this, or considering approving this  
6 pipeline, is that until there's proper protection of the  
7 existing major gas pipelines, there should not be new ones  
8 proposed, because a major gas pipeline that already exists  
9 and is not properly protected is a serious threat. And  
10 right now, I hear a lot of people, Spectra and what is it,  
11 CPS and FERC and everybody's saying they're going to make  
12 sure this is safe, but once that pipeline is in the ground,  
13 there's a tendency for out-of-sight, out-of-mind. And right  
14 now the community is organized, but 50 years from now, a lot  
15 of the people in this room won't be around anymore. And  
16 when some developer decides they want to encroach on that  
17 pipeline or some unwise construction idea is proposed, or  
18 there's a lack of maintenance of the pipeline -- these  
19 activists won't be here protecting it, 50, 60 years from  
20 now.

21 The pipeline that I'm living near, I'm about 200  
22 feet away from, is a major gas pipeline, 36-inch, high  
23 pressure gas pipeline, and we have a developer who wants to  
24 build, encroaching on a 12 foot easement. That 12 foot  
25 easement is totally inadequate for a 36-inch major gas

1 pipeline, yet Transco National Gas has consistently not  
2 wanted to expand those easements to properly protect it.  
3 This was a very empty area when the pipeline was put in 50  
4 years ago, and now it's densely populated. There are over  
5 30 high rise buildings within the half mile what we could  
6 consider blast radius.

7 So if you are considering putting in this Spectra  
8 Energy pipeline, you have to wonder, 50 years from now, when  
9 you're not keeping an eye on things: Will somebody be  
10 keeping an eye on it? Will it be protected? What's going  
11 to happen -- every few hundred feet of this pipeline,  
12 there's a potential risk, and the citizens are going to be  
13 there with their binoculars, keeping an eye on that every  
14 day? Make sure some backhoe doesn't dig into it by  
15 accident? That's a lot to expect from everybody along this  
16 pipeline, to protect it, especially when they may not know  
17 about it.

18 So I strongly suggest that people consider not  
19 approving something like this until New Jersey is properly  
20 protecting the pipelines that already exist in New Jersey --

21

22 (Applause)

23 -- and the U.S. is protecting the pipelines coast  
24 to coast, with federal protection as well. Thank you.

25 (Applause)

1 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

2 MR. BROWN: Rob Crow.

3 (No response.)

4 Maureen Crowley.

5 (Applause)

6 MS. CROWLEY: I'm Maureen Crowley, I'm speaking  
7 for the Embankment Preservation Coalition.

8 (Applause)

9 We're an historic preservation and environmental  
10 organization that's been working for 12 years now to  
11 preserve historic assets that are near the proposed  
12 pipeline; actually, the pipeline will cross the route, the  
13 interim and future permanent route of the East Coast  
14 Greenway, a trail from Maine to Florida that we've been  
15 working hard to bring through Jersey City. It will also  
16 threaten the historic districts, which we care very much  
17 about.

18 I think it's very disheartening for a grass roots  
19 organizations such as ours who have been working with  
20 governments to restore structures and reclaim contaminated  
21 lands for the benefit of residents, visitors and a  
22 sustainable economy to once again have to try to face down  
23 corporations that are interested mostly in profit. It's  
24 hard for us volunteers to understand that.

25 The structure ironically that we're trying to

1       preserve is a reminder of the days when railroads rammed  
2       through residential areas and took their profits with little  
3       regard for the welfare of the populace.

4                       (Applause)

5               We don't welcome another behemoth industry doing  
6       the same to us today.

7               Beyond the safety issues, which of course are a  
8       great concern to everybody in this room, we're concerned not  
9       only with the NIMBY issues, which are very important, but  
10      with wider environmental issues. I understand Spectra is a  
11      major investor in the Marcellus Shale area, and I know that  
12      they're extracting natural gas through processes that  
13      threaten our watersheds. It's horrifying to individuals to  
14      know about this kind of activity, and how you sort of --  
15      Spectra is wooing people from mostly rural areas with the  
16      promise of a little bit of money that they wouldn't  
17      otherwise have gotten for their land rights, and that  
18      really bothers us here as well as the local issues.

19              You know, it really seems -- one of the Jersey  
20      City officials said the federal government ought to be  
21      talking to each other; corporations ought to be more mindful  
22      of corporate responsibility, not just profits; and it seems  
23      to me that the expansion of fossil fuel exploitation only  
24      delays the day when our country comes to grips with the lack  
25      of a sane energy policy. It's going to be much more useful

1 to our country and to Jersey City if capital investment goes  
2 into conservation, solar, wind and decentralized energy  
3 creation and transmission.

4 (Applause)

5 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

6 MR. BROWN: Peter Delmon.

7 MR. DELMON: Good evening. I came tonight really  
8 to listen and to learn. I signed up to speak because I've  
9 learned from going to meetings like this that sometimes it's  
10 important in case something hasn't been said that should be;  
11 and I think everybody's been so thoughtful and eloquent in  
12 their comments, and very convincing.

13 I guess one short comment would be that we might  
14 want to remember that before the Gulf disaster, BP as a  
15 corporation promoted themselves as the environmentally-  
16 conscious energy company. So I think when the gentleman got  
17 up and said that his corporation put safety first and  
18 foremost, we have to be a bit skeptical. I'm sure they do  
19 consider safety very important. But I'm not sure that their  
20 first priority is safety.

21 (Applause)

22 And it's not just the risk of injury and so on,  
23 but it's all the other risks that have been so clearly laid  
24 out by the previous speakers. So coming with an open mind,  
25 I've certainly been convinced tonight that this project is

1 in the wrong place at the wrong time.

2 (Applause)

3 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

4 MR. BROWN: Gina Ho.

5 AUDIENCE: What number are you at?

6 MR. BROWN: I'm at 21.

7 AUDIENCE: (Inaudible) 16 and she still hasn't  
8 gone.

9 MS. HARRIS: Excuse me. We are going in order of  
10 the list. We did miss a sheet of paper, and now we're  
11 starting with this list. We'll get to everyone's name that  
12 was signed up, and we're going in order now.

13 So maybe the number was confused, but we are  
14 going through the order at which people signed up when they  
15 came in.

16 AUDIENCE: (inaudible) 16.

17 MS. HARRIS: We called 16.

18 MR. BROWN: 16 was Timothy Chou. So I'm calling  
19 them in order.

20 AUDIENCE: You did not call 16.

21 MR. BROWN: Gina Ho.

22 MS. HO: What number was I?

23 MR. BROWN: You were 21.

24 MS. HO: 21, okay. You'll be soon, Carol.

25 My name is Gina Ho, and this is my daughter

1 Jasmine, she's eight. And I have a newborn baby who has  
2 just turned ten months, called Jasper. We live at 437  
3 Second Street, which is right near the intersection of  
4 Second Street and Merceles. And the Turnpike and the  
5 proposed gas pipeline is, I'm guessing, less than half a  
6 block from my house.

7 I have a home-based business, so therefore my  
8 home is my workplace and my residential place. My daughter  
9 attends PS No. 5 School, which is one block around the  
10 corner; and the pipeline is about a quarter of a block from  
11 her school.

12 (Applause)

13 So this will greatly impact my family. So I come  
14 here tonight to ask you, which I'm sure you've heard before  
15 from many other places where you've tried to put in gas  
16 lines, what is the value of my childrens' life and my  
17 family's life? As opposed to saving some money --

18 (Applause)

19 -- on the pipeline? If you come here and you  
20 tell the people that safety is of utmost importance, I think  
21 you have to prove that by showing that you're going to run  
22 this gas line where it impacts the least amount of people.

23 (Applause)

24 And you're running it through one of the busiest  
25 cities in New Jersey. I think it's the second busiest city

1 in New Jersey? I'm not too sure on my statistic, but you're  
2 running it right -- not just through the edge of Jersey  
3 City, you're running it through the heart of the downtown  
4 business area, residential area. As you've heard from many  
5 people, we are basically an extension of New York City; we  
6 have major businesses here, major money invested here; we're  
7 not talking about a town of 1500 people.

8 And I think that at some point common sense just  
9 has to prevail.

10 (Applause)

11 So my child asked me, why are they even  
12 considering this? It just doesn't make sense. I don't know  
13 how to answer her; why are we even here tonight?

14 Can someone answer her? Because I can't answer  
15 her.

16 I'm sorry, which person is from Spectra?

17 (Pause)

18 MS. HARRIS: Well, just to clarify --

19 MS. HO: Can we have someone actually answer her  
20 question? Because I really would like to know the answer,  
21 so I can tuck her into bed tonight and tell her everything's  
22 going to be okay.

23 (Applause)

24 MS. HARRIS: Texas Eastern and Algonquin have  
25 proposed a project, and the FERC reviews natural gas

1 pipeline projects. So tonight's meeting is to get comments  
2 from the local communities on the project. That's where we  
3 are right now.

4 MS. HO: So they're willing to run a gas line  
5 through our town but not actually specifically address us  
6 when we speak?

7 MS. HARRIS: Ed Gonzalez is here --

8 MS. HO: Do I just sit here with a ten month old  
9 baby for hours, like listening and not getting answers when  
10 I ask one simple question? I can't get an answer?

11 (Applause)

12 I think that's unacceptable.

13 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

14 (Applause)

15 MR. BROWN: Jim Legge.

16 MR. LEGGE: My name is Jim Legge, I'm a resident  
17 of Jersey City for eleven years now, and I'd like to  
18 reiterate what a lot of the speakers have already said, and  
19 also to emphasize that you're in the scoping process which  
20 has to do with --

21 VOICES: Speak up.

22 MR. LEGGE: You're in the scoping process, which  
23 has to do with planning and strategy, and I think the whole  
24 strategy is flawed. We need to get off fossil fuels and not  
25 build more infrastructure to enable the delivery of more

1 fossil fuel.

2 (Applause)

3 So as far as investing money as a government, I  
4 suggest you invest this money in solar, wind, tide, and  
5 forget about building this pipeline.

6 (Applause)

7 On the other hand, if this is a fait accompli,  
8 and because of political connections this pipeline is going  
9 to happen regardless, and this infrastructure for fossil  
10 fuel is going to go ahead, then as some of the speakers have  
11 said, it should not go through a densely populated area; it  
12 should go from the Staten Island station directly over to  
13 Brooklyn, under New York Bay where it's not going to impact  
14 anybody.

15 Also I'd like to mention that some of the points  
16 that Mr. Gonzalez, the Project Director mentioned, he did  
17 mention the phrase 'emergency response.' If there's some  
18 kind of accident, there's no way that can be realized in any  
19 useful fashion, unless it goes underwater of New York Bay,  
20 in which case that water will swamp any fires, so the fire  
21 department won't have to bother about pumping water; it will  
22 be right there, buried in water.

23 Also, Mr. Gonzalez mentioned as one of the  
24 benefits, northeast gas infrastructure, which I think comes  
25 back to Maureen Crowley's point here, of fracking in the

1 Marcellus Shale, which happens to be the source of our  
2 drinking water. So when we're talking about cost-benefit,  
3 we also have to think about clean water that we need to  
4 drink, and right now we're getting it from the areas where  
5 Spectra and other companies are proposing to drill, in such  
6 a way which is directly polluting our drinking water.

7 So I'm just adding a few more points and  
8 emphasizing some of the points that have already been made  
9 by the previous speakers. And I urge you to abandon this  
10 project, get off fossil fuel, don't invest anymore  
11 infrastructure to support fossil fuel but instead invest  
12 this into sustainable sources of energy such as solar, wind  
13 and tide. Thank you very much.

14 (Applause)

15 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

16 MR. BROWN: Denise Katzman.

17 MS. KATZMAN: Denise Katzman, I'm a six year  
18 resident of Jersey City. Firstly, I'd like to thank all the  
19 good folks of Jersey City for showing up and speaking up.

20 (Applause)

21 I adamantly object to Spectra, et al's proposed  
22 nat gas project. Disaster prevention is nowhere in sight.  
23 FERC allowed the Gulf disaster to happen. From the Exxon  
24 Valdez to the well from hell which is the Gulf disaster, to  
25 last week's pipeline explosion in Michigan in the Kalamazoo

1 River where close to a million gallons of dirty, filthy  
2 fossil fuel is laying, and the head of the EPA finally took  
3 action and visited.

4 Pipelines are exploding faster than speeding  
5 bullets across this country. Corporate America and FERC's  
6 prevention policy is absolute b.s. and mendacity, and  
7 mendacity is illegal. And speaking of mendacity, when I was  
8 at the Spectra meeting, the only one that I attended in  
9 Jersey City, Susan was there. Susan is here now, she's a  
10 Spectra rep. I asked Susan specifically about their binding  
11 agreement with Chesapeake Energy to deliver nat gas from the  
12 Marcellus Shale play, and she said to me in no uncertain  
13 terms "That isn't going to happen. That will never  
14 happen."

15 And I confronted her with that less than a half  
16 an hour ago, and she said she never said it. Again, more  
17 mendacity. That's the playbook, but we're not going to  
18 allow it to happen.

19 (Applause)

20 FERC and all of the federal entities, the new  
21 queer IdenMMS, BLM, Interior Department, and the energy  
22 industry equal unprotected sex. You've allowed communities  
23 to be destroyed across this country; people have spoken  
24 about what is true clean energy, which nat gas isn't. We  
25 can't give up on nat gas, but we absolutely do not want it

1 to harm our residential and environmental infrastructure  
2 because our enviro and financial infrastructures can no way  
3 support it; this is the cheapest route for them to take.  
4 It's environmental racism and it violates environmental  
5 justice. FERC's fast-tracking process proves that they are  
6 totally aligned with the corrupt energy industry.

7 Their construction is our destruction. And as an  
8 earlier speaker said, and I say it with great anger: Do you  
9 all want 36 inch, 40 inch transportation pipelines,  
10 compression stations, metering stations produce toxic water,  
11 and the nat gas energy lobbying b.s. ranting 24/7 in your  
12 hood.

13 This is our land. We will not allow FERC to  
14 rubber-stamp this project.

15 (Applause)

16 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

17 MR. BROWN: Colleen Senters.

18 MS. SENTERS: Good evening. My name is Colleen  
19 Senters, I'm the General Manger of the Westin Jersey City  
20 Newport.

