## COMMONWEALTH OF WEST VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL

## PROTECTION

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IN RE: ATLANTIC COAST PIPELINE

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PUBLIC HEARING

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BEFORE: JACOB GLANCE, Public Information Specialist

LAURA COOPER, Member

WILMA REIP, Member

NANCY DICKSON, Member

HEARING: Monday, July 31, 2017

6:01 p.m.

LOCATION: Buckhannon Upshur High School

270 B-U Drive

Buckhannon, WV 26201

PUBLIC COMMENT: Joseph Lundy, Chad Earl, Charlie Burd,
April Keating, John Bird, Laura Yokochi, Larry
Cavallo, Rick Elswick, Don Nesto, Ryan Hauser, Clay
Riley, Mike Herron, Laura Cooper, Steve McDiffitt,
Cindy Rank, G. Paul Richter

Reporter: Caroline Swanson

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## PROCEEDINGS

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MR. GLANCE: Good evening. I'm Jake

Glance with the West Virginia Department of

Environmental Protection's Public Information Office.

Welcome to tonight's public hearing on the Atlantic Coast Pipeline 401 Water quality

Certification. Also here this evening are Laura

Cooper, Wilma Reip, and Nancy Dickson with the West

Virginia DEP. They're sitting here in the front row.

The purpose of tonight's hearing is to give you the opportunity to share your comments with the DEP about the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

Tonight's hearing is being recorded by a court reporter so that everything that is said here tonight can become part of the rule making record.

To ensure that we successfully achieve the purpose of this hearing, we ask that everyone be respectful and considerate of each other by refraining from interrupting others while they're speaking. And keeping your comments on the topic so that our time here is used most efficiently.

We have quite a few people who have signed up to speak tonight. So I think we're going to limit each speaker to three minutes. For those

wishing to speak, when I call you up to provide your comments, please state your name and say if you are representing any groups or organizations.

If you have written comment that you would like to submit in addition to your spoken comment, please hand them to me after you speak or at the conclusion of this hearing.

If no one has any questions about the hearing format, we will begin with our first speaker. Any questions about the format?

Yes, ma'am?

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Do comments need to be 13 presented by tonight?

Can they also be presented after this electronically?

MR. GLANCE: Written comments are being accepted until Friday. Yes.

Any other questions?

Okay.

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Our first speaker is Joseph Lundy and 21 after Joseph Lundy is Chad Earl. And Chad, if you wanted to come on down and be ready for after Mr. 23 Lundy is done.

24 And also one more thing, there's a wire 25 running here in the front. There's a rug over it.

1 if you go this way, just be mindful. And please don't trip over these wires down here.

MR. LUNDY: Good evening. My name is Joseph Lundy and I'm here to speak in support of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline project.

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The Atlantic Coast Pipeline project is designed to supply enough natural gas to meet the needs of millions of customers including residential, business, schools, hospitals in West Virginia, 10 Virginia, and North Carolina.

I am the Senior Vice President Chief 12 Financial Officer of Cleveland Brothers Equipment Company. We are a Caterpillar dealer with 27 locations in Pennsylvania and West Virginia, including Clarksburg and Shinnston. We are a family owned company founded in 1948 and we employ over 1,200 employees both union and non-union.

We invested over half a billion dollars in Caterpillar equipment and engines since 2010, supporting customers who develop and build all forms of energy. Including alternative energy projects like wind farms as well as the oil and gas projects. Including well path construction, hydraulic fracturing, pipeline infrastructure and compression station development.

Our company has close and long standing ties to the supply relationship with contractor's operating throughout West Virginia. Including many of those which will be involved in this project and provide them with the best equipment available with respect to productivity liability and safe emissions.

This project will support hundreds of jobs at Cleveland Brothers. And it's important that this project remain on schedule as we are in the process of procuring much of the equipment needed for this project.

Delays like the one we experienced last year in Pennsylvania with the Sunoco Mariner East Pipeline resulted in layoffs and job losses as we are a very labor intensive company. When delays occur on projects like this one, they result in additional cost with large amounts of money invested in this equipment with little or no revenue to offset this investment.

Also at stake in this project's approval are the jobs of many of thousands of workers who support the production of natural gas and natural gas liquids in the shale formation in West Virginia.

Because of all the construction and energy production activities this pipeline will enable, communities throughout West Virginia will

greatly benefit by the result of state and local taxes paid by the jobs that will be created. These taxes will support public education, environmental programs, public safety, infrastructure and other state and local government operations.

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And from an energy independence standpoint, projects like the Atlantic Coast Pipeline will enable this abundant clean domestic fuel to be provided across the state in a safe manner and reducing our independence from OPEC and other foreign governments.

Lastly, this project is about safe and clean energy production and jobs in West Virginia. Jobs for our children and jobs for our children's Thank you for this opportunity to offer our children. views about why this project is so important to all Americans, especially those in West Virginia, Virginia and North Carolina. Thank you.

MR. GLANCE: Up next is Chad Earl, after Chad Earl is Charlie Burd and after Charlie Burd is April Keating.

MR. EARL: Hello. Good evening and thank 23 you for this opportunity to come before you and speak.

My name is Chad Earl and I am the 25 Director of Business Development and External Affairs for Orders Construction Company.

This project is a culmination of years of study, a comprehensive study. I come to you not only supporting --- in support of our company as Orders Construction being in favor of the project, but also as a lifelong West Virginian and as an avid sportsmen.

You know, whenever this project's been looked at, they have routed and rerouted and rerouted the project to take into consideration a lot of the environmental impacts that people are concerned with. The whole reason that they did this was to reduce the cultural and historical impacts of the areas. The street crossings will be very highly monitored and will meet all state and federal requirements and have been evaluated throughout the whole process.

So I'm asking, please, do not delay this project. It helps not only West Virginia, but as the gentleman before me stated, you know, Virginia and North Carolina, as well.