21 I have very similar concerns, that everybody else  
22 has voiced and I won't go over them again; however, I would  
23 like to say that it is part of my responsibility to make  
24 sure that all my guests are safe, as well as my associates  
25 who work there.

1                   We employ about 200 people, their livelihoods  
2                   depend on the revenue that comes in; and if the place is not  
3                   fully developed as we had planned when we built, then it  
4                   means less jobs and less revenue, including tax revenues.

5                   So I urge you to listen to everyone here,  
6                   including myself, and find a new direct route for this gas  
7                   pipeline. Thank you.

8                   (Applause)

9                   MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

10                  MR. BROWN: Carol Lester.

11                  (Applause)

12                  MS. LESTER: Thank you. I'm here to represent  
13                  everybody's interests; I'm going to give two little  
14                  presentations. One of them is as a member of the Jersey  
15                  City Board of Education where unanimously last week, every  
16                  member agreed that we were going to oppose this project on  
17                  behalf of the children.

18                  I'd like to read a letter that was sent to Ms.  
19                  Bose, Secretary of FERC, on this project, from our  
20                  Superintendent, Charles Epps.

21                  Please accept this letter on behalf of the Jersey  
22                  City Board of Education and the School District's  
23                  administration in objection to the application  
24                  filed by Spectra Energy with the Federal Energy  
25                  Regulation Committee seeking authorization to

1 install a six and a half mile natural gas  
2 pipeline through Jersey City.

3 The Board's objection is based in health and  
4 safety concerns for the City's residents, which  
5 includes the City's students. The route of the  
6 proposed pipeline is anything but benign. Aside  
7 from the proposed route, running through some of  
8 the most densely populated sections of the City,  
9 the route also runs in close proximity to several  
10 of the City's schools. Some of the schools in  
11 nearby proximity to the route, within three  
12 blocks, include but are not limited to Ferris  
13 High School, Dickens High School, PS3, MS4, PS5  
14 and PS9, which are populated each by hundreds of  
15 children.

16 Accordingly, if the pipeline were to fail, the  
17 result would be devastating, not just because it  
18 could result in the loss or diminishment of the  
19 City's utilities infrastructure, emergency  
20 responsiveness and economic viability, but also  
21 because it could result in the inconceivable loss  
22 of life. Such loss of life would certainly  
23 include the hundreds of children attending  
24 schools in close proximity to the pipeline.  
25 The route of the proposed pipeline is also

1           unacceptable, because Spectra Energy has not  
2           demonstrated that locating a pipeline in close  
3           proximity to the City's schools would not  
4           adversely affect the health of children. Various  
5           groups and organizations oppose natural gas -- I  
6           oppose the word "natural" to be in front of the  
7           word "gas" --

8           (Applause)

9           -- on the basis that natural gas power plants are  
10          significant air pollution sources, releasing  
11          hazardous toxins, air pollutants, global warming  
12          pollution and fine particulate matter. The same  
13          groups also advise that because gas appliances  
14          create a constant low level exposure to gas which  
15          can cause or increase illnesses such as asthma,  
16          respiratory illness, impaired lung function, a  
17          pipeline carrying 800 psi of natural gas could  
18          result in even more serious impacts on health.

19         So the letter goes on and on. Additionally, Spectra should  
20         -- therefore, for all the foregoing reasons, the Board and  
21         the School's District Administration oppose the application  
22         filed by Spectra Energy seeking authorizing to install a  
23         natural gas pipeline through Jersey City. Natural gas  
24         simply does not belong stored in an urban setting,  
25         particularly when thousands of children are concentrated in

1 schools in close proximity to the pipeline.

2 I kindly ask this objection letter be submitted  
3 to all members of the Commission for their consideration and  
4 that it be maintained as part of the record under this  
5 project's docket number. Thank you. This is from the  
6 Superintendent of Schools.

7 (Applause)

8 So now just as a citizen, I'm wearing black and  
9 blue, because we're all getting beat up. Not just in Jersey  
10 City, but this entire nation. What is the rush? Why are we  
11 in such a rush?

12 I'll tell you why: Because "Oh, my gosh, we  
13 might be able to figure out an alternate energy, and by God,  
14 the oil and gas interests that have squeezed every last  
15 profit they can get out of this country and out of our land  
16 as fast as they can, no matter who is in danger when that  
17 happens.

18 (Applause)

19 Why are we in such a rush? We're in such a rush  
20 -- in 2005 Bush and Cheney made gas and oil exempt from the  
21 Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Acts. Thank  
22 you, President Nixon for having those in the Seventies. We  
23 don't hear from BP about how the water is now unsafe or it's  
24 unclean, because that actually didn't break a law. They're  
25 exempt from that law, just as gas is exempt from clean water

1 and safe drinking water. Because it's so important when a  
2 government creates their energy policy based on profit.

3 Your profit is our loss, Spectra. And it's  
4 crazy, it has to stop, this rush to put these pipelines in  
5 here so fast because you happen to be able to sneak it  
6 through in 2005. It's time to change this. We are all  
7 united now. This is not going to happen, on our soil, on  
8 our time. You gain the world and you lost your soul, and  
9 now you're killing the rest of the earth.

10 So let's get rid of this and let's start green.  
11 Thank you.

12 (Applause)

13 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

14 MS. LESTER: Another member of the Board of  
15 Education here is, she's having a hard time walking with her  
16 walker. I don't know if you want to -- she also came here  
17 at 7 o'clock and --.

18 MR. BROWN: Stephanie Daniels was the next name  
19 on the list.

20 (No response.)

21 Franklin Perez.

22 (Applause)

23 MR. PEREZ: Good evening. My name is Franklin  
24 Perez [spelling]. I am a resident of downtown Jersey City,  
25 living on Mercer Street, approximately three blocks from

1       this institution, and within close proximity of the proposed  
2       pipeline.

3                   I come to speak against the proposal both as a --

4       I should mention that I am a member of the Planning Board  
5       of the City of Jersey City, although I'm not here speaking  
6       on behalf of the Planning Board. I mention that for  
7       purposes of identification.

8                   The other point I'd like to make is that I  
9       represent, I think I speak on behalf of a community which  
10      frequently is not heard, and that is the Latino community;  
11      which because of a variety of reasons including language  
12      issues, it does not frequently come to these types of public  
13      hearings to express its opinions on these matters.

14                  It is a community which is going to be  
15      significantly affected, just like the African-American  
16      community, because although you've heard primarily from the  
17      more well-to-do community, which is a downtown community,  
18      the areas of development which have taken place over the  
19      last 20 years, I as a resident of Jersey City since 1979  
20      have seen how the Latino community and the African-American  
21      community has been affected by development, and not just by  
22      proposed pipelines and things of that nature, but also  
23      because economic development frequently results in the  
24      displacement of these communities, as has happened  
25      frequently with the downtown community.

1                   When I moved here in 1979 the downtown area was a  
2 predominant Latino community, and that community was  
3 displaced. I'm not here to criticize or to argue that  
4 gentrification is or is not a positive element of  
5 development, but I am here to emphasize that that community  
6 which resided here was displaced; and where it was displaced  
7 to a great extent is to the east and the west sides of the  
8 Turnpike, along the area which the pipeline is going to be  
9 placed, and I think you should be aware of the fact that  
10 that community is not here to speak on its behalf and I'd  
11 like to speak on behalf of that community.

12                   (Applause)

13                   That community is primarily a working class  
14 community; many of them do own the homes along Pacific  
15 Street, Johnson, near Liberty State Park, along the corridor  
16 of the Turnpike Extension, all the way from the border of  
17 Bayonne all the way down to the Grant Street area of Jersey  
18 City. That community I think will be significantly impacted  
19 as well, even though Bob Cotter indicated that he does not  
20 have too much opposition to the line as it runs along the  
21 Caven Point area -- and I respect Bob; I think he did a  
22 great presentation and Mayor Healy did a great  
23 presentation, but I think that you have to consider the  
24 consequences which have been mentioned earlier, the economic  
25 consequences which come from a project of this nature.

1           A project of this nature does not necessarily  
2           imply in fact that it will be dangerous to the community.  
3           That can be debated and the issues of safety can be debated,  
4           and the companies will represent that they are going to  
5           provide the safest means for both the construction of the  
6           pipeline and for its management. Of course we've already  
7           heard the arguments and I certainly support many of those  
8           arguments, that representations are more a -- what do you  
9           call it, a propensity; something which the corporations do  
10          in order to dissuade the community from opposition. But the  
11          reality is, as has been mentioned here with the various  
12          incidents including the most recent one, BP, that  
13          corporations do not necessarily live up to the  
14          representations which they make when it comes to impacting  
15          the economic well-being of communities that surround--

16                           (Applause)

17                           -- its productivity and its warehousing and  
18                           everything else.

19                           The reality is that the impact is also a matter  
20                           of perception. And when you take communities that are poor  
21                           to begin with and you build a pipeline with such great  
22                           proximity, you know that you are going to destroy the  
23                           potential for them to go upwardly mobile --

24                           (Applause)

25                           -- for their properties to increase in value, for

1 the exponential growth of the city to also benefit them, and  
2 the reality is that these communities which are now the  
3 perimeter communities of the economic development of Jersey  
4 City, who may benefit in the next ten years from the  
5 additional developments of the Turnpike dump site and the  
6 further expansions of the development heading south, they  
7 will be affected. The pipeline will have a direct impact on  
8 those communities, and I think you should consider that.  
9 You should consider that.

10 The other point which I'd like to make is that I  
11 was a resident of Chelsea in Manhattan when the super  
12 highway was being proposed in the late Seventies. The  
13 community of Chelsea and of the West Village mobilized  
14 against a super highway being built, because it would block  
15 direct access to the river. Those communities are  
16 politically powerful and economically powerful communities.

17 So I must ask myself the question, "Why is it  
18 that Spectra has chosen to come to the west side of the  
19 river to propose the construction of a pipeline, when it  
20 could build that pipeline directly into Manhattan, but it  
21 would in one way or another impact on the communities of  
22 Battery Park City, Tribeca, and the West Village, wealthy  
23 communities, politically powerful communities. Is it  
24 because Spectra has the perception that the Jersey City  
25 communities will not react as strongly as the Manhattan

1 communities to the pipeline?"

2 (Applause)

3 That goes to the points which were made about  
4 environmental justice and economic justice. Do not pick  
5 what is perceived as the weaker political and economic  
6 community to build a pipeline in their back yard in order to  
7 avoid confronting the issues that those communities, that  
8 they're proposing to directly service. If the intention is  
9 to service the Lower Manhattan or Con Edison and Irving  
10 Place in Lower Manhattan, or its power plants in Lower  
11 Manhattan, then go to those communities and discuss it with  
12 those communities; don't come to ours and propose that we  
13 give access to a company so that it can feed a wealthy  
14 community in Lower Manhattan.

15 (Applause)

16 We have the right to protect our communities, and  
17 we hope that you will understand that the economic  
18 justifications that it might be less costly both in terms of  
19 promoting the acceptance of the project in the wealthier  
20 communities as well as building it on land instead of under  
21 the water should be justifiable and have the impacts brought  
22 upon our communities rather than addressing both -- making  
23 it, building it so that it goes directly to the communities  
24 that it's proposing to service, and absorb the cost  
25 associated with that by either providing higher rates

1 charged to those communities, but do not bring it to --  
2 don't bring it to our back yard so that you can spare  
3 yourself -- Spectra I'm saying now -- spare yourself the  
4 costs associated with the political fight with those  
5 communities in Manhattan and with the cost of building a  
6 pipeline that might be a little bit more costly going under  
7 the river.

8 Thank you.

9 (Applause)

10 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

11 MR. BROWN: Stephen Musgrave.

12 MR. MUSGRAVE: Hello, good evening. My name is  
13 Stephen Musgrave. Thank you all for being here tonight to  
14 listen to us speak about our opposition to this pipeline. I  
15 know you'd prefer to be at home having dinner with friends  
16 and family -- I know I would, too.

17 I am a relatively new resident of Jersey City.  
18 My wife and I are first time home buyers; we moved here  
19 about a year and a half ago into what we thought was a  
20 charming, little downtown community. We didn't expect that  
21 it would be an industrial zone. And that's my main concern.  
22 In addition to all these other concerns that have been  
23 voiced here tonight is that there is this expectation when  
24 we moved here that this was going to be a community on the  
25 rise, not a community that is regressing to its industrial

1 past.

2 Another thing, while I've been listening here to  
3 night, I didn't actually come here expecting to speak; I  
4 just kind of wrote my name down and figured I'd think of  
5 something to say, and I did. And what I'm hearing tonight  
6 are two things. There's hundreds of reasons why this  
7 project shouldn't happen, there's one reason why it should,  
8 and that's profit.

9 Now profits are fine; we all go to jobs every day  
10 and so forth, but there's risk. How do you measure this  
11 risk? It's very difficult. We all have our own personal  
12 stories of how the risk impacts us. They may be economic,  
13 you may be living right next to the pipelines so it's very  
14 close to home. But there's one thing that's a problem in  
15 our country, and that's simply this: Economics are a clumsy  
16 measure of happiness and progress, and that's what we're all  
17 trying to do in our lives.

18 There's this thing called externalities. That's  
19 what every community member has spoken about tonight.  
20 Externalities are those costs paid by society at large.  
21 Externalities aren't on the balance sheet, and so our  
22 economic models don't properly measure them. It takes forums  
23 like this one here tonight to try to convey the weight of  
24 what this means to us. Sure, people have discussed that  
25 this may adversely impact future growth and tax revenues

1 resulting from that growth, and those can be measured. You  
2 can kind of measure those against the proposed economic  
3 benefits of shareholders.

4           And a note about shareholders: There's a  
5 difference between shareholders and stakeholders;  
6 shareholders are those who, especially in a corporate  
7 capitalist model are those who benefit from increased  
8 profits. Those are very few, and especially when it comes  
9 to institutional investors, they really don't care how it  
10 impacts a local community, just so long as the expenses  
11 don't outweigh the income on the balance sheet, and so that  
12 quarter to quarter their stock rises or they just sell out  
13 and run and they divest their responsibility and move on to  
14 the next thing.

15           And then there's the stakeholders, that's the  
16 community here. These are the people that are affected by  
17 this every day in their livelihoods, both personally and  
18 economically, so there is some tie-in there, but I really  
19 want to impress upon those involved in this decision that  
20 there is a lot here that can't be summed up with numbers and  
21 charts and graphs. Thank you.

22           (Applause)

23           MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

24           MR. BROWN: Eliza Wright?

25           (No response.)

1 Richard Williams.

2 MR. WILLIAMS: I'm Richard Williams, I've been a  
3 resident of Jersey City for maybe ten years. I really want  
4 to thank you for organizing this and giving us all an  
5 opportunity to discuss it and hear the voices. So thank  
6 you very much FERC, and Spectra and everybody else here.

7 I started as an engineer, I very much respect the  
8 safety issues that some of the gentlemen brought out here.  
9 When I was studying, we came up with very complicated  
10 formulas which predicted, for Naval architecture purposes,  
11 the 100 year wave. Ninth order polynomials they were,  
12 Fourier series, all sort of stuff like that. I'm a bit  
13 cloudy about them now, but what I do know is those waves  
14 were happening every three months in the North Sea, so  
15 they're not really 100 year waves.

16 I've been here ten years, I have two children  
17 here who are growing up in Jersey City. I was on the last  
18 PATH train that went into the World Trade Center. Two years  
19 later, they dug it out.

20 I grew up in London in the Seventies and Eighties  
21 -- you can tell that from my voice; I'm English, by the way  
22 -- not British, because that's associated with British  
23 Petroleum -- English now.

24 (Applause)

25 And during the Seventies and Eighties, the IRA

1 were bombing and bombing London. Okay, and you live with  
2 it, you deal with it. I came to America, 9/11. A week  
3 after 9/11 my son was born, still with the clouds and the  
4 smoke billowing down over Jersey City, because we were  
5 downwind at the time.

6 A year later, from my office block on the 50th  
7 floor in downtown Manhattan, Fire Island, there were the  
8 flames and smoke coming out from an aeroplane that crashed,  
9 100-200 people died. A year after that, 2003, 50 million  
10 people on the Eastern Seaboard of America were completely  
11 blacked out for about a week or two.

12 A year later, Staten Island ferry, a dozen people  
13 died, just like that. A year later, again from my office  
14 window on the 50th floor in downtown Manhattan, huge great  
15 big black smoke from Staten Island, Bayonne, barge explosion  
16 of fuel. And so on and so forth.

17 What I'm trying to get to is black swarms happen.  
18 I'm currently -- my hobby at the moment is building a green  
19 map for Jersey City. I don't know if any of you know,  
20 greenmap.com is a charity and I've realized that Jersey City  
21 has an awful lot going on here; it's fabulous. There's a  
22 lot of different groups, different residential groups,  
23 associations all working to preserve history, to turn the  
24 green spaces, the abandoned railways into green corridors  
25 for the whole of Jersey City to benefit from. It's a slow

1 process, but it's going to happen.

2 I'm a building a green map to plot all of this  
3 together, and I was thinking the other day, two days ago in  
4 my office, "Should I plot this pipeline through Jersey  
5 City?" And I didn't. using Google and what have you, a  
6 little bit fiddly, I didn't put it on there just now; I will  
7 think about it tomorrow, maybe I will put it there, because  
8 people need to see the impact, because it cuts across an  
9 awful lot of the hidden assets that Jersey City has. The  
10 urban arches, the embankment, those old, disused railway  
11 lines, which some of these projects are going to use.

12 I just want to say that coming to America,  
13 fabulous, I love it. Regardless of all the black swarms  
14 that are happening here. Jersey City, I made the decision  
15 to come here because it's a great place. There is so much,  
16 so much vibrancy going on here, the residents here, are  
17 very, very motivated to improve the place.

18 There's a huge history of Jersey City being  
19 completely abused. The more I study it, the politics and  
20 the industry, it's the poster child for the post-industrial  
21 malaise, and we're rejuvenating it. Don't let this project  
22 get in the way of rejuvenating Jersey City. Thank you.

23 (Applause)

24 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

25 MR. BROWN: William Huang.

1                   MR. HUANG: Good evening. My name is William  
2 Huang, I am an attorney with Spiegel & McDiarmid,  
3 representing Newport Associates Development Company, which  
4 is the owner and developer of the Newport Project, a large,  
5 mixed-use development located in Jersey City.

6                   Many of the Jersey City areas near the pipeline's  
7 contemplated route are already intensely developed, or the  
8 subject of detailed and approved plans for intensive  
9 development, inserting an unbuildable corridor into the  
10 heart of this dense, urban area, will have significant  
11 impacts on local land use patterns, the environment, and the  
12 local economy.

13                   FERC has an obligation to provide a careful and  
14 complete assessment of these localized impacts before  
15 reaching any decision with respect to the gas pipeline.  
16 Whereas here the Commission proposes to site part of the  
17 pipeline in or near densely developed urban areas such as  
18 Newport and other parts of Jersey City, broad input/output  
19 models, population projections, and generalized statements  
20 of the project's potential impacts on nearby development are  
21 inadequate to satisfy the Commission's NEPA obligations.

22                   Instead, based on Newport's own experience with  
23 the preparation of the environmental impact statement for  
24 the Newport development, the Commission's NEPA analysis for  
25 the proposed pipeline must examine and quantify the whole

1 range of environmental and socioeconomic impacts to Newport  
2 and Jersey City development, residents and tenants.

3 The NEPA document must particularly focus on the  
4 indirect and cumulative impacts of the pipeline on this  
5 complex, interrelated urban environment. This will be a  
6 special challenge in this case, because of a densely  
7 populated and varied land uses in the affected area. The  
8 impacts of the proposed pipeline will vary dramatically,  
9 depending on the particular municipalities and parcels of  
10 land that will be directly affected by the final pipeline  
11 route. Relatively small physical changes in the pipeline's  
12 route could have very different and very significant  
13 negative impacts on the whole development patterns and the  
14 economic base of Jersey City and the region. Any decision  
15 to route the proposed pipeline through Newport, for example,  
16 would disrupt long-planned, mixed use, transit-oriented  
17 development that is reclaiming Jersey City's abandoned  
18 industrial waterfront, and is a key economic driver for  
19 Jersey City and the State.

20 The Commission's EIS must therefore be based on a  
21 clear, specific proposal for the alignment of the proposed  
22 pipeline that identifies the particular parcels, existing  
23 and planned development, and existing and planned  
24 infrastructure that will be affected by the pipeline. This  
25 detailed information has not yet been provided by Spectra

1 for the record of this proceeding. Scoping comments should  
2 be received and considered by the Commission after the  
3 notice date, the closing of the scoping period, and after  
4 Spectra supplies the detailed information about the route  
5 and other facilities so that the public has ample  
6 opportunity to review and comment on these important  
7 matters.

8 Thank you.

9 (Applause)

10 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

11 MR. BROWN: William Wissemann.

12 MR. WISSEMANN: Good evening. My name is William  
13 Wissemann, I'm the Project Engineer of the Newport  
14 Development here in Jersey City. As Newport's engineer, I  
15 know that building anything significant involves a series of  
16 judgment calls about how much to spend, ensuring margins of  
17 safety. I will let others speak to whether a pipeline  
18 should be allowed anywhere in Jersey City, but if one is  
19 built it must be constructed, maintained and operated  
20 safely.

21 To achieve the optimum safety, the pipeline must  
22 be built and maintained and operated to the highest Class 4  
23 standards in accordance with federal pipeline safety  
24 standard regulations, which Spectra has stated earlier it  
25 will do.

1           In addition, maximum cathodic protection must be  
2 provided to prevent corrosion of the pipe due to the  
3 characteristics or the poor characteristics of the soil  
4 throughout Jersey City.

5           Automatic shutoff valves must be provided at  
6 close intervals and required by the DOT regulations.

7           Pipeline construction must be inspected and  
8 certified by independent professional engineers. You know,  
9 in Jersey City, a professional engineer has to certify the  
10 connection of a house sewer to the mainline sewer in the  
11 street. Allowing a pipeline company representative who is  
12 not even an executive of the company to self-certify  
13 construction of a 20-mile pipeline, high pressure  
14 transmission gas, without professional engineering and  
15 professional engineer sign-off is counterintuitive and seems  
16 to be at odds with safety, and certainly is with  
17 accountability.

18           Moreover, the public must be shown from the onset  
19 that the pipeline will be constructed and operated safely.  
20 The integrity management and safety plans that are required  
21 by the federal regulations to be prepared for this project  
22 must be fully vetted in the public. The general public, the  
23 City agencies, must also obtain copies of the annual reports  
24 and the safety reports provided to be submitted in  
25 accordance with the federal regulations, and these must be

1 made public as well. Thank you.

2 (Applause)

3 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

4 MR. BROWN: Marsilia Boyle.

5 MS. BOYLE: Good evening. My name is Marsi  
6 Boyle, I'm Senior Vice President for Development of the  
7 LeFrak Organization, one of the developers of Newport, and  
8 I'm speaking on behalf of the developer, Newport Associates  
9 Development Company. We've already submitted a great deal  
10 of information into the docket on this, which I know you've  
11 already seen, and we will be submitting extensive written  
12 comments at a later date. But I wanted to make a few  
13 remarks here tonight.

14 First of all, we appreciate and we stand with  
15 Mayor Healy and all the members of the Jersey City community  
16 in opposing this pipeline coming through Jersey City. It  
17 doesn't belong here, this is a dense urban area, it's an  
18 area of great redevelopment and economic activity, and it  
19 does not belong here and we don't want to see it here.

20 (Applause)

21 Now speaking just specifically about Newport's  
22 particular problem with this is that Spectra has been  
23 exploring the possibility of placing a portion of this  
24 pipeline through our northeast quadrant, and they've advised  
25 us on several occasions that they're considering other

1 locations in lieu of the northeast quadrant. We're seeking  
2 a definitive assurance from Spectra, at least with respect  
3 to this portion of the pipeline, and from FERC, that they've  
4 abandoned this ill-conceived idea and will not consider it  
5 any further coming through Newport's northeast quadrant, and  
6 we want this done now so that as we go through the scoping  
7 process we can be positioned in a way so that this cannot  
8 be backtracked later on by Spectra or by FERC.

9 As you've learned by now about the Newport  
10 project, it's a major redevelopment project that represents  
11 an investment over the last 25 years of \$3 billion in  
12 private capital. We've built 4700 apartments, a 1.2 million  
13 square foot mall, 5 million square feet of office space, 600  
14 hotel rooms, and the longest segment of the Hudson River  
15 Waterfront Walkway, 1.2 miles, and numerous amenities.

16 We've transformed a once-degraded waterfront into  
17 an internationally-acclaimed example of urban rejuvenation  
18 and environmental cleanup. You've heard from a lot of the  
19 people who have invested their businesses and put their  
20 homes in Newport, and they put a real face on some of those  
21 issues. 20,000 people work at Newport, 12,000 people live  
22 there. We generate one percent of New Jersey's gross state  
23 product and 20 percent of Jersey City's municipal taxes, and  
24 we're not even finished. There's another 2200 apartments  
25 and 12 mid and high rise residential buildings to be built

1 in the northeast quadrant.

2 And I want to just digress from my written  
3 remarks for a moment. Many of you received this brochure in  
4 the mail; it was a bulk mailing by Spectra earlier this  
5 week. And I think it misrepresents or certainly misleads in  
6 many ways what benefits, quote-unquote, there would be from  
7 this project.

8 They quote some statistics from a report done by  
9 the Edward J. Bloustein School of Public Policy of Rutgers.  
10 Well, as it happens, Newport has its very own Bloustein  
11 report, which was done in 2006, which talks about the  
12 economic impacts of Newport to date and the future impacts.  
13 So we're talking apples to apples, because it's the same  
14 people that wrote this.

15 This brochure says that the pipeline construction  
16 will create 2,277 job-years. Well, this report says that  
17 the construction of the northeast quadrant over the next 15  
18 years will produce 18,000 construction jobs and 5,000  
19 permanent jobs.

20 (Applause)

21 The brochure also states that the pipeline will  
22 increase Jersey City's gross domestic product by  
23 \$198 million in the first six year. This Bloustein report  
24 says that Newport's 23,000 aforementioned temporary and  
25 permanent jobs will generate \$1.4 billion of income and \$2.1

1 billion of gross state product over the next 15 years. And  
2 that's because Newport and the other developments like it  
3 that are represented by it, and the small businesses  
4 throughout Jersey City represent real economic development  
5 for Jersey City and real jobs and lasting value that go to  
6 the residents of Jersey City and are returned back to the  
7 community.

8 The pipeline's claimed benefits for New Jersey  
9 are a drop in the bucket, as it passes through to New York  
10 City, where the reduction in utility bills referred to here  
11 will occur. They won't occur here because this is not where  
12 the gas is going. In fact, the pipeline can do real damage  
13 to future economic development in Jersey City and I will  
14 tell you it's already doing damage.

15 We are in the marketplace every day. We don't  
16 get to sit and wait back until this project is decided.  
17 We're out there talking to office tenants. There is a 14  
18 percent vacancy rate in Jersey City's office market right  
19 now, and all of us who own these office buildings are out  
20 there trying to attract tenants. We work daily with the  
21 City, with people like Dan Frohwirth and Bob Cotter and  
22 Mayor Healy's staff, to talk to people as to why they should  
23 bring their businesses into Jersey City. And now we have  
24 this 'Spectraa' of a pipeline to explain to everybody,  
25 because now it's all over the press. Now they're all

1 worried and excited about this.

2           So what we had before, which was a critical  
3 advantage for Jersey City, is we had new infrastructure,  
4 built in the last 25 years, that was reliable. We had a  
5 transportation infrastructure that had been reinvested in by  
6 the state and the federal government in the form of a light  
7 rail which made this the most efficient transportation  
8 system in the region; and now all that has got as big  
9 question mark on it.

10           In addition to that, people who have invested in  
11 their homes here invested with the idea that there would be  
12 growth in the equity of their homes, the famous American  
13 dream of owning a home. Now they all have to wonder whether  
14 or not that is going to be threatened by the prospect of  
15 something that represents a risk that will reduce their  
16 property values now and in the future.