Construction workers, we're the ones that like to go out and hunt and fish and do that --- do all that kind of stuff, too. So if I thought for one second that this was damaging in any respect, then I wouldn't want to be a part of it. And we're hopeful that we can be a part of it and grow our future and

keep our kids and everybody here in the state.

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So with that I'll leave you and thank you very much for your time.

Up next is Charlie Burd, MR. GLANCE: after Charlie is April Keating and after April her first name is Laura her last name begins with a Y. Ι don't think I can pronounce that last name.

> Thank you very much. MR. BURD:

My name is Charlie Burd, I am the executive director of the Independent Oil and Gas Association of West Virginia.

And IOGA --- I'm of course here to speak on their behalf. IOGA represents over 550 companies engaged in the extraction and production of natural gas and oil in West Virginia, and those companies and individuals that support those drillers.

IOGA is aware these public meetings are crucial steps in getting the Section 401 certification for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline project. It firmly believes that the proposed Atlantic Coast project is a vitally important infrastructure project for all West Virginia oil and gas producers.

Energy efficient, clean burning natural gas produced in West Virginia will in part provide the 25 much needed additional supply of natural gas for our

1 region's public utilities, which will enable them to 2 meet the ever-growing energy demands of the millions of residential, commercial and industrial customers that serve in West Virginia and in North Carolina.

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IOGA also firmly believes that the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline is a vitally important infrastructure project for all West Virginians. Gas transported across the Atlantic Coast Pipeline will be the catalyst in creating much needed investment, tax revenues and jobs that are crucial and critical to the West Virginia economy.

Dominion is not new. Dominion has operated pipelines in West Virginia for well over 100 years. And DTI will continue to operate the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. We can trust them.

Dominion and the Atlantic Coast pipeline have provided FERC and the WVDEP detailed plans for this pipeline construction across all water bodies along the route. The Atlantic Coast Pipeline route is a result of years of comprehensive studies and surveys to avoid and minimize impact to sensitive areas. streams and wetland crossing and crossing techniques and pipeline construction methods meet state and federal requirements designed to protect water quality.

To their credit, Dominion and the Atlantic Coast pipeline have accommodated over 300 reroutes of this pipeline in an effort to reduce its impacts to the environment and cultural and historic resources and threatened endangered species.

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In closing, natural gas is an important partner fuel to renewables. It is clean, abundant, and reliable. Construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline is a step toward energy independence and more so it is a step in energy dominance.

The Atlantic Coast pipeline is a crucial infrastructure project that has nearly three years of review and input by various federal, state and local 14 bodies. It will have a positive impact on our communities, the economy, and ultimately the environment.

Public input has been invited, welcomed, heard and addressed appropriately. IOGA urges you to not delay this very necessary and environmentally friendly and safe project.

Thank you.

MR. GLANCE: Up now is April Keating 23 after April is Laura and after Laura is Larry Cavallo.

24 MS. KEATING: I'm a citizen. I live in 25 this state, I was born here and I have to live here

and I have to drink the water. And I want us to have clean water to drink for now and the future.

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And when you are here listening to these folks, you have to realize who's talking. When the gas industry talks, they're talking in their interests. The people come here to talk about their interest and sometimes those interests collide.

The need for this pipeline was mentioned. On the back table, there are several reports that talk about different aspects of the pipeline that are not really very positive. And one of those is need.

First of all, it has been determined by Think Tank that we do not need this gas, we do not need the extra capacity. We have enough gas in storage to last until 2030 and the UN says that at that time there will be a worldwide water shortage.

I'd also like to point out that this hearing is to hear about the effect on water, not so much about how much we may need it or how clean gas is or how much I need a job. It's about water today. So I would like to suggest that we focus on that because that's what the DEP is here to hear about.

I would like to read to you from a report that I will make available called the Economic Costs of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. This is just a glance

sheet. There was a study done in western and central Virginia in four counties.

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3 Now, we haven't had the money to pay for a study to be done in West Virginia. So this is just an example of the type of cost that we're looking at. Baseline property values are at risk for this pipeline in the right-of-way of \$277 million. In the evacuation bill, \$1.13 billion. Near the compressor station, \$4.9 million and in the viewshed, \$7.44 billion. Total property value lost is \$55.8 to \$80.2 10 The resulting loss of property tax revenue 11 million. for these four counties would be between \$281,000 and 12 \$408,000. 13

The lost eco-system service value such as for water and air purification, recreational benefits and others over the two year construction period would be between \$16.9 and \$61 million. Annually for the life of the ACP between \$4.9 million and \$17.8 million. We would also have --- there would be annual loss of recreation tourism expenditure of \$41.3 million that supports 387 jobs.

The thing to notice about this pipeline is that the costs are greater than the benefits. The benefits are often touted by people who want to put the pipeline through and make money on its exports.

The gas in this pipeline --- this is a transmission pipeline. So the gas would be sourced here but it would be taken out of the state. This gas in not for West Virginia, Virginia, or North Carolina. It is to be sent to export.

The tax money --- the tax revenue that we gain from different gas infrastructure projects is really hard to put your finger on. I reached out to the Lewis County tax accessor to find out how much tax revenue Lewis County had received from the Stonewall line, which is a 36 inch pipeline that was put in two Novembers ago. And they couldn't tell me how much money came from that pipeline project.

So because the numbers are so unclear, it's really hard to tell when they say we're going to bring tax money into your community. Those numbers are really hard to put your finger on and the industry doesn't help. Their numbers are done by their independent contractors and therefore they are biased.

is responsible for water contamination and water losses from the fissures that are cracked in the earth and sometimes the water can leave the aquafer. We have I know landowners in Upshur County that that happened to, actually I know two of them, but I know

there are more. But these are just two that I know of.

Citizen monitoring is crucial. We only have 20 inspectors for the whole state for oil and gas operations. So it's important that we as citizen monitors go out and watch during construction and make sure that things are happening the way they should.

I have a talking points list from West Virginia Rivers and I just want to go through real quick what the major points are. Now West Virginia Rivers is a long standing nonprofit group that watches out for water in West Virginia. This application of ACP to the DEP does not have the total impact quantified within their application.