17           So in closing, I just want to say that we're  
18 talking about a real experience of 25 years of developing in  
19 this city. We've seen it grow from the derelict waterfront  
20 that it was when we arrived here; we've seen this Jersey  
21 City community come together, both in its older  
22 neighborhoods, in its newer neighborhoods to form a real  
23 community that's a real wonderful place to be, it's a  
24 wonderful place to do business. And this pipeline does not  
25 belong here and it should not be allowed to go forward.

1                   And furthermore, this whole process, which I  
2 understand is -- you're following what you're supposed to do  
3 by law, but you also have discretion. And this type of  
4 presentation of the route, which is do indeterminate -- all  
5 these questions that are on the table that are indeterminate  
6 are a real problem right now, and this process ought to be  
7 stopped right now, they ought to be sent back to the drawing  
8 board to really and truly examine alternate routes instead  
9 of the alternate route that's in their resource report,  
10 which is up Washington Boulevard -- that's the route they  
11 rejected.

12                   So I think they ought to think about going up the  
13 Hudson River before you move this process any further.  
14 Thank you.

15                   (Applause)

16                   MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

17                   We're scheduled to be out of the building by 10  
18 o'clock, so we don't have much time left. So if you could  
19 limit your comments to two minutes or less -- I apologize  
20 for that, but we want to get to everyone who is on the list.  
21 So if you could limit your comments, and feel free to fill  
22 out a comment form located at the table in the back if you  
23 need to have additional comments beyond that. We'd  
24 appreciate it. Thank you.

25                   MR. BROWN: Sanaa Awargiens.

1 (No response.)

2 Gy Mirano.

3 (No response.)

4 Maria Smith.

5 MS. SMITH: Hello, good evening. My name is  
6 Maris Smith, I'm the owner of Wild @ Play Childrens Activity  
7 Center based in Newport. I'm also a resident in the Paulus  
8 Hook area of Jersey City.

9 When I came to Newport, I was attracted to come  
10 here because Newport planned to ultimately accommodate 900  
11 residential units. I have actually been in Newport for one  
12 year, and I saw with my own eyes a pile of rubble to a  
13 community being developed and built with many, many families  
14 and many residential units, which I thought was absolutely  
15 wonderful.

16 The growth potential of my business will be  
17 absolutely damaged if the buildout doesn't happen, and my  
18 investment in this facility will be lost if the pipeline is  
19 actually built in Newport. I am a mother of three young  
20 children, under the age of six, and I have invested my whole  
21 life and my passion, my dream in building something for the  
22 community.

23 I beg you, for this reason, to choose another  
24 route for the pipeline in a manner that will not destroy my  
25 business or the community that I strongly believe in and

1 live in. I thank you and good night to you.

2 (Applause)

3 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

4 MR. BROWN: Robert Garrison.

5 MR. GARRISON: Good evening, my name is Robert  
6 Garrison. I'm here tonight representing Raymond Pacchino,  
7 who is Chairman of the New Jersey Laborers/Employers  
8 Cooperation Education Trust.

9 New Jersey LECET is a labor-management fund  
10 representing over 25,000 laborers, including 1000 members  
11 here in the City of Jersey City and their signatory  
12 contractor such as Henkels, one of the reps spoke earlier  
13 today.

14 A project like this one will put our members,  
15 along with residents of Jersey City to work. Hundreds of  
16 good-paying jobs will be created once construction of the  
17 pipeline begins, and tens of thousands more jobs will  
18 eventually be created as a result of a robust economy,  
19 fueled by the clean energy critical to the City and region's  
20 economic development.

21 To get to the point of the representative for Mr.  
22 Henkels earlier, safety is our concern. The simple truth  
23 is, those of us tasked with building pipelines will build no  
24 pipeline that is not safe. Technology has improved in the  
25 manufacturing of high strength and carbon steel pipe that is

1 used to transport natural gas. We understand and we hear  
2 the concerns of some of those representatives and residents  
3 here tonight, but I do hope that you can join us as we work  
4 to construct a safe, efficient pipeline that will greatly  
5 increase the fiscal health of our State and the region.  
6 Thank you.

7 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

8 (Applause)

9 MR. BROWN: Natish Pandey.

10 MR. PANDEY: Good evening. My name is Natish  
11 Pandey, I live in downtown Jersey City. And I just wanted  
12 to spend two minutes, literally, on this concept of risk.  
13 I'm a risk management professional, I do it for a living.  
14 And with the greatest of respect to the Commission and  
15 Spectra, I'm actually surprised that this proposal is even  
16 being given serious consideration.

17 (Applause)

18 I think we need to be very clear here, because  
19 there's a perception that somehow risk can be eliminated.  
20 The reason I have a job is because I can only mitigate risk,  
21 I can only manage risk. And I would urge the Commission to  
22 consider very carefully where this country is right now. We  
23 are in the midst of the deepest financial crisis, why?  
24 Because risk management got it wrong; that is why. There's  
25 plenty of blame to go around. We had companies on Wall

1 Street, we had consumers that didn't appreciate the  
2 individual risks, we had a whole systemic risk, and it is  
3 very hard for me to accept that somehow this proposal can  
4 actually be considered seriously as a risk management  
5 proposal, because it makes absolutely no sense to me.

6 The other aspect, which I do find very  
7 interesting is that we have a multinational company in the  
8 Gulf right now that promised similar things to the gentlemen  
9 from Spectra here, and that didn't get us very far.

10 So therefore, I would urge the Commission to  
11 think about where this country is right now, filter that  
12 down to the communities, because the community here is doing  
13 it tough. We want to stay employed in our jobs, we want our  
14 equity in our homes to be maintained, and the last thing we  
15 need in this environment is another fight with a big  
16 corporation.

17 So therefore the community is a little bit tired,  
18 and as I started with my remarks, I'm just surprised that  
19 this proposal is being given serious consideration. Thank  
20 you.

21 (Applause)

22 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

23 MR. BROWN: Anthony Rivera.

24 (No response.)

25 Dan Kowalski.

1 (No response.)

2 Frances Thompson.

3 (Applause)

4 DR. THOMPSON: I'm Dr. Frances Thompson, I was  
5 your first Afro-American female ever elected in Jersey City,  
6 and that was 25 years ago when there was no Newport, there  
7 was no Westin, there was none of that on the waterfront.  
8 And thank God that you're there, because it took you to come  
9 down here to make a big statement, and I'm very proud of  
10 you.

11 (Applause)

12 Of course, Spectra, I want you to understand that  
13 we've had some heavy hitters here; we've had business owners  
14 in Newport, we had the LeFrak family, we had the Simon  
15 family, we had Westin Hotel here, the Jersey City Housing  
16 Authority, the Jersey City Redevelopment Agency, the Jersey  
17 City EDC, the Jersey City Planning Department. That's just  
18 to name a few of the heavy hitters in Jersey City.

19 I am 68 years old, have been here all my life,  
20 third generation. I knew it when it started, I knew it when  
21 it was small, I knew it when it grew, I know the inner city  
22 and I know the outer part of Jersey City. You did us a  
23 favor, because that divide that was with Jersey City with  
24 the inner part of Jersey City and the waterfront has now  
25 become a family, and they are married together.

1 (Applause)

2 I'm sitting over on the far side talking to a  
3 painter from Jersey City, and he said to me "Frances, it's a  
4 done deal." I deem to tell you that's a damn lie. You have  
5 come to a city that fights. You think New York fights?  
6 Jersey City has always been a fighter, but with our new  
7 family that we have acquired on the waterfront, you have  
8 seen intelligent, aggressive fighting that you have never  
9 seen before. Because they can produce for you on paper  
10 maybe that that could not be produced 20 years ago can be  
11 produced now.

12 So I'm telling you that it is not a done deal, it  
13 will not be a done deal, because Jersey City will make sure  
14 that it does not happen.

15 (Applause)

16 We don't want the pipeline. I am a Jersey City  
17 Board Member, we have already said we don't want a pipeline.  
18 We are not waiting for Christie, we are not waiting for the  
19 State Senate to do what they have to do. You put Obama in  
20 to office, you people come from down there, it's about time  
21 we go where we need to go, to the head to stop the tail.

22 (Applause)

23 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

24 MR. BROWN: Leon Greene.

25 MR. GREENE: Hi. My name is Leon Greene and I'm

1 a Jersey City homeowner and business owner and parent. My  
2 house is about 800 feet from where the proposed pipeline is  
3 going to go, based on the current plan. What I've put  
4 together here tonight listening, from Dale's presentation  
5 earlier, that puts my sleeping children within the  
6 incineration radius, which is obviously a serious concern to  
7 me.

8 I had a funny thing happen. I walked into this  
9 meeting knowing that obviously I didn't want the pipeline to  
10 go in; I mean, nobody obviously walks into a meeting like  
11 this thinking that their house is going to be within the  
12 blast radius of a pipeline, and wants to support it because  
13 it's going to bring jobs. It's an irrelevant issue, it's  
14 just patently offensive to even bring that into the  
15 conversation --

16 (Applause)

17 -- when you're talking about people's lives and  
18 their ability to protect their children.

19 I was standing in the hall and I was listening to  
20 who I assume is a Spectra representative explaining to  
21 people how safe the pipelines were because of all of the  
22 mechanisms that were put in place to ensure the safety and  
23 process and maintenance and little robots and pressure  
24 gauges and cutoff valves -- kind of reminded me of my  
25 children standing on top of an eight foot wall, walking

1 down, telling me about how they're going to be really,  
2 really careful. And because they're going to be careful,  
3 there's no risk. You don't have to worry about the fact  
4 that I'm standing next to a four foot spiked precipice, and  
5 I'm going to fall off onto and kill myself. Every time that  
6 my children have gone in for stitches -- and each of them  
7 have been in for stitches now -- it's because they were  
8 doing something that was inherently risky, and they didn't  
9 have the judgment or the good sense to not do it. That's  
10 something that we try and teach our children as we're  
11 raising them.

12 With my five year old son, I can excuse the fact  
13 that he was standing on the coffee table and practicing his  
14 crane kicks, and go figure, fell off and cracked open his  
15 head. When you're talking about a multibillion dollar  
16 corporation who is in fact making these risk judgments about  
17 somebody else's lives, about somebody else's children and  
18 suggesting that because they put in place all of these  
19 things to make the pipeline safer, that it makes it okay  
20 that they've put it next to your children.

21 It's so patently offensive, I was sitting there  
22 thinking -- it came to my head, I'm like "Well, so you move  
23 into an apartment, it's a little small, you bring in an  
24 interior decorator, and they tell you that the best thing  
25 you could possibly do to squeeze all of this in is to put

1       your foldaway crib on top of your stove." It's the safest  
2       thing in the house, there's all sorts of mechanisms, it's  
3       federally regulated, they've got safety shut-offs on the  
4       gas, there's an ignition switch that can't possibly go off  
5       because it's got a child lock on it and a digital code has  
6       to be punched in, is it's perfectly safe. Just put your  
7       crib on top of the stove, it's going to save you like ten  
8       square feet in your apartment, and it's going to make it  
9       cheaper because you no longer need legs to go underneath  
10      that crib.

11                   That's basically what we're being told here.  
12      We're being told, you know, 'we need GSA somewhere.'  
13      Doesn't matter, not here to argue for or against gas, that's  
14      a much broader conversation than what we're talking about  
15      here. What we're talking about is somebody coming in and  
16      saying, "Because it's inconvenient and/or more expensive for  
17      us, we're going to put your lives at risk. We're going to  
18      run this pipeline down through some major environmental  
19      cleanup sites packed with chromium, many of which have not  
20      been mitigated at all, some of which are in runoff from  
21      other chromium sites." You're going to run it down right  
22      through Garfield Avenue where an explosion is going to send  
23      chromium into the atmosphere. It's going to hit people  
24      miles around. Then you're going to wrap it around and put  
25      it next to the Holland Tunnel.

1                   Now again, somebody has to be parents to the  
2 people that came up with this plan.

3                   (Laughter)

4                   And at some point in their arc of development,  
5 there had to be some common sense introduced that says you  
6 don't put things that blow up in high population areas. You  
7 run them separate --

8                   (Applause)

9                   -- you run them around through the water, you run  
10 them up through the suburbs where maybe you can get yourself  
11 an easement that's more than the 1000 foot blast radius.  
12 You know, it just doesn't make sense.

13                   So homeowner, parent, business owner, teach my  
14 kids common sense, hope that somebody has taught similar  
15 lessons to all of you, and I appreciate that you're  
16 listening to us. So vehemently against the pipeline. Thank  
17 you.

18                   (Applause)

19                   MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

20                   MR. BROWN: Jeanne Rotondo.

21                   (No response.)

22                   Mazy Mills.

23                   (No response.)

24                   Henry Faulkner.

25                   (No response.)

1 William Simpson and Yvonne Hatchet.

2 (No response.)

3 John Rusch.

4 (No response.)

5 Kirsten Greene.

6 MS. GREENE: I'm just wondering how many people  
7 need to comment for FERC to accept that this is a bad idea.  
8 Is there a magic number that's going to influence everybody?  
9 Is it 200 people, is it 500, is it 1000?

10 (Applause)

11 Because, you know, give us some sense so that  
12 we're not spinning our wheels. How insignificant are the  
13 lives of our children at PS3, PS5, Ferris High School,  
14 Garden Preschool, Hamilton Park Montessori, the numerous  
15 daycare centers and early childhood centers.

16 Are you going to come in and train our fire  
17 departments and police on how to deal with the toxins that  
18 would be released from an explosion? Who would pay for all  
19 the material damage, and how could you ever justify the loss  
20 of life?

21 Now if you go to a Spectra meeting, you'll be  
22 taken around by a representative, which keeps you from  
23 hearing other questions. You'll be fed lovely morsels of  
24 food, and you'll go home with a goody bag -- I got a lovely  
25 spatula.

1           And Spectra tells us that they'll be a good  
2 neighbor to us. However, I worked on the documentary,  
3 GasLand. I listened to hours of tapes from Congress, hours  
4 of New York City hearings, hours from Sullivan County and  
5 hours from the families across the United States dealing  
6 with this. Not just the two hour cut you got to see on HBO,  
7 the hours of raw footage.

8           These towns have been devastated by these  
9 companies. Toxins pollute their air, compression and  
10 metering stations are eyesores, workers brought in by the  
11 companies are disrespectful to properties they're working  
12 on, and cities have to pay heaps for attorneys. Why?  
13 First, because the companies don't do what they say they'll  
14 do. And then ten years later come the health problems, and  
15 cities have to pay to get their own air studies done.

16           Will Spectra pay for an air quality study to be  
17 done in Jersey City before the pipeline goes in, so that we  
18 have some sort of knowledge as to what's happened to our air  
19 five years down the road?

20           How much damage needs to be done to our air  
21 before an inspector will stop them? And how many inspectors  
22 do you have? With funds being cut, there aren't enough  
23 inspectors to keep us safe.

24           So let's go beyond the risks to Jersey City. How  
25 is the gas collected? If you say yes to this pipeline,

1       you're saying yes to all of the streams and rivers that have  
2       been contaminated along the way. You're saying it's okay  
3       that hundreds upon hundreds of people are living on bottled  
4       water, because their underground drinking water is  
5       contaminated. You're saying yes to all of the wells that  
6       have blown up and all of the health problems in the shale  
7       basins around the United States people are living with:  
8       Loss of smell, lesions on their brains, livestock that can't  
9       bear children anymore.

10                    Jersey City doesn't want this pipeline. You've  
11       heard it all night long. Do we want the pipeline?

12                    (Audience: No.)

13                    No.

14                    (Voice: Yeah.)

15                    Thank you.

16                    MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

17                    (Applause)

18                    MR. BROWN: Phyllis Erlich Greene.

19                    Ms. GREENE: I'm Phyllis Erlich Greene and I live  
20       at Port Liberte. Which I thought was very interesting about  
21       the evacuation of Port Lib, it made me a little nervous. But  
22       above and beyond that, I've been living there since the late  
23       1980s, and I've seen tremendous growth. With Liberty State  
24       Park, with the wetlands within Bayonne and Jersey City, the  
25       athletic fields. What has been done is absolutely

1       fantastic, and people from Jersey City and Bayonne walk  
2       around the areas, along the river lines and stuff, and it's  
3       become safe, a place to be, and clean.

4               Why would we want to make this a disastrous area?

5       Why would we even want to have the potential of having a  
6       disastrous situation? It just doesn't make sense. For the  
7       Hudson River, all of a sudden that's become extraordinarily  
8       clean. Why would we even want to devastate that? The whole  
9       thing just doesn't make sense. Please do not do this, and  
10      please consider other things that people have mentioned;  
11      wind, steam, water -- there are other alternatives. Please  
12      open up your minds. Thank you. /ap

13              MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

14              MR. BROWN: Christie Freeman.

15              MS. FREEMAN: Hi, my name is Christie Freeman.  
16      I'm a resident of Jersey City, homeowner, small business  
17      owner, and parent of two small children, ages six and three.  
18              I live pretty close, about eight blocks away from  
19      where the proposed pipeline is going to go, and I'm strongly  
20      against it. I feel like I finally found a place where I  
21      belong. I remember when I first moved here, I didn't know  
22      anybody, I was really sad. Then I opened up a business and  
23      I'm surrounded by these amazing people. Every day I hear  
24      their stories and it just amazes me how great this community  
25      is. This pipeline will devastate this community, where

1 finally we're connected, as you've heard so many times  
2 tonight.

3 I don't want to have to move; I will. I will not  
4 live here, and I know that I'm not alone when I say that.  
5 We do not want this pipeline here, we don't want to live  
6 next to it; it's bad, it's dangerous, it's going to bring  
7 down the property value of our homes, our community and our  
8 businesses. Please, I beg you, don't do this. Thank you.

9 (Applause)

10 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

11 MR. BROWN: David Clarke.

12 MR. CLARKE: Hi, I'm a resident, business owner,  
13 and father of two, as many of the recent people have also  
14 been. I only want to make a couple points. There are so  
15 many things to say and everybody has said so many of them  
16 already, I just want to make a couple points.

17 One, being that I will be faced with the same  
18 decision of having to possibly leave Jersey City, most  
19 likely leaving Jersey City if the pipeline goes in; and I've  
20 been here for eleven years, and I enjoy it very much in  
21 Jersey City. I've put a lot of my life into it, but I just  
22 don't think that it would be being a good parent to raise my  
23 kids here. There's too many environmental impact issues at  
24 stake, and to say that there's even a safety priority is all  
25 you need to hear, and that is because there are safety

1 issues. That is why safety is a priority, because there are  
2 safety issues.

3 (Applause)

4 And if there is any safety issue, there's no  
5 reason for it to happen. Because if you do the risk  
6 analysis or if you do the cost-benefit analysis, it's just  
7 so heavily against this happening, it's absurd.

8 Another comment I want to make is, not to be  
9 dramatic but I would like to make it: You know, a couple  
10 have alluded to the terrorist issue and the fact that this  
11 is a threat. It's a very tempting threat for any terrorist,  
12 and as somebody that was at Ground Zero on 9/11, this is  
13 another reason I would pull my family out of here.

14 And the last point I want to make is that I've  
15 been in many, many large corporate environments, and there  
16 exists in those environments a very strong, intense, one-  
17 directional group think. It's very difficult to turn that  
18 boat around. Everybody is going for the same goal, and I've  
19 been in those organizations, I know how it works; you can't  
20 be the person saying "I don't like this idea, it doesn't  
21 work." It just doesn't happen in large organizations with  
22 such a strong group think."

23 But that's what has to happen here. Whether it's  
24 the Commission or your firm you have to recognize what  
25 everybody is saying here and you have to stand up and be the

1 people or the person; you might just be by yourself, that  
2 says: The message was clear, what are we going to get by  
3 this, some money? It's not worth it. The people in Jersey  
4 City don't want it, there's been too many risks identified,  
5 it shouldn't happen. Thank you.

6 (Applause)

7 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

8 MR. BROWN: Caitlyn Cave.

9 Ms. CADE: Hi, my name is Caitlyn Cave. I'm a  
10 resident of Jersey City, I work in Jersey City, I want to  
11 set up roots in Jersey City, have children here, I want to  
12 keep growing with this growing community. And this is a  
13 really bad idea, so I'm extremely against it. Thank you.

14 (Applause)

15 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

16 MR. BROWN: Helen Davis.

17 (No response.)

18 Ari Kaner, I believe it is.

19 MR. KANER: Thank you. Thank you, commissioners.

20 My name is Avi Kaner, I'm the owner of Morton  
21 Williams Supermarkets. Before I begin, let me just say I  
22 just took my jacket off because it's boiling in here. The  
23 engineers who designed this auditorium and Jersey City  
24 probably overspent in golding it. We're assured that air  
25 conditioning would work, and it doesn't.

1 (Laughter) (Applause)

2 So as I said, I oppose the pipeline, specifically  
3 through Newport, through Jersey City and specifically  
4 through Newport. I'm an owner of Morton Williams  
5 Supermarkets, we've been in business for over half a  
6 century, we're based in the Bronx. And let me just say, I  
7 thought people in the Bronx were tough; these people are  
8 pretty tough.

9 (Applause)

10 We're an 100 percent family-owned chain of 12  
11 stores; we have over 750 employees, full-time union  
12 employees with benefits. Our store in Jersey City, Newport  
13 is our first foray into New Jersey, and we were actually  
14 hoping it would be a first of many that would go into New  
15 Jersey. However, and I'll focus specifically on the  
16 business aspect of my being against the pipeline.

17 Routing the pipeline specifically through the  
18 Newport section of Jersey City would destroy our business.  
19 Two years ago we opened our store. We spent \$7 million. We  
20 built a beautiful, modern, 30,000 square foot store. In the  
21 north part of, the existing buildings in Newport, there are  
22 about 5,000 units already built. We built our store in the  
23 northern part of Newport knowing, seeing the plans for the  
24 other 4,000 to be built north of where the store is. So  
25 right now our store is in the north part of it, in the

1 future we would be in the middle part of it.

2 When we are in the middle part of it, we'd have a  
3 viable supermarket. We invested in Jersey City for the  
4 future. That's what we signed up for and that's what we  
5 invested our \$7 million in building. Now what would happen  
6 if a pipeline ran through the northern part of Newport? It  
7 would create a swatch of I believe 50 feet diameter swatch,  
8 running through the northern part of Newport, preventing the  
9 LeFrak family from building the remaining 4,000 units. Our  
10 supermarket, our 30,000 square feet supermarket, would be  
11 nonviable, and would be at the risk of closing.

12 Besides the dozens of full-time jobs we have,  
13 we'd lose our \$7 million investment, and the residents of  
14 Newport, the 5,000 apartments that are there might lose  
15 their supermarket.

16 In conclusion, it's unfair to those of us who  
17 invested in the promise of the redevelopment of Newport to  
18 be faced with a dramatic turn of events. This is just two  
19 years after we spent this money. It's for these reasons  
20 that I ask you to consider routing the pipeline in a way  
21 that protects not only the quarter million residents of  
22 Jersey City but also us, the business owners, who are  
23 stakeholders as well. Thank you.

24 (Applause)

25 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

1                   MR. BROWN: Scott Goldsmith.

2                   MR. GOLDSMITH: Hi, I'm Scott Goldsmith, I live in  
3                   downtown Jersey City, one block from the proposed pipeline,  
4                   under the Turnpike Extension, which is an elevated highway  
5                   that leads into the Holland Tunnel. I'm also where the PATH  
6                   line comes out and starts going above ground, and there's  
7                   also a Conrail, I guess it's a cargo line, right behind  
8                   where I live.

9                   So I have obviously a lot of personal interest.  
10                  I also probably would move if this development came about;  
11                  you know, my wife is pregnant. Anyway, I feel like we've  
12                  gone through the Internet boom which a lot of us saw and  
13                  there was a lot of investment, and worked on in this great  
14                  excitement, and when we had the failure of it, and a lot of  
15                  it dropped and fell to the ground, there were a lot of  
16                  mistakes made. Then we had this huge real estate boom, and  
17                  it got very exciting and people made a lot of money off it,  
18                  and that tanked.

19                  And of course the financial industry went down  
20                  with it. And along with all these activities, we saw a lot  
21                  of mistakes made in the rush to make a lot of money. And  
22                  now I feel like we're in this Marcellus Shale boom; Spectra  
23                  is here because of the Marcellus Shale boom, where they're  
24                  pumping chemicals into the ground which will eventually  
25                  pollute the water, will come to this area, come to New York

1 City, and that's a mistake.

2 Then we have the pipeline issue. Because of the  
3 potential profit where all these companies are competing to  
4 build the largest pipeline, the best pipeline, the most  
5 efficient pipeline, to make more money in the rush to just  
6 take another boom, and everyone's fighting over this -- they  
7 are going to make mistakes.

8 And the federal government, I appreciate you  
9 being here, but you guys in a lot of ways, just like the  
10 SEC, you missed Madoff, the SEC missed the financial boom --  
11 and everybody just kept saying: How could Lehman Brothers  
12 do what they did? Why did they do it? It was so obvious,  
13 all the risk they were taking. And I feel like the Spectra  
14 5 here, sitting in the front row, in many ways is a preview  
15 of a future congressional panel when there's a big mistake,  
16 has a big boom in this area --

17 (Applause)

18 -- these five are going to be sitting in front of  
19 Congress and people are going to be asking for -- asking  
20 Spectra "Why did you do this? Why did you put a high  
21 pressure, high volume gas pipeline next to the PATH train,  
22 next to the Holland Tunnel, next to transit, next to an  
23 elevated highway which is a huge exit point in an emergency  
24 out of this area? Why did you do this?"

25 This doesn't make any sense. You're giving the

1 terrorists an explosive bomb on a silver platter. It makes  
2 no sense whatsoever. And they will sit there and say "Well,  
3 I don't know. I guess looking back, maybe it wasn't the  
4 right decision. Well, our executives, of course, will be  
5 disappearing by that point and won't be around to answer  
6 questions. They told me to do this, they told me to come to  
7 Jersey City and sell the City on the pipeline. They told me  
8 to write this letter to FERC, selling FERC that this is a  
9 great idea -- even though I knew that it was a terrible,  
10 terrible idea, dangerous, a temptation to terrorists --  
11 we're going to have all the plans written out for them; we  
12 just had someone trying to blow up JFK through a gas  
13 pipeline." Spectra just had pipelines blow up in Texas.

14 This makes no sense whatsoever. I hope this  
15 doesn't happen. This is a terrible, terrible idea. I hope  
16 we all take a step back and realize this is another high  
17 speed train to a disaster.

18 So thank you very much, and obviously I'm against  
19 the pipeline.

20 (Applause)

21 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

22 MR. BROWN: Peter Pares.

23 MR. PARES: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen.

24 As you can see, I haven't gone home to take a shower;  
25 straight from work to be here. I'm against this pipeline

1 100 percent. My name is Peter Pares, I am a member of Local  
2 6, Carpenter's Union.

3 I first came to work at Newport because I came  
4 from a country that didn't offer me the opportunities that  
5 the United States of America gave me. I saw such great  
6 opportunities and realized that this was going to be my life  
7 project. I knew that this was going to be a long term  
8 project, and I had every intention of working here until the  
9 last piece of land was built on. It is this, because of  
10 Newport, that I am who I am today.

11 I was very grateful to have met my wife at  
12 Newport, and also we have a beautiful daughter. Please  
13 don't take away our future by building a pipeline that will  
14 hurt the buildout of the north of Newport. Thank you.

15 (Applause)

16 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

17 MR. BROWN: Pam Andes.

18 (No response.)

19 William Franks.

20 MR. FRANKS: Sorry to be at such a late hour  
21 speaking. I have documents that I would like to submit.  
22 Who do I hand them to?

23 The first one is the NTSB report on the Edison  
24 event from 1994. Then the second one is the National  
25 Transportation Safety Board safety study, December 19, '97.

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And again, my name is William Doyle Franks. I had the pleasure of first being employed by Mr. LeFrak, and I respect greatly Mrs. Marsi Boyle. But Mr. LeFrak left New York City basically because the regulations got too confining; and I work at a magnet school in Jersey City that pulls in equal proportion from all over the city. The population sitting here in front of you tonight is from one ward, Ward E, and it happens to be Caucasian, mainly. And I work in a school system where, I work within the school system in a magnet program where there is a diverse people brought in from each ward, and their population are not represented here tonight.