Their field surveys are not complete.

Impact to sensitive resources such as drinking water, trout streams, and karst terrain are not addressed within the application. The proposed best management practices and sediment and erosion controls are deficient and inadequate and aquatic species have not been identified at the proposed stream crossing sites.

The mitigation section of the application is incomplete. Completed forms for all streams and wetlands impacts are not included. And therefore the number of mitigation credits needed have not been

These things need to be corrected in the determined. application before it is approved.

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3 Last, I have a few questions to leave you with. 4

Why are ratepayers being asked to pay for redundant natural gas supply for Dominion Virginia Electric and Power Brunswick and Greensville's natural gas plans?

Which specific proposed natural gas plans do Duke and Dominion plan to supply with gas from the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and when are these plans expected to be constructed?

13 Why have there recently been so many 14 safety problems with new pipelines?

Dominions 2014 10K --- certain portions of the pipeline route aggravates typical construction risks, which portion of the route?

18 What is Dominion doing to minimize these 19 risks?

Who will be the construction contractor for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline?

I certainly hope it is not Precision. 23 Because the Stonewall line, that was a disaster.

What is this contractor's recent safety 25 track record and who will be liable for damages from

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pipeline explosion?
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2 Thank you.

MR. GLANCE: Up next is Laura. I can't pronounce her last name. It begins with a Y.

MS. YOKOCHI: There was one person ahead of me on the list. John Bird.

MR. GLANCE: He did not mark that he had a public comment.

MS. YOKOCHI: Oh, okay.

10 MR. GLANCE: You're more than welcome to 11 come up.

MR. BIRD: It's hard to get all that information in those small spaces.

My name is John Bird. I don't know how close to get to this microphone, I guess I'm being 16 heard. And I'm against the pipeline for a number of reasons, but I want to talk a little bit about water permits.

First of all, you have to realize that 20 over a hundred years ago a physicist showed that 21 carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas that traps heat. In 1957 Dr. Keeling and I think then his son --- which 23 Precision Equipment showed that CO2 is going up. those two together and the heat --- more heat is going 25 to be trapped.

Climate change is real. And one of the things that scientists say is going to happen is more severe storms. And I would hope that the DEP would insists on, if the pipeline goes through, to really holding the industry's feet to the fire to make sure they really do the best possible job. Because one big storm could really mess up the ecology of the streams unless they go in pretty strong.

So I think it's very important that the DEP do its job properly and really try to worry about future storms that can be quite big and some climate changes.

Okay, thank you.

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MR. GLANCE: Laura's up next. After Laura is Larry Cavallo and after Larry is Rick Elswick.

MS. YOKOCHI: Hello, my name's Laura
Yokochi. I live in Western Harrison County. So I'm
right near where a lot of the fracking is being done
that will supply the pipeline.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Louder, please. Get closer to the mic.

MS. YOKOCHI: Hello. Okay.

My name is Laura Yokochi. I live in

25 Western Harrison County in Salem, which is right on

1 the edge of Doddridge County. So I'm very familiar with the fracking going on in that area. And there's going to be even more of that when the pipeline is constructed.

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Now, I was taking notes on some of the speakers supporting the pipeline and this permit. And they emphasized the fact that there would be lots of jobs and they've already invested lots of money in this project.

But simply investing a lot of money in something is not a reason to approve it. These ---12 most of these jobs are temporary and I do know people who work for these companies doing various jobs, most of them are not real high paid but these are temporary.

And I'm not completely against gas. have a gas stove and oven and I like to cook on gas.

So using gas within our state would not make this pipeline necessary. Because this is intended to ship the gas to other places. If we just use what we need and don't get carried away with greed, then it would not be necessary.

Now, this --- the purpose of this hearing is water quality. I know in my town a company, Antero, takes water from our former city supply and

1 uses it for fracking. And this used to be our city's
2 drinking water and now we're forced to buy it from
3 Clarksburg. And I know a lot of people in town drink
4 nothing but bottled water and that's really a tragedy.
5 We should be able to drink the water that comes from
6 the waters in our area.
7 So I'm really concerned about the water
8 and I would hope that DEP would protect the
9 environment. They're the Department of Environmental
10 Protection and their job is to protect the
11 environment, protect the water for the future for us.

Thank you.

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Not to make it easier for companies to make money.

MR. CAVALLO: Hello. My name is Larry Cavallo. I was born and raised in West Virginia and currently live in Bridgeport, West Virginia.

I'm a 32 year veteran of the Appalachian oil and gas industry. I've worked 30 years in exploration and production companies including Dominion. And the last two years as an industry consultant.

I have three degrees from West Virginia

1 University with two being a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in Geology. My Master's thesis dealt with subsurface mapping of the Mississippi and Greenbrier pipelines in Southern West Virginia.

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Ladies and gentlemen, as a native of our great state and an oil and gas industry veteran, I'm here to tell you our state and our oil and gas industry is in desperate need of long haul pipelines such as Dominion's Atlantic Coast Pipeline. And I am certain that Dominion and its partners can build and operate the Atlantic Coast Pipeline in a safe and environmentally sound manner.

First, let me address the need. The Marcellus and Utica Shale have blessed our region and our state with a vast supply of safe, environmentally friendly and readily available oil and natural gas. It is difficult to understand the size of this resource from these two world class reservoirs.

But I'm of the opinion that the reserves are there to power the entire country. While this supply is enormous, the impact these two reservoirs can have on the economy of our state and our national security is even larger.

However, there is downside to this large supply. Our industry has been successful in exploring 1 for and producing from the Marcellus and Utica that we have built all existing interstate pipelines to capacity. As a result, we have no viable means of increasing supplies to centers --- demand centers to the north, south, east and west of us.

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This oversupplied situation has hydrocarbon prices lower. And basic differentials, which are simply market driven supply and demand adjustments into extremely negative territories. oil and gas industry is now depressed and can only be helped by getting the carbons out of the basins.