I was at the meeting Dr. Frances and Mrs. Lester spoke about. There was no vote. And in fact Susan Mack, the facilities leader, she had questions about whether or not the vote should take place. So the meeting went into closed session and I don't understand how that vote happened unless it happened behind closed session, which is illegal.

The second thing I had to correct is, I'm a forward-looking person. I sit here and took notes, I did not want to gripe. But Jeremmiah Healy, the man for Mayor, who I would vote for again tomorrow, he quoted, saying that 100 percent of the utility would be going to New York City. Well, Con Edison preordered 30 percent of the capacity. The

1 reason that it's going to run through this side of Jersey is  
2 the other 70 percent capacity would be available for  
3 distribution through PSE&G and other distributors.

4 We also need to understand that we're relying on  
5 one pipeline now, and it's coming out of New Orleans. If we  
6 have another Katrina, we may not have gasoline, natural gas.  
7 I didn't get up to rebut people because I'll say it again, I  
8 have the greatest respect for Dr. Frances; I was going to  
9 give her my spot because of her condition, if you called me  
10 first.

11 Now on to my statements, I have some points here,  
12 and I only have eight points, and they should be quick and  
13 easy.

14 These engineers have built thousands of miles of  
15 interstate pipeline. They will build the pipeline to exceed  
16 the highest standards, safety standards set by the federal  
17 government. They will operate the pipeline safely and  
18 protect our communities. They have families living here,  
19 too. Why wouldn't they do the right thing?

20 The second point: The only source of air  
21 emission from the proposed meter stations are the natural  
22 gas heaters, which are similar in design and emission to  
23 home heating boilers or hot water heaters used everywhere.

24 Third point. The predicted environmental impact  
25 of the proposed meter station are less than the New Jersey

1 Department of Environmental Protection threshold for  
2 negligible risk. The regulations are clear -- and please,  
3 I'm a teacher, do your homework.

4 Point four: The pipeline project would meet  
5 Hudson County's growing need for safe, affordable, clean  
6 energy. As Jersey City plans to expand and become a major  
7 economic engine for the region, which was Mr. LeFrak's plan,  
8 its energy needs will continue to grow, taxing existing  
9 infrastructure. This project will reduce New Jersey utility  
10 bills by \$35 to \$40 million per year, and provide direct  
11 savings to homeowners. This pipeline also brings  
12 reliability to our city.

13 It will bring new jobs to New Jersey, it will  
14 bring tax benefits en route to our schools. Clean-burning  
15 natural gas is the cleanest and safest way of delivering  
16 energy resources directly to homes and businesses.  
17 Increased use of natural gas is the key element of the  
18 greenhouse reductions.

19 It is helpful also for us to stop depending on  
20 foreign supplies of natural gas. And I have further  
21 comments because of what I really think is an important  
22 issue tonight. Other people have been allowed to go off  
23 topic. I appreciate that, because I'm not used to that; my  
24 parents are both politicians, they would have held this  
25 table so tight that everybody who spoke out would have been

1 dismissed.

2 Right now tonight, or it's actually morning now  
3 in Singapore, there's a town digging itself out with 500  
4 homes demolished by the rains. No one but no one is helping  
5 them. They're begging for our help and we're sitting in an  
6 auditorium in Jersey City where the air conditioning is  
7 quite comfortable, being from Tennessee. I don't understand  
8 their objections.

9 There's a quote that I love by Einstein: "We're  
10 all entitled to our own opinions, but no one, but no one is  
11 entitled to their only facts." And the only facts I  
12 gathered this evening, as I sat here, was that these people  
13 are in dire fear of Spectra Energy. But I believe 100  
14 percent that the federal government can do the right thing.

15 I really have nothing further to add; I'd just  
16 like to thank you for your attention; and good night.

17 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

18 (Applause)

19 MR. BROWN: Sonya Arroyo.

20 (No response.)

21 Lisa Creery.

22 MS. CREERY: Hi. I'm Lisa Creery and I'm a  
23 Jersey City mom. And I come from a very, very diverse  
24 community here. It's interesting; we are Republicans, we  
25 are Democrats, we are political, some are not political,

1 some are business owners, some are stockbrokers, some are  
2 artists, some are hippies. None of us, none of us want  
3 this.

4 All of us stand together, we stand united, we are  
5 firm on this. Absolutely not, no pipeline. Absolutely not,  
6 don't do it.

7 (Applause)

8 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

9 MR. BROWN: Joe Scott.

10 MR. SCOTT: Good evening, my name is Joe Scott.  
11 I am a Jersey City resident, I'm also the President and CEO  
12 of Jersey City Medical Center, affectionately known as The  
13 Medical Center.

14 The Medical Center is a 340 bed, acute care  
15 hospital, located on a 15-acre campus. We overlook Liberty  
16 State Park and the Statue of Liberty. We're also the Port  
17 Authority heroes of 9/11, trauma center, and we're the  
18 region's only trauma center in Hudson County and in the  
19 area. We're the regional perinatal center, we treat the  
20 most critical of newborn babies. We are one of the state's  
21 largest providers of mental health inpatient and outpatient  
22 services, and the hospital operates one of the state's  
23 largest HIV/AIDS preventative and treatment clinics.

24 Jersey City Medical Center also operates several  
25 group homes, day programs, care clinics, and works closely,

1 providing assistance to Hudson Cradle, for unwanted care for  
2 foster care babies. The Medical Center was selected as the  
3 County's provider for the Safe Kids Program and recognized  
4 for making this program successful.

5 The Medical Center is also the site of the  
6 region's 911 medical dispatch center, which has  
7 responsibility for county-wide medical 911 call screening  
8 and EMS dispatch. The New Jersey State Department of Health  
9 operates the County's only medical coordination center on  
10 our campus. The MCC is a forward command and control  
11 facility utilized by emergency personnel during an epidemic  
12 or disaster occurring in the region. So you can see how  
13 important the medical center is.

14 It essentially becomes the eyes and ears of high  
15 level government officials in Trenton, and aids them in  
16 their planning and response to disasters. Our proximity to  
17 New York City, densely population, and the potential for  
18 hazards in our area make our MCC and trauma center one of  
19 the most strategic and essential parts of the emergency  
20 response network.

21 Our emergency medical service headquarters are  
22 housed three blocks away next to the Turnpike Extension.  
23 Our EMS department is responsible for County-wide paramedic  
24 services as well as ambulance services for Jersey City and  
25 Secaucus. Our EMS service responded to more than 85,000

1 calls for service each year and transports more than 50,000  
2 patients a year.

3 The Jersey City Medical Center campus also hosts  
4 the new five story medical arts building on our campus.  
5 Jersey City Medical Center and all of our employees oppose  
6 the proposed Spectra natural gas pipeline through Jersey  
7 City because of its potential negative impact on the  
8 community that we serve. The pipeline's proposed locations  
9 run dangerously close to the Medical Center and the critical  
10 services our urban community depends on.

11 Our new EMS dispatch headquarters, which houses  
12 our fleet of ambulances and homeland security response  
13 equipment is adjacent to the proposed pipeline. Hudson  
14 County is the most densely populated county in the State.  
15 Terrorism experts refer to Hudson County's target-rich  
16 environment as the most dangerous two miles in America.

17 With the addition of this pipeline, will they be  
18 referring to it as the most dangerous six and a half miles  
19 in America?

20 Any major disruption of just one of the critical  
21 services that the Medical Center provides would not only  
22 lead to a major regional health care crisis but also a  
23 public health and public safety crisis. Any major  
24 disruption of our EMS and 911 service will also contribute  
25 to a significant gap in our region's homeland security

1 response infrastructure. Simply put, if a breach to the  
2 pipeline were to occur, as it did in Edison, New Jersey on  
3 March 23, 1994, and was in close proximity to the Medical  
4 Center, the resulting impact to the regional acute health  
5 care services and the public safety would be catastrophic.  
6 Thank you for your attention.

7 (Applause)

8 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

9 MR. BROWN: Russell Lewis?

10 (No response.)

11 Jeanne Daly.

12 MS. DALY: Hello, my name is Jeanne Daly, I am a  
13 resident in downtown Jersey City. I'm not from the LeFrak  
14 organization but I appreciate everything they're doing for  
15 us. I'm not a lawyer, I'm not a business owner, I'm not a  
16 homeowner; I'm a single mom, hand-to-mouth musician who  
17 moved to Jersey City in the last wave of artists and  
18 musicians, et cetera.

19 Again, I wasn't expecting to speak, but my name  
20 was called. I just think there is just so much on the table  
21 right now, and so many ideas that have come forth; but the  
22 things that really stick out in my mind are some of the  
23 sentences about common sense.

24 The problem is, when you're dealing with a  
25 corporate structure there is no such thing as common sense.

1 We all as parents, even small business owners, et cetera,  
2 know what common sense is, how we're going to take care of  
3 our children, how are we going to get to work, et cetera,  
4 what is common sense?

5 But common sense does not exist in the business  
6 enterprise. The business enterprise is all about making  
7 money. No one cares about the people; all these things are  
8 charts, they're diagrams, they're theories, but they have  
9 nothing to do with the reality of the situation and about my  
10 life.

11 Additionally, there is no reason for this  
12 pipeline to be here. Again, as I stated before,  
13 corporations are about profits, they're not about people.  
14 Again, I will say it again: corporations are about profits,  
15 not people. I doubt any one of your officers actually live  
16 and reside in Jersey City. I would like to meet one and  
17 speak to them, and I'm really astonished that there's no one  
18 that we can speak to like a panel -- sort of like I've seen  
19 on TV in town hall meetings -- to answer questions.

20 I mean, what questions can we ask? There is  
21 nobody to answer anything. Additionally, aside from this  
22 diagram and map, it has not been outlined as to again, as  
23 citizens or residents, I don't see a lot of disclosure going  
24 on. I would like full disclosure of what exactly is going  
25 on here.

1                   I'm sorry, I know damn well why Spectra is coming  
2 through Jersey City; money. It's the cheapest way to get to  
3 where they want to go. And thus far, I have not seen any  
4 disclosure as to their back office goings on, as to how they  
5 crunch the numbers, and what you guys did to decide if  
6 Jersey City is the path that you should take.

7                   Well, guess what? I was here first. I'm sorry  
8 to sound like a stupid kid, but I was here first.

9                   (Applause)

10                  You can take your corporation and go shove it out  
11 the window.

12                  The way I feel is if you say that you want to  
13 provide gas to New York City, why is it here? What are you  
14 doing going through Jersey City? You want to go to New York  
15 City. Is that correct?

16                  See, no one answers me. They just sit and stare  
17 at you; it's very bizarre. Is that right?

18                  So again, this thing is just amazing to me. And  
19 when you look at it, the claim is -- New York City. "Well,  
20 let's see, we're starting in Staten Island -- hm, we're  
21 there already." New York City consists of five boroughs.  
22 We all know this from the New York marathon. Staten Island  
23 -- and they run across the Verrazano Bridge into Brooklyn.  
24 Then they head up to Queens, then they cross the Queensboro  
25 Bridge and go into Manhattan. Then they head up north to

1 the Bronx and they come back to Central Park.

2 This is where you belong. You belong in Staten  
3 Island; you're already there. You are in New York City.  
4 Then you need to go to Brooklyn, New York City. Then you  
5 need to go to Queens, New York City. Five boroughs, please.  
6 Manhattan, the Bronx -- you have no business here.

7 It's hard going -- he's such an intellectual.  
8 It's just hard to be like a single mom duking it out. But  
9 I'm a human being. All these graphs and figures and papers  
10 -- hypothetical -- and I'm sorry if I'm babbling on and on  
11 and on, but I have a two minute thing. But all these things  
12 about safety, you're going to do this and do that, that is a  
13 bunch of hogwash.

14 Nothing, nothing in God's name can prevent any  
15 accident. And as far as for where the pipeline is supposed  
16 to go -- who knows -- do we know? We as citizens, or does  
17 anybody know what other utilities are being run nearby? For  
18 example, I don't know where the utilities like around the  
19 Jersey City Medical Center. Do we know where the water  
20 mains are? Do we know-- well, they should have backup, you  
21 know diesels in case the electricity goes out. But if there  
22 is say for example a breach, some type of explosion, what  
23 type of collateral damage is going to affect, aside from the  
24 human lives that are going to be taken, obviously, we know  
25 that, don't we? Yes.

1                   What else is going to happen? Do we know: Okay,  
2                   let's see, this other pipeline -- God knows where they are -  
3                   - is going to be, you know, blown up as well, it's right  
4                   next to -- the blast is going to deviate and then break  
5                   something else. We have no idea. Please! Could somebody  
6                   provide any bit of information? Do you have any bit of  
7                   information? Is this just a farce?

8                   Because we all know again the corporate  
9                   mentality. They don't care about us. It's not about  
10                  people, it's about profit. I've wasted too much of your  
11                  time. Jeanne Daly.

12                  (Applause)

13                  I do not want this here. You do not belong here.  
14                  Stay in New York City, get out of our town.

15                  (Applause)

16                  MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

17                  MR. BROWN: Kim Artist.

18                  (No response.)

19                  Stacy Nussbaum.

20                  MS. NUSSBAUM: Hi there, I'm Stacy Nussbaum, I'm  
21                  a resident and homeowner in Jersey City. I'm also the  
22                  President of the Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood  
23                  Association and a former president of the DCNA, which is the  
24                  downtown coalition of neighborhood associations in Jersey  
25                  City.

1           There's really not much I can add, and other than  
2           thanking you guys for spending all the time here this  
3           evening to listen to everyone and staying here late, I would  
4           like to say that I was a witness to the explosion in Edison,  
5           and God forbid that should happen anywhere in this densely  
6           populated area.

7           Beyond that, I think all I'd like to say is that  
8           I was fairly convinced coming in that this was a bad idea,  
9           and at this stage in the game I can only think, "Could you  
10          possibly come up with a worst place to put this pipeline?"  
11          And that's it.

12                            (Applause)

13                            MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

14                            MR. BROWN: Bess Morrison.

15                            (No response.)

16                            Bob Artificio.

17                            (Applause)

18                            MR. ARTIFICIO: Good evening, everyone. I would  
19           like to thank the committee for allowing me to speak. My  
20           name is Bob Artificio, and when I say the word Jersey City,  
21           I say it's me because my family came here from immigrants in  
22           the 1800s. They formed Jersey City by working in Colgate  
23           Palmolive Company, they worked Mueller's Egg Noodles, they  
24           drove buses in Jersey City to take the citizens from one  
25           place to another. Jersey City was a wonderful place to

1 live.

2 I saw Jersey City go up, saw it go down, now  
3 Jersey City with the new administration is making it safer  
4 and making it come back up. Everybody here has been saying  
5 how bad this is going to be for Jersey City. I can go and  
6 say all kinds of stuff, but just think of what happened to  
7 the BP oil and all the problems that caused. If a  
8 devastation like that happens here, this whole area around  
9 Hudson County and further will be devastated.

10 Now I would like to say one thing, nobody has  
11 said this, but I am elected official in Jersey City, I've  
12 been elected for 31 years, and I've got a lot of projects  
13 formed and I've fought a lot of things and won a lot of  
14 things where there was over \$10 million projects that we got  
15 knocked down because it was wrong for the City.

16 Now I know this is wrong for the City and I know  
17 all these people here in Jersey City, which are my friends,  
18 know it's wrong for the City. And if for some unknown  
19 reason it does get passed, it's not going to happen because  
20 we will go to the appellate court, all the way up to the  
21 Supreme Court and fight this to make sure --

22 (Applause)

23 -- it does not happen in Jersey City. And if  
24 this was going to go on your property where you live, and  
25 they said "We're coming in, some company from Houston, Texas

1 that's nowhere near Jersey City is saying 'Look, we're  
2 going to put a pipeline right through your front lawn, we'll  
3 dig it up, put the pipeline, and we'll close the grass and  
4 make it nice again'" would you accept that? I don't think  
5 so.

6 And the other thing that's going to be a problem  
7 which nobody really addressed is, if this comes here, people  
8 are not going to be able to sell their houses; people are  
9 not going to want to move to Jersey City; there's this  
10 humongous pipeline by your school. "We can't go there,  
11 let's move to another area. We don't want to come here  
12 because of this devastation." And I know these people here  
13 do not want this, and when we get together and we sue, if  
14 this ever comes, it's going to be done and it will never  
15 happen, and Jersey City will be the way it should be, a  
16 wonderful, nice community.

17 Thank you very much.

18 (Applause)

19 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

20 MR. BROWN: Josh Cheuse.

21 (No response.)

22 I only have the initial; it's L. Washington.

23 MR. WASHINGTON: My name is Leonide Washington,  
24 and I live at the neck of the highway where Mr. Perez was  
25 talking about where we were not given or disseminated the

1 information that everybody from downtown was given. I work  
2 in the downtown area. Bayonne vetoed a pipeline route  
3 proposal through its city and won.

4 Jersey City already has an overwhelming amount of  
5 pollution and cannot afford further pollution. With the  
6 installation of a pipeline designed to serve a neighboring  
7 state, further endangerment of our populace is unacceptable.  
8 Many people are not aware that once Spectra declares itself  
9 as a utilities company, they have the ability to declare  
10 eminent domain and assume property at current market value,  
11 with or without the owner's authorization.

12 Furthermore, the adverse effect on the poor and  
13 the minority population living in the proposed area is  
14 unacceptable. There are some questions that the we need to  
15 ask ourselves. What are the possible adverse effects on our  
16 water supply, soil? Who can we hold responsible in the  
17 event of pollution? Who will monitor the pipeline to ensure  
18 the safety of the pipeline and surrounding communities, and  
19 who will monitor the monitors?

20 What is the plan in the event of a pipeline-  
21 related emergency and how will that information be  
22 disseminated to the citizens of Jersey City? Too often in  
23 the U.S. capitalism and profits supersede the welfare of our  
24 citizens. Those making the final decisions regarding the  
25 route of the pipeline should search their moral conscious

1 and reroute the pipeline.

2           The other thing I wanted to say, the man who said  
3 he was a teacher at a magnet school in Jersey City? I'm  
4 disgusted at what he said, because number one, if he'd  
5 looked at the information, a federal judge ruled that took  
6 people's property in Pennsylvania because of the fact that  
7 it would have irreparable effects on Spectra Company if they  
8 weren't able to build more pipelines and not knowing that  
9 there are, that Pennsylvania has the most pipeline in the  
10 U.S.

11           The other thing I wanted to say is that when the  
12 judge agreed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
13 that there would be no adverse effects on the landowners'  
14 community, he was wrong because of the fact that now in that  
15 community, Spectra has a lot of problems and they're not  
16 being addressed; and it's not only in Pennsylvania. It  
17 includes emergency shutdown, uncontrollable release of  
18 toxic, vile organic compounds, contaminants into the air  
19 going to nearby property; and both Spectra and the  
20 Pennsylvania Department of Environment Protection keeps  
21 repeating the same such common language, the identical  
22 language to the people. There are no statistics and there's  
23 nothing to give the people to help them know what's going on  
24 as far as the problems in those areas where Spectra has the  
25 pipeline.

1                   And if the federal government rescues Jersey City  
2 when there's a problem, like they did for -- like they  
3 rescued the BP Company, then we're in trouble.

4                   (Applause)

5                   MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

6                   MR. BROWN: I have another Leon Greene.

7                   (No response.)

8                   Herb Daughtry.

9                   (No response.)

10                  Sean Connelly.

11                  MR. CONNELLY: Good evening. My name is Sean  
12 Connelly. I live on Grand Street. I don't own a business  
13 in town, so although I think profits are a laudable thing,  
14 my concern with this project isn't to do with whether  
15 Newport or Spectra has more or less profits. I don't ever  
16 intend selling my home, so I'm not concerned about what  
17 effect this project might have on the value of my home.  
18 We've been there 100 years and I think we'll be there  
19 another 100 years.

20                  My concern is about the safety. There is not  
21 much more I can say that hasn't been said. I think Mark  
22 Twain would say "only a congressional committee could have  
23 thought of putting this through this city in the way that it  
24 has" or any other city, for that matter. And I'm sure the  
25 good gentleman from Henkels & McCoy, a very reputable firm,

1 is doing everything they can to ensure safety and will do  
2 that.

3 But guess what? Accidents happen. And the  
4 thought that you're more likely to be hit by a car as  
5 opposed to being hurt by the blowup of a gas line, I'd  
6 rather play the odds of playing Russian Roulette, because  
7 after all, there's only one bullet out of six.

8 So the fact that this is a city, any city as  
9 densely populated is such a poor spot to put this project.  
10 The risk management, I couldn't agree with him more; what  
11 are we even talking about this for? This plan should never  
12 have been put up.

13 So of course I, like anyone else in the room --  
14 again, I'm not against the corporate profits, I applaud  
15 that; I'm not against persons concerned about the value of  
16 their homes; I applaud that, too. But what I don't applaud  
17 is the risk to lives and public safety.

18 Imagine if the Gulf disaster happened here. We  
19 wouldn't be talking about dead fish, we'd be talking about  
20 dead people, and a lot of them.

21 So of course I'm against it. Thank you very  
22 much.

23 (Applause)

24 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

25 MR. BROWN: Lola Aparicio.

1 (No response.)

2 Mary Taylor?

3 (No response.)

4 Olu Howard.

5 (Applause)

6 MR. HOWARD: Hi, I'm Olu Howard. You must be  
7 from down South, because only Southern people say Olu.

8 I'm a homeowner and resident in Jersey City. I'm  
9 also the President of the Hamilton Park Neighborhood  
10 Association, and I'm the current President of the Downtown  
11 Coalition of Neighborhood Associations.

12 There really is not much that I can say that has  
13 not been said already; this pipeline, especially the portion  
14 that's proposed to go underneath the I-78 extension would go  
15 along the western edge of several of our neighborhoods,  
16 affecting thousands of our residents.

17 I can only say that this is an extremely bad  
18 idea, that we do not support this, and we advocate that this  
19 pipeline be routed elsewhere, preferably not in a downtown  
20 urban area. Thank you.

21 (Applause)

22 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

23 MR. BROWN: Pankaj Kapadia.

24 (No response.)

25 Rhonda Sumter.

1 (No response.)

2 Esther Wintner.

3 MS. WINTNER: Hi. Good evening, commissioners  
4 and Spectra Energy. Unlike what one of the gentleman said,  
5 I am not from the downtown area; I reside in another part of  
6 Jersey City, but Jersey City is my home and I feel that this  
7 affects the entire community.

8 The fact that this project has gotten to the  
9 point that it has already come to tells me that someone is  
10 not thinking or not thinking -- not thinking or looking out  
11 for our best interest. I can go on with all the reasons why  
12 this is not a good idea, to put a major gas line through  
13 such a heavily populated area, but I think this message has  
14 been drummed in very well this evening.

15 Some of my other concerns are the fact that  
16 Jersey City, who has worked very hard, we've had our own  
17 infighting here, but I think one thing that we can all agree  
18 on is that we love our city. And to now have a label as  
19 being the storage tank of energy for New York City is not a  
20 title that we want to inherit.

21 I think that we know, you know, that we've been  
22 here all night and I'm not going to go into it much longer,  
23 but I just want to send a message to the members, or the  
24 gentlemen here from Spectra Energy: I think at the end of  
25 the day, when we come here and we know because you're doing

1 the obligatory allowance of letting us come here and speak,  
2 at the end of the day Spectra Energy is going to do what  
3 Spectra Energy has to do: your bottom line is the dollar  
4 and your bottom line is to the shareholders. We all  
5 understand this game.

6 So while we're here and given the chance to  
7 express ourselves, the reality is, the way I understand it,  
8 you cannot proceed with this project unless you get the  
9 permits, the zoning permits from the City. And what we will  
10 do is we will go against that, and we will fight that every  
11 step of the way from allowing you to do what you have to do.  
12 Thank you, gentlemen.

13 (Applause)

14 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

15 MR. BROWN: Lea Freedman.

16 MS. FREEDMAN: Good evening. Thank you for  
17 giving us a chance to express our opinions. Most of my  
18 safety concerns and many of my environmental concerns have  
19 been properly addressed; I cannot express them any better.  
20 I am not a business owner; I am a consumer, though. I buy  
21 everything local in Jersey City and I try to buy everything  
22 produced in the State of New Jersey.

23 (Applause)

24 And I just wanted to mention, I came to live in  
25 Jersey City on September 2, 2001. I was at Ground Zero, I

1 volunteered at Ground Zero. I was in touch with the  
2 disaster there in ways that most people have not seen or  
3 have no awareness, and I don't want that for Jersey City.  
4 And the deaths -- no money can justify the deaths that could  
5 occur if something like this goes wrong, and nobody can  
6 assure that this is not going to go wrong.

7 I don't know if anybody, any resident in Jersey  
8 City that has tried to drive to the shore on a Saturday or  
9 Sunday -- I hike a lot, and I used to drive to those  
10 locations -- it is practical impossible, impossible to leave  
11 New York City for at least 40 minutes.

12 If something happens, we are going to get stuck  
13 in traffic; there is no way out. It's really impossible to  
14 leave the city on a weekend, much more it's going to be  
15 impossible to leave in an emergency situation where we know  
16 that the streets are going to be closed and people are going  
17 to be kept from entering the city or from leaving the city.

18 I have seen a lot of changes, lot of incidents  
19 and a lot of changes in the short time that I have been  
20 living here; ten years in comparison to most people, almost  
21 ten years. I have been happy in the City, I have been sad  
22 in the City, I have seen a plane landing in an emergency in  
23 the Hudson River, I have seen military maneuvers almost  
24 crash in, planes almost crashing into the Goldman Sachs  
25 building. I know what it is to be scared in Jersey City.

1           I don't want to go through that ever again. I  
2       have seen a lot of positive change in Jersey City. I am so  
3       happy about the waterfront, the green spaces, I am rooting  
4       for the embankment returning to a greenway, uniting Maine to  
5       Florida.

6           I was biking last weekend on the waterfront to go  
7       catch the train, to go hiking in Tuxedo, and I was thinking  
8       "maybe it's time for me to invest my money in a home in  
9       Jersey City." And when I came back on a Monday, I started  
10      comparing a list of the real estate agencies, and a few  
11      properties that I wanted to take a look at, and I found out  
12      about this pipeline a few days ago, and I can't tell you,  
13      with all certainty, I will not live in Jersey City, I will  
14      not buy in Jersey City and I don't want to even be close to  
15      your city if Spectra brings this project to Jersey City.

16           This is our community, so please, Spectra, take  
17      this Spectra project back to Texas and out of our home. You  
18      have to be either very cynical or absolutely out of touch  
19      with reality to bring something like this to our city, such  
20      a densely populated city.

21           Thank you.

22           MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

23           (Applause)

24           MR. BROWN: Lisa Bellan.

25           MS. BELLAN-BOYER: Good evening. Just for the

1 record, my last name is Lisa Bellan-Boyer with the hyphen in  
2 the middle, Bellan-Boyer.

3 So I also volunteered, after September 11th, I  
4 was a chaplain in the Interfaith Chaplaincy for the Red  
5 Cross. I saw what the World Trade Center site looked like;  
6 I prefer not to call it Ground Zero, because there are  
7 plenty of other Ground Zeros in this world, and I don't want  
8 to Jersey City to become another one.

9 I saw it in 1993 when the truck bomb went off,  
10 and I don't want to that to happen next to a pipeline, next  
11 to the place where I go to church. So there's some things  
12 to take into consideration about the people who live here,  
13 and also the fact that we are the eye of a needle between  
14 major, major transit hubs and just consider what it would be  
15 like to -- economically, to knock out any one of the tunnels  
16 for even a day, two days, a week. That would devastate the  
17 entire region.

18 Another thing is there was a Broadway musical  
19 about a kind of job category back in the 1930s called  
20 Sandhogs. Sandhogs are the tough guys that went under the  
21 river and dug tunnels for the subway and the PATH and all  
22 other kinds of things. So why can't we run a pipeline under  
23 the harbor? Let's give some sandhogs some jobs! That would  
24 be economic stimulus --

25 (Applause)

1           -- that would give some men money to take home to  
2 raise their families, and send their kids to school. I'm a  
3 college instructor, and I see what the wonderful diversity  
4 is here in Jersey City, and I don't want to see that leaking  
5 away because of industrial pollution or economic devastation  
6 or the trauma from the kind of situation like I saw at the  
7 World Trade Center site after September 11, 2001, and 1993.