Please do not assume that I'm just here to ask for your support of the oil and gas industry. 14 Rather, I'd like to stress the impact the Atlantic Coast Pipeline will have on the economy of our state. During construction, hotels, gas stations, restaurants convenient stores and service providers all along the proposed route will benefit from increased customer numbers and sales.

And while that local benefit will surely subside after construction, the economic activity will simply shift back to the more traditional producing areas of our state. Counties such as Upshur, Harrison, Lewis, Barbour, Doddridge, Richie, Tyler, Wetzel, Marion and Monongalia Counties will once again see the spinoff benefit of the Marcellus and the Utica as they did 2010 to 2014.

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Now, I know there has been some opposition to the Atlantic Coast Pipeline citing the presence of karst terrain and steep slopes. to briefly address those topics.

For decades pipelines have been safely built and operated through karst terrain, including many areas of West Virginia. In fact, 40 percent of the landmass east of the Mississippi River is characterized by karst terrain. And thousands of 12 miles of pipeline have operated safely through those areas for years. Not to mention roads, railroads and other cultural features.

The key to safe construction in operation in karst areas is carefully surveying and identifying the karst feature on the front end and then employing best in class construction and engineering techniques designed to protect the karst features. To that end Dominion has hired a leading karst expert to help the company survey the route and develop its engineering plans.

Please know that I have read and reviewed 24 Atlantic Coast pipeline's filed reports such as its karst terrain assessment, construction, monitoring and

mitigation plan, as well as, its karst assessment and survey report.

I don't have nearly enough time to go into the details of those reports. But as a geologist, a former employee of Dominion, and a concerned citizen of our state, I have every confidence that Dominion and its karst experts have taken necessary precautions to identify and avoid sensitive karst features, minimize impact on areas that cannot be avoided, and ensure that the Atlantic Coast Pipeline operate safely.

Likewise, Dominion and its lead construction contractor has more than 200 years experience in safely building pipelines in steep, mountainous terrain across the United States.

Dominion itself has more than 2,000 miles of pipeline through the mountains of West Virginia and Western Pennsylvania.

I have every confidence that Dominion and its construction contractors have the experience, the knowledge and the expertise to build the pipeline the right way. Safely and with minimal impact to our environment.

So in conclusion, I support the building of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. West Virginia's

1 economy and the Appalachian oil and gas industry will 2 benefit from the economic impact the Atlantic Coast Pipeline will bring during construction and for years to come during this operation.

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In my opinion, Dominion and the Atlantic Coast partnership have adequately identified potentially sensitive karst and steep slope features. And have either routed around these features or have engineered plans that will minimize the impact on these features.

As an industry veteran a former employee 12 with a hands-on view of Dominion's daily commitment to safety and environmental preservation, I believe 14 Dominion will build and operate the Atlantic Coast Pipeline in a safe and environmentally cautious manner.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to come out.

19 MR. GLANCE: Up next is Rick Elswick. 20 After Rick is Don Nester. After Don Nester is Ryan 21 Hauser.

MR. ELSWICK: Hello, my name is Rick 23 Elswick. I own West Fork Energy, LLC, a land and consulting company in Clarksburg, West Virginia and 24 25 I'm here in support of the pipeline.

While my company doesn't do any work with Dominion, my company does do a lot of work for other EMP companies that this pipeline is vital for. To add markets to the south that it's needed to get the Marcellus gas out of the area.

Completing the pipeline would not only benefit exploration companies, drilling companies and local contractors, it will also benefit royalty owners and add to the state, county, and local tax bases.

Dominion has thoroughly and carefully planned the project, taking into consideration landowner, environmental, cultural, historic resources.

This project has been --- has had nearly three years of review and input by various federal, state and local bodies. Therefore, I ask the DEP to approve the certification without delay.

Thanks.

MR. GLANCE: Up next is Don Nester.

20 After Don is Ryan Hauser. After Ryan Hauser is Clay

21 Riley.

MR. NESTOR: Thank you.

My name is Don Nester and I appreciate the opportunity to speak in favor of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. I'm a resident of Buckhannon, West

1 Virginia. I'm a CPA. Lifelong resident of West Virginia raised in Pickens, West Virginia which is the headwaters of the Buckhannon River. I graduated from Pickens High School, the smallest high school in the state then and now.

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And I grew up enjoying going out and trout fishing. You know, for native trout in local streams. The importance of the environment that we can live in and enjoy. But also the main reason I'm speaking here in favor of the pipeline is development opportunities that this brings to our state and our communities.

The importance of jobs is great and I've seen that in my career as a CPA working with development authorities or Chambers of Commerce or presidents of organizations to try and get jobs and we've done a good job in many communities in the state and here in Buckhannon, to get jobs here. But we need to keep them here so you don't have people move away.

I recall they --- the situation when I was just growing up and going to college and working on lumber mills, stacking lumber or working on a coal tipple or the need to have those jobs. And those jobs are not always available now and they're hard jobs and don't pay much money with not much benefits, but

that's why we need to have these jobs.

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2 I've been a member of the Independent Oil 3 and Gas Association of West Virginia's board of directors for 18 years. I got to know a lot of folks out there that work in this oil and gas industry and do a lot to create jobs and to do their work well because there's regulations they have to comply with. I think I've also seen as a CPA the benefits to the royalty owners, the people who may get some type of 10 income, whether it's jobs or whatever it might be from 11 the industry, and who may be employed by the oil and 12 gas industry.

All the business in the area grow. With the spinoff, you'll see the activities, all the companies in support --- are supported by these employees of oil and gas companies. I think it's important for us to keep these employees in West Virginia. I had a guy lost today in his early 50s. He's moving to Maryland, he can't find a job. It's just not a lot of opportunities.

We're losing our young people to good jobs that are leaving our state. I think the oil and gas industry and this Atlantic Coast Pipeline that will allow the development of that industry here in the state are important for their future.

It's almost like I compare the pipeline to something like an interstate. If you see like Corridor H through Buckhannon, it may not have developed here, but eventually it will. I-79 as it goes through West Virginia it's seeing the potential of the jobs that formed there.

I think having a pipeline like Atlantic Coast Pipeline allows that to happen and I request that you rule in favor of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

Thank you.

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MR. GLANCE: Up next is Ryan Hauser. 11 After Ryan is Clay Riley. And after Clay is Mike 12 13 Herron.

MR. HAUSER: My name is Ryan Hauser with the JF Allen Company located right here in Buckhannon, West Virginia. On behalf of the JF Allen organization, we would like to formally state our support for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. Americans have always championed progress in the form of infrastructure.

Over the past century, hundreds of thousands of miles of pipelines have been built across Many, if not most, are still in 23 North America. service today. These pipelines have been built sensibly and within state and federal regulations.

The Atlantic Coast Pipeline is no different.

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In front of us there is golden opportunity to move our region's natural resource products to the world, benefiting not only West Virginians but all Americans. From the initial construction of the pipeline to the monitoring, to the delivery of product here domestically and abroad, this and other pipeline projects in North America are a key part to our road to energy independence.

Additionally, the pipeline is crucial to bringing cleaner natural gas to consumers throughout 12 the West Virginia, Virginia, and North Carolina regions. This helps to lower emissions and also plays an important part of our nation's plan in utilizing cleaner energy.

When it comes to jobs, the U.S. News and World Report currently ranks the State of West Virginia 50th in job growth, 50th in labor force participation rate, and 47th in the low employment rate. It's about time we start investing in ourselves, our state, and our infrastructure.

My organization, the JF Allen Company, 23 has created hundreds of miles of roads and highways since our inception in the 1940s. The general public, including those here this evening, travel these roads

we built without a second thought to the investment it took decades earlier.

Infrastructure, when done properly, enhances our quality of life. From the roads that we drive on to the airports we fly to, to the lakes that we boat on, we enjoy these modern conveniences almost every day. Our power grid, complete with transmission lines crisscrossing the nation's surface, bring electricity to power our homes, light our businesses, and keep us in communication with those we love.

Our local utilities bring clean water to our homes, treat wastewater for proper disposal or reuse, and provide a host of other services. And our pipelines --- well as I said earlier, they are already here, too, with several thousands of miles in West Virginia alone, improving a constructing pipeline is not new.

When it comes to the Atlantic Coast

Pipeline, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

released a favorable environmental report less than

one and a half weeks ago on July 21. The report is a

result of almost three years of meticulous study by

more than a dozen federal agencies. Unless there is a

major legitimate concern, to which the West Virginia

Department of Environmental Protection should properly

and clearly report, the JF Allen organization suggests the project move forward accordingly.

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Our employees, their families, and the communities that we live in depend on these infrastructure projects, and the continuing benefits they create for years to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our support.

MR. GLANCE: Up next is Clay Riley. After Clay is Mike Herron. After Mike Herron is Steve 11 McDiffitt.

> MR. RILEY: Thank you.

I'm Clay Riley. I'm with the Thrasher I'm a licensed engineer specializing in water resources. I'm also a native West Virginian and a lifelong resident. I'm an avid outdoorsmen and avid hiker.

I'm here today to speak in favor and support of the approval of the 401 permit by the State of West Virginia. This project has seen numerous reroutes, over 300 --- in excess of 300 during its review by multiple agencies. The horizontal direction drills proposed in many locations to avoid and minimize the impact to major water bodies.

This project has been through the FERC

and other agencies' analyzation and potential impact
to land and water quality as well as other resources.

As Mr. Hauser just announced, it received a
recommendation --- a favorable recommendation about a
week and a half ago.

ACP is a project that is vitally important to the State of West Virginia and to the United States from an infrastructure perspective. Please do not delay this vitally important project and approve the 401 permit.

MR. GLANCE: Up next is Mike Herron.

After Mike is Steve McDiffitt. And after Steve is

Cindy Rank.

MR. HERRON: Thank you, Jake. My name is Mike Herron and I represent the Lewis County Economic Development Authority and I'm here on behalf of the authority to endorse the Atlantic Coast pipeline. And urge final approval so that this vital pipeline can begin construction immediately.

Lewis County has more than a 100 years' experience with the oil and natural gas industry. And the EDA is confident that Dominion Energy has chosen the best route to avoid and minimize the impact to sensitive areas after years of comprehensive studies and surveys.

As a matter of fact, as Mr. Riley pointed out, this pipeline has had more than 300 reroutes across the project that have been adopted to reduce impacts to the environment, cultural historic resources, and threats to endangered species. EDA, after consultation with residents in the county and with Dominion, is confident that stream and wetland crossing techniques and pipeline construction methods meet state and federal requirements designed to protect water quality.

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Please do not delay this necessary and safe project. Throughout this lengthy process, FERC and other agencies have carefully analyzed potential impacts to the land, air, and water, wildlife, and other resources to ensure the project has adopted all necessary measure to protect the environment. Atlantic Coast Pipeline has provided more than 1,000 pages of reports and documentation already covering every aspect of this project. Lewis County believes that this is a vitally important infrastructure project.

We understand the benefits of supplying 23 energy to existing but also emerging markets. project is good for our producers, it's good for our farmers who most --- almost every instance are the

1 royalty owners for this product. And it's good for business, ultimately it's good for our taxpayers.

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The natural gas that would be used to generate cleaner electricity. Natural gas is a partner fuel to renewables and produces far less carbon emissions than coal. So I urge you to approve this project and let's get started.

Are you Laura? Where's Laura? Laura?

> MS. COOPER: Yeah.

MR. HERRON: I have a written statement for you somewhere. I reduced --- short remarks but I reduced it in letter.

> MS. COOPER: Thank you.

15 Up next is Steve McDiffitt. MR. GLANCE: 16 After Steve is Cindy Rank. And after Cindy is Paul 17 Richter.

MR. MCDIFFITT: Good evening. My name is Steve McDiffitt. I represent the Operating Engineers 20 here in West Virginia Local 132 and over 4,000 members of the Operating Engineers that work here.

I'm here to speak in support of this 23 project. And I would like to thank Dominion, DEP and 24 FERC for the countless amount of hours, the amount of 25 money we've put into this, to make sure that is an

environmentally friendly project. And the fact that they have decided to use the local people here and the trades here locally, which are local people that live right here in West Virginia, we care more about these streams than any other people that are out here.

I'm and avid hunter, I fish, I trap, I hunt. That's what I do on all my off time, so I care more about this environment than anybody from out of this state ever could possibly think about. So that's where all my time is spent. I care about this pipeline but the environment is very important as well. So I appreciate that and applaud the efforts to make sure this is environmentally friendly.

The environment --- I got my notes mixed up here. The resources that we have here, it's very important that we get these resources out, the amount of money that's brought into this state. With these resources it's countless jobs, countless families that have food on their table because of us being able to transport this gas on this pipeline.

I'm here to speak highly in favor of the project and hope that it goes on time.

Thank you.

MR. GLANCE: Up next is Cindy Rank.

25 After Cindy is Paul Richter. And after Paul is Rob

Hinerman.

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MS. RANK: My name is Cindy Rank. 3 here in Upshur County, in southern Upshur County. I'm also a member of the West Virginia Hunter's Conservancy and we will be submitting more detailed comments before the 4th, before the end of the comment period. But tonight I'd like to just concentrate or highlight two of my personal concerns that are also the concerns of the people who are going to be reading 10 our more detailed comments.

One is the number of roads, the access road, and the sedimentation that is likely to occur from all of those access roads. When you look at the maps, these don't necessarily show as darkly some of the more detailed maps that you see in the permit itself. But those roads will be created forever round and round and up and down the mountains, just in order to get to the pipeline.

I don't know how much more you all can do with a 401(C) permit. But some of these roads go into the highlands where there are the headwater streams. And if there aren't strong monitoring and enforcement of some of the best management practices for these roads, there will be sedimentation that will cause these headwater streams to clog. And in such a way

that won't be able to be cleaned up or cleared up and will indeed affect the streams forever.

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The other --- my other concern and I think when I talked to the ACP people when they first came through they kind of poo pooed it. But coming through Upshur County and Randolph County and cutting through any of the land here, as one of the mine inspectors used to say, all you have to do is scratch the land and it bleeds.

With that it won't be acid mine drainage but it will be acid drainage. It will be --- it could well be a source of continued iron and acid coming into our streams that we need. We were told when Corridor H came through well we'll take care of that, it won't be a problem.

Anybody driving between Buckhannon and Elkins can see that there are at least an ongoing if not a tremendously huge discharge of mine drainage of iron and low pH water into the streams going by into I'm afraid that the ditches that go into the streams. we haven't taken into account --- or I would suggest you all need to take into account more ACP plans for this kind of thing.

I know in the application they talk about 25 project specific stream restoration plan. But it

looks like that plan takes care of stream stabilization, bank stabilization, and flow guarantee flow is okay.

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But I don't know anywhere in the permit

--- in your permit, the 401 permit, or the main permit

where the whole question of bad water, acid water

production or surveying or testing or geology that

would produce this kind of drainage upon cutting

through, whether it be cutting through reclaimed mines

which they are, here at 10 mile.

I would just suggest that between I think it's mile marker at least 36 through 40, when you come through the Buckhannon area and into the middle fork, that that be more carefully looked at, more carefully studied, more carefully guaranteed that they are not going to be cutting into some of the acid producing rock material that's there.

And as for accidents, I know that Rover pipeline and the Mariner II East --- or Mariner East II, we have had problems with them. So anybody who says there will be no problems, I just hope that we understand there has to be a lot of monitoring. And I don't know if DEP has that capability. I don't know that FERC --- well I do know that FERC doesn't have that capability.

So I urge the greatest caution on all of you who really do support this pipeline and will 3 actually be making the pipeline. That all the care and caution that you can muster through the whole process has to be done, or we will just incrementally continue to ruin our streams that all of us depend on for many reasons.

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Up next is Paul Richter. MR. GLANCE: After Paul is Rob Hinerman. After Rob is Kevin Campbell.

I'm Paul Richter resident MR. RICHTER: of Buckhannon for 56 years. I would like to believe I represent all the people who drink public water, water from springs, and water from wells.

I also represent --- in addition to myself, I represent Buckhannon River Watershed Association. And the association is certainly familiar with A and B from mines that were going to be a problem. And that's one of our concerns here.

As a background, I should say I have a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry and background in geology, water quality and karst hydrology. many things one can say about the ACP and FERC and the EIS some good, many not. But this hearing is about only one item. And that is whether the State of West

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1 Virginia should issue a 401 water quality certification for this particular project, that's the It's not job, not profits, not a lot of other 3 things. Keeping water clean is cheaper than cleaning it up after contamination and sedimentation. Keeping the vegetation along waterways is cheaper and better for the ecology than attempting to restore it. Because there is no karst in Upshur county, its limestone is down about 1,000 feet here.

And we're limited to three minutes? Might I address a very serious issue of contamination from karst terrane with all its large, small and tiny conduits for water?

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The state should require site specific plans concerning erosion and sedimentation in mitigating and mediation of those problems for the two largest perennial streams the pipeline is going to cross in this county. French creek and Buckhannon These are permanent streams and French Creek River. empties into Buckhannon above our public water supply intake and service the pipeline.

And there are no site specific plans for 23 the crossing, just the general plan for crossing. survey of springs and wells especially in karst areas should be 100 percent completed before issuing 401

certification. And require water quality tests be done after pipeline has been laid and traced back through for at least as long as one year after the pipeline has been completed, particularly for the streams and wells.

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Deordering of ephemeral intermittent streams will change patterns because of construction was not addressed in the EIS. I believe West Virginia DEP require that be addressed.

As was just mentioned. exposure of acid producing strata and strata containing iron pirates 12 mostly is not addressed and the DEP should require that issue be addressed and the mitigation plans specifically stated before 401 certification is issued.

Thank you.

17 MR. GLANCE: Up next is Rob Hinerman. 18 After Rob is Kevin Campbell. After Kevin Campbell is 19 Heather Schneider.

MR. HINERMAN: Good evening. My name is 21 Ronald Hinerman. I live in Southern Harrison County I've been a resident for like 60 years, 4th or 5th generation West Virginian. I support the Atlantic Coast Pipeline project.

In many parts of this state, people are

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1 working in Harrison and the surrounding areas, that's how they make their living. I'm an operating 3 engineer. I've been doing work in the state building things for 40 years. I urge that we support the project.

I would also say that not only in this area, but in North Carolina, my brother-in-law lives there, and he doesn't have --- he has propane gas and I am still for helping people in North Carolina and Virginia to spread the natural gas wealth we have in this state.

So I urge that everybody support that we build this project.

Thank you.

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Up next is Kevin Campbell. MR. GLANCE: 16 After Kevin is Heather Schneider. And after Heather 17 is Jason Lockard.

MR. CAMPBELL: Good evening. My --- I have a lot of concerns about this pipeline, but tonight we're here to talk about 401 certification. Ι got a few points on that.

This pipeline route right now is planned 23 to interrupt the tributaries that feed the Buckhannon 24 River nine times as it passes through Upshur County. 25 | That's nine chances to contaminate our single source

of water for the Buckhannon water treatment system. And roughly 30,000 customers, 30,000 people, that 3 gives out water in this county.

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When you have one source of water for that many people, the utmost care should be taken. And what concerns me most about this route is the plans to interrupt the Buckhannon River with a cofferdam, which in itself causes tremendous amount of sedimentation that cannot be avoided and will affect the aquatic life in the Buckhannon and potentially our water intake.

I don't doubt that the trades involved in this are the best in the country, maybe even in the world, but we have an area here that among other things it's got seismic activity. And the best engineering in the world cannot guarantee our water will not be contemned.

The only way to avoid contamination from this pipeline is to not build it.

MR. GLANCE: Up next Heather Schneider. 21 After Heather is Jason Lockard. After Jason is Justin Raines

MS. SCHNEIDER: Good evening, everybody. I appreciate this opportunity to speak. I just jotted 24 some things down while listening to everybody else so

please bear with me.

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I'm a resident here in Buckhannon in Upshur County West Virginia. I'm not from here originally, but I love this state and the landscape and the people are some of the kindest and most beautiful that I've ever seen.

I'm here to ask to the Environmental Protection Agency to deny 401 certification for the Atlantic Coastal Pipeline. There is a precedent for this. New York denied 401 certification on the Constitution pipeline, which would have run through 12 Pennsylvania and New York. They decided it would have too great of an impact on the environment's ecological system, the environment also known as our home. We do not need to sacrifice our home on the altar of the economy. We are an innovative people and can survive this economic slump, which is unfortunately nothing new amongst the people of West Virginia.

Together I believe we can agree that our water's safety and protection is of utmost importance. The land and water are not something outside of us. We are part of the same place and time.

What if these powerful people in this room instead put their money into truly future proof energy investments like solar instead of only trying 1 to get the money back and then some from irresponsible and selfish investments. That would be good for water.

MR. GLANCE: Jason Lockard is up next. After Jason is Justin Raines. After Justin is Bill Price.

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MR. LOCKARD: Good evening. My name is Jason Lockard. I was born and raised in Flatwoods, West Virginia. The Lockard family has been in 10 Flatwoods since the early 1800s.

And I represent SLS Land and Energy 12 Development. We're located out of the big city of 13 | Glenville. I'm with SLS Land and Energy Development 14 out of Glenville, West Virginia and we support ACP pipeline project.

The infrastructure that's being built has 17 | not only increased domestic production and valuable commodity, but it also supplies countless jobs to the area and surrounding states.

We're also very proud of the effort Dominion and the ACP has put into this wonderful environmental friendly project through close interaction working with FERC and other regulatory agencies.

Dominion and ACP has proven their

commitment to protect and avoid sensitive habitats and to work closely with landowners to ensure that the industry continues while leaving the smallest footprints in the great state we call home.

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So again, my name is Jason Lockard and we support the ACP project.

MR. GLANCE: Up next is Justin Raines. After Justin is Bill Price. And after Bill is Connie Abraham.

MR. RAINES: Hello. I'm Justin Raines. I'm a sixth generation West Virginian. I'm here today 12 because I'm concerned about the impacts the Atlantic Coast Pipeline has on our state.

I've heard a lot tonight about best management practices, about all the effort and study that's gone into ensuring this pipeline will be environmentally sound.

I'd like to point out that everything that's been mentioned tonight has also recently been done to the 401 certification for the Rover Pipeline, which just received a cease and desist order from the West Virginia DEP with the same precautions everyone tonight is assuring us are going to safeguard the waters of our state.

I'd like to urge the West Virginia DEP to

deny 401 certification to the Atlantic Coast Pipeline until such a time as proper safeguards and best management practices can be developed to ensure that the problems we've had with other pipelines recently, such as Rover, do not reoccur on this pipeline.

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With that being said, I'd like to address a phrase I've heard up here a lot tonight. And that is safe, clean, natural gas. I spent 12 years working on the rigs in the state and I can assure everyone here there is no such thing as safe, clean natural I've hauled more than one broken, bleeding son gas. of West Virginia off of the rigs in the back of my truck to the closest place we could get an ambulance, searching for that safe clean natural gas.

And right now --- I don't know if anyone remembers a couple years ago in Sissonville, a pipeline a fraction of this size of this proposed one blew. It sent flame across two lanes of interstate up 500 feet long.

And I'd like to read a little bit of the testimony of a woman who lived beside that. Her name was Sue Bonham and this is her congressional testimony before the U.S. Senate.

I was ready to walk out the door to run 25 errands when I received a phone call from a lady named Trudy to schedule an appliance repair. Within seconds
Trudy and her co-workers became my only lifeline. I
believe that call kept me from exiting my driveway to
Sissonville Drive when and where the blast occurred.
And where I believe I would have been killed instantly during the explosion.

where it was trembling, shifting, shaking and grinding all around me. The ground rumbling beneath me, thinking the earth would open up at any moment and swallow me. The noise was so loud I had to scream for Trudy to please stay on the line, because I believe that there was an earthquake or possibly a plane crash.

Projectiles began falling like missiles through the ceiling into my home. I felt an immense immediate heat that took my breath away. As the burning around me became more intense, I became more frightened.

I dove underneath my dining room table, looked out the bottom of my sliding glass doors, only to see everything sizzling, blistering or melting. Vehicles on the ground are literately rocking, moving in waves. Hot steam is filtering up out of the ground like hot springs. I crawled from my shelter to peek

out the front door window only to see a huge wall of fire roaring as far as I could see.

At that moment I seemed to realize a gas line may have exploded and I was in extreme danger.

I won't go on with that. I'd just like to point out to everybody that was a 20-inch line and it carries a fraction of the gas and the pressure of the proposed ACP. That's a line about this big (indicates).

If you'll look at that circle over there in front of Bill, that's the size of the ACP. If the ACP had been outside this woman's home, her and everything for another 1,200 foot on the other side of her would have been incinerated instantly.

This pipeline is not going to make us rich, they want to burry a bomb in our backyard.

Thank you.

MR. GLANCE: Up next is Bill Price.

After Bill is Connie Abraham. And Connie is the last person I have that signed up to speak. If you did not sign up to speak but you want to speak here tonight, come down and see me and you can sign up so your comments can become part of the public record.

MR. PRICE: Thank you.

Good evening. My name is Bill Price. I

came up from Charleston, West Virginia where I live to attend this very important hearing.

Because I'm coming from Charleston, you can imagine, and most people have heard about what happened in Charleston a few years ago, how important water is to not only to the people in Charleston, West Virginia but also the people in southern West Virginia where I grew up and was raised. The people in north central West Virginia have had water quality issues. Everyone across this states has had issue around water.

You've heard a lot today about jobs. And about how many jobs this is going to bring. So I want to talk about the economic impact of the water. As our experience in Charleston, West Virginia when the water crisis happened, the chemical spill, business after business after business closed down. Job after job after job was lost because we did not protect adequately our water source.

So you want to talk about the economy, fine, talk about it in a real way. Talk about the impact to tourism in this area, if this pipeline goes through. I heard that interest pipelines have been crossing the State of West Virginia for years and years and years and years and years. I own

property in Lincoln County, West Virginia. We have pipelines that cross that property. Lincoln County 3 West Virginia was once one of the hubs of the oil and gas industry in this state. Not so much anymore because guess what? It's a diminishing source, it goes away. But the important thing is those pipeline that cross my property and many places in Lincoln County are six inches, eight inches. This is not a pipeline of six to eight inches crossing easily across land. This is a 42-inch pipeline. Imagine this going 10 through your front yard. Imagine this going by our 11 schools. This is not your little bitty pipeline. 12 This is a major infrastructure issue that has the 13 likelihood of impacting our water. 14

But more importantly or as importantly is the DEP can't tell you what those impacts will be because the application is lacking the basic analysis of what those impacts will be. For instance, there's no baseline data in the application about impacts to species. There's no data or not enough data about the impact to the fish, which people want to fish, I do --- I love that. I like fishing too. And I want to make sure that lasts for my son and my grandchildren to be able to do that too.

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And finally, this is not about economics,

1 but we're going to talk about economics. You want to build stuff. Let's build some stuff. For every --this is coming from the Political Economy Research Institute.

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For every million dollars invested in natural gas, you get five jobs. If you want to build stuff, let's build some solar energy. Let's use the resource that's here in West Virginia, the sun that comes and shines on West Virginia. Let's use this to create some jobs. If we did that, we'd get 14 jobs for every million dollars of investment in solar.

What about the wind? That generates --blows across West Virginia. I know we have to be 14 careful about where we site windfarms. But we get 13 jobs for every million dollars of investment in that versus five in natural gas.

Do you want to talk about the electric lines? Let's improve our grid, the way we deliver electricity to homes and business in this state. Let's improve the grid to what we call a smart grid. We would get 12 jobs for every million dollars of investment in that project.

And the one I love the most. 24 Virginia has tremendous amount of challenge with our 25 housing stock. We have dilapidated housing, we have substandard housing. You want to build stuff? Let's build some stuff. Let's retrofit those buildings. So we would get 17 jobs for every million dollars of investment in that versus five in the natural gas.

I'm all for building stuff. But let's build the right stuff. Let's create some real good, paid, unionized jobs in this state. And let's quit taking our resources that are in this state out of this state. Let's keep the resources that we have. Let's use them. Let's create our jobs. Let's have a real response to the economy for West Virginians instead of this kind of a project.

Thank you.

MR. GLANCE: Up next is Connie Abraham.

After Connie is Suzie Cleaver. And after Suzie is

Elaine Wine.

MS. ABRAHAM: Hi. I lived in West
Virginia for the last 44 years. I decide to stay
because I love this state. And my plea to you is just
to let you know how much I love this state and why I
chose to stay here rather than to go somewhere else.

I could have gone anywhere. I have a good education. I could have found a job where I could make a lot more money than being in West Virginia. But I like going out my back door and

1 taking a drink out of the creek. I like watching the wildlife around me. I fear that that's going to go away and my grandchildren will not have those same opportunities.

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I've listened today to people on both sides of this issue. And it seems that most of those in favor of this project were industry people. And I know that if they don't support it, their jobs would be on the line. Jobs are important. I understand that. But my goodness we can find jobs another way than destroying our beautiful, beautiful, beautiful 12 West Virginia.

We need to keep it clean and safe, not only for our children but for income. Through tourism, good