8           So I thank you for your ears and your  
9 consideration, and please understand, you know, the promises  
10 that the federal government will take care of it. I  
11 appreciate federal workers, but you guys can't make  
12 promises, that you know that you can cover. They made  
13 promises to us in the 9/11 community after September 11th,  
14 and there are still people walking around with that stuff in  
15 their lungs and hurt in their blood, and lesions on their  
16 brain, and their kids are getting born with problems and  
17 all kinds of other stuff going on.

18           So you can't make promises, and we have a right  
19 to be very very skeptical about the kind of promises we're  
20 hearing.

21           All right. I want to thank you very much.

22           MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

23           (Applause)

24           MR. BROWN: Steven Fulop.

25           (Applause)

1                   MR. FULOP: Steven Fulop, 76 Essex Street,  
2                   Councilman representing Ward E on the City Council where the  
3                   pipeline is scheduled to go through.

4                   First I would just apologize that we weren't here  
5                   earlier; the first time you called our name we were at a  
6                   City Council meeting, myself and several other  
7                   representatives from the City Council have joined, maybe  
8                   about a half hour ago. And the first thing when you walk  
9                   through here, I would just say that I admire you all that  
10                  with no air conditioning for four hours to be able to sit  
11                  through this, it really is a testament to determination in  
12                  your jobs.

13                  And I would say at the same time that we  
14                  understood that there were 300 people that came here  
15                  tonight, a little bit more, and there are some that are  
16                  still here four hours afterwards with no air conditioning,  
17                  just showing their support because they actually believe  
18                  that what they're here for is the right thing for Jersey  
19                  City.

20                  I'm not here to say that I can add a lot more  
21                  than what you've already heard for four hours regarding  
22                  safety and location and concerns, and I'm sure you've  
23                  probably heard some terrific alternative plans as well.  
24                  What I can tell you is that it is difficult in Jersey City  
25                  to find any issue that all the elected officials agree upon,

1 and whether that be on the Council, the Mayor or State  
2 elected officials or federal elected officials; it is hard  
3 to find something that really is a galvanizing point that  
4 everybody really does agree on, and this is really it.

5 I can tell you that this is one issue that  
6 everybody agrees on. When I walked in here, and literally a  
7 half hour ago I saw the State Director for Senator Menendes  
8 and the State Director for Senator Lautenberg both here; and  
9 I know earlier today you had the State Senator Sandy  
10 Cunningham and you have one-third of the City Council here  
11 hanging out until they have the opportunity to speak as  
12 well.

13 So what I would tell you that I can add from my  
14 own experience here is that when this process started a year  
15 ago, when the gentleman from Spectra sent a letter over to  
16 the Council, I would tell you that there has been nothing  
17 but misleading information as it relates to us. At every  
18 opportunity I would tell you that we have asked them to come  
19 in front of the Council, to come in front of the community -  
20 - and when they pushed back against the community  
21 opportunity, we said "Look, just come to a closed session  
22 with the City Council so at least your elected  
23 representatives can understand what is happening."

24 And every opportunity, they said no. And they  
25 know the process better than we do and they know the process

1 better than the community knows; but what I can tell you  
2 here is that the community is here to fight for certain,  
3 because we actually believe and we're going to dig in that  
4 we don't want this here. And we would hope that when you  
5 leave here today that, after sitting in 105 degrees here, in  
6 this gymnasium for four hours listening to, repeatedly  
7 people saying the same thing again and again, that you  
8 realize that it's really coming from the heart in these  
9 people, and they really believe that Jersey City has a  
10 tremendous amount of potential, and this is not a positive  
11 thing for the community.

12 So I hope that when you give the feedback to the  
13 appropriate people based on what you heard here tonight,  
14 that you recognize that this is an important issue to the  
15 community; there are alternatives that will serve their  
16 purpose without impacting the community, and we hope that  
17 you take that feedback. Because the City and the elected  
18 officials in the community are very opposed to this. So  
19 thank you for the time.

20 (Applause)

21 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

22 MR. BROWN: Mike Suttolano.

23 (Applause)

24 MR. SUTTOLANO: Good evening. I'm Michael  
25 Suttolano, I'm a Jersey City Councilman, the Ward 8

1 Councilman. I'm from the southern part of Jersey City. My  
2 ward is where the pipeline would first enter Jersey City.

3 As it enters Jersey City, it will immediately go  
4 behind a recreation center, then travel down past a golf  
5 course, also pass the Liberty Science Center, which is an  
6 amazing thing to say that you would even think of going  
7 near. And then you start to go into density, more density.

8 Thirty to forty years ago Jersey City had 51  
9 miles of railroad track; it was an industrial city. All  
10 railroad track all over. Now you look down into the area  
11 where this pipeline is going to go, it is filled as a  
12 financial center, it's like the sixth borough of New York  
13 with the financial companies that are here; Goldman Sachs,  
14 et cetera. And the residential density is immense. There  
15 is absolutely no reason why this pipeline, if it ever does  
16 enter Jersey City, should travel over land. If it has to  
17 come into being, the minute it hits Jersey City, put it in  
18 the water. It may be more expensive, but there is no reason  
19 at all for this pipeline to traverse through Jersey City  
20 with this tremendous density, and its potential growth for  
21 more density in the course of where the pipeline's going to  
22 go.

23 One of the areas where the pipeline would go,  
24 which now seems to be land that -- well, it doesn't look  
25 like it would impact anything: it's the most valuable piece

1 of property possibly on the Eastern Seaboard. It's a 15-  
2 acre site that overlooks Liberty State Park with no  
3 unobstructed view to New York; it is prime for development  
4 at some point in time; the City has made plans to move its  
5 existing operations out of that area so that we can make it  
6 developable, a developable parcel of land for the future.

7 This would virtually make this valueless. You  
8 cannot ever get another parcel of land like that. So you  
9 have tremendous economic disadvantages that would occur to  
10 Jersey City, but to even think of putting this on land  
11 through Jersey City with its density, and the fact that we  
12 have worked so hard over the last 30 to 40 years, changing  
13 the landscape of Jersey City and changing the downtown  
14 community into what it is today, such a vibrant, vibrant  
15 business place where we've added close to 25,000 new jobs  
16 for New Jersey, and the density of the residential down  
17 there certainly does not warrant it.

18 Aside from any of the potential risks -- that  
19 would be by terrorists and things of that nature -- just the  
20 fact of where it would even impact, I do not think that this  
21 is something that should even be considered to go over the  
22 land of Jersey City. If you're even thinking of it, put it  
23 in the water.

24 Thank you very much for your time.

25 (Applause)

1 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

2 MR. BROWN: David Donnelly.

3 MR. DONNELLY: Good evening. My name's David  
4 Donnelly, I'm Councilman for Ward B in Jersey City.  
5 Although the pipeline would not directly come through the  
6 ward that I represent, again like other people, I think it  
7 impacts all Jersey City. My family, like somebody else  
8 mentioned, has been here for well over 100 years.

9 Mike talks about the 51 acres of railroad yards,  
10 my grandfather, my great-grandfather worked on the Erie  
11 Railroads. What was then railroad yards is now a densely  
12 populated community. In 2000 I believe the United States  
13 Census had a average density per square mile of 16,000  
14 people per square mile in Jersey City. Down there it's  
15 actually much higher than 16,000 per square mile.

16 To run a people through an area with that density  
17 just doesn't seem correct or right. As I was trying to  
18 figure out what I was going to say when I came here, I was  
19 looking through your What Do I Need to Know? book, and where  
20 they put the pipeline. I don't know if anybody else has  
21 pointed this out tonight, but all your pictures are of  
22 really rural places, where these pipelines are going. I  
23 don't see many buildings in these pictures, and I know this  
24 is just for example, but this is where pipelines are  
25 supposed to go. Well, this is not what it looks like here.

1                   Thirty feet on the other side of that wall will  
2 be the pipeline, 30 feet on the other side of that wall.  
3 This auditorium will be filled with students at graduation  
4 next year, for Ferris High school. You're talking about  
5 more than a thousand people in here with the pipeline  
6 running on the other side of that wall, if that's where it  
7 is.

8                   I think all these things need to be considered.  
9 And the other thing I was really annoyed with, and  
10 Councilman Fulop sort of alluded to it, the cavalier  
11 attitude of Spectra towards the citizens of Jersey City. It  
12 is not helpful. First of all, this meeting was scheduled on  
13 the night of a Council meeting; I don't know if that was to  
14 keep us from it; I don't know, I don't want to get into  
15 conspiracy theories. I know you guys have had a long night  
16 already. But also, I could have offered you a nice, air  
17 conditioned room. You could have come tomorrow night to an  
18 air conditioned room and sat for four hours in an air  
19 conditioned room at City Hall. I offer that again. I'm  
20 sure we can talk to the City Clerk, don't you think, Mike?  
21 To get an air conditioned room so we can have an air  
22 conditioned room for the public to speak at.

23                   Again, I oppose this pipeline. It is going  
24 through far too densely populated areas; I do not believe it  
25 to be safe. And I believe this is the same company that had

1 the little problem down in Edison in 1994. Thank you very  
2 much.

3 (Applause)

4 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

5 MR. BROWN: We do not have anyone else signed up  
6 to speak.

7 Would anyone else like to speak?

8 MISS WELLS: Hi, I'm Katie Wells. I attend the  
9 diverse magnet program that was mentioned earlier. I'm  
10 going to be a junior at McNair Academic High School in the  
11 fall. I've lived Jersey City in the Bergen Hill area my  
12 entire life, and as cleshay as it sounds, diversity is not  
13 only displayed through the color of our skin, though I think  
14 that has been shown pretty well throughout the course of the  
15 night, but also by the varying opinions and the different  
16 cultures we come from.

17 So when a group as diverse as the Jersey City  
18 community comes together against an idea like this gas  
19 pipeline, you know something's up. And Jersey City is not  
20 only my past and my present, but it's especially my future,  
21 so please consider that.

22 Thank you for listening. I oppose it.

23 (Applause)

24 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

25 Would anyone else like to speak?

1                   Please state your name when you get to the  
2 microphone.

3                   MS. LAUREL: My name is Debrah Laurel. I've  
4 lived in Jersey City for the past six years. Before that I  
5 lived in New York City for about 15 years. I'm an  
6 architect.

7                   I'm quite familiar with various residential  
8 buildings and different types of older buildings in New York  
9 City, and I know they're extremely inefficient, generally.  
10 Radiators have no individual thermostats for adjustment,  
11 they're ancient, they're ancient boilers. There are single  
12 pane windows on many of the buildings, so it seems to me  
13 that we're talking about as pipeline that's a given, and  
14 knowing that American energy use is vastly greater than  
15 European energy use, or that we don't take advantage of new  
16 strategies; like for example in Denmark they're burning,  
17 they have new incinerators where they burn trash to heat  
18 homes, and neighborhoods.

19                   I just don't think we're taking advantage of new  
20 technologies and new strategies; there's geothermal -- you  
21 know, simple things like temperature controls individualized  
22 zoning, you know for rooms, for heating. Simple things like  
23 double glazed, triple glazed windows. We're not doing that  
24 in the way that we should, and we should be doing those  
25 things before we're building new pipelines that go through

1 urban areas or that go through sensitive rivers or bays or  
2 anything of that sort.

3 (Applause)

4 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

5 Please state your name.

6 MS. SUNG: My name is Sandra Sung. I also work  
7 for the City of Jersey City; I'm a city planner here. A lot  
8 of my coworkers already spoke on behalf of the City and how  
9 we feel, and the economic development and the growth  
10 potential that this place has.

11 I'm 26 years old, I've worked here for four years  
12 now, and I'm going to be alive in 50 years and I'm probably  
13 going to be here. And if something like this comes here,  
14 who knows? There's New York, there's California, there's  
15 Seattle, Portland -- a million other places that I could  
16 choose. And frankly, I love it here and I plan on being  
17 here for a really long time. I know that energy sources are  
18 going to change over the next 20, 30 years, once the federal  
19 government decides to change regulations.

20 So on behalf of my generation, I think it's  
21 extremely important to not allow this to go through. Thank  
22 you.

23 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

24 (Applause)

25 MS. SAMUELS: Hi, my name is Choe Samuels {ph}.

1 I'm not a homeowner but I am a resident, and I really oppose  
2 this people coming through Jersey City. I am a parent, and  
3 where my children go to school that's where the pipeline  
4 will be built.

5 There's not much I can say; it's just that this  
6 is just really ludicrous how you guys can come in and say  
7 you want to build something here and not think about the  
8 safety of the people.

9 My children will grow up here, I am a resident,  
10 and I really, really hope you can reconsider not building in  
11 Jersey City.

12 Thank you.

13 (Applause)

14 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

15 Would anyone else wish to speak?

16 RESIDENT: [Did not identify herself.]

17 I work for Family Court in Brooklyn, and one of  
18 the problems we have there is that the air conditioning in  
19 the summer is too cold, and the heater in the winter is too  
20 hot. So I am wearing short sleeves in the winter and  
21 wearing a jacket or a sweater in the summer, and these air  
22 conditioning and heating systems are not turned off on the  
23 weekends or at night.

24 So we have systems of heating and cooling the  
25 building that are turned on 24 hours, 7 days a week, not to

1 mention the lights. Maybe if they started to shut the  
2 lights off at night and the air conditioning and the heating  
3 system, they could save at least -- at least the public  
4 buildings, they could save 50 percent of the money and the  
5 resources that they are using; you know, maybe there is no  
6 need for a new pipeline. That's it.

7 (Applause)

8 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

9 Would anyone else wish to speak.

10 (No response.)

11 Well, I'll quickly mention the FERC website.  
12 Within that website there's a link called eLibrary. If you  
13 type in the Docket No. PF10-17, you can use eLibrary to gain  
14 access to everything on the record concerning this project,  
15 as well as all the filings and information submitted by  
16 Texas Eastern and Algonquin.

17 A link called eSubscription is also available for  
18 you to sign up using an e-mail address, to receive an e-mail  
19 each time a document is filed in the PF17-10 docket.

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

24 (Whereupon, at 11:15 p.m., the scoping meeting  
25 adjourned.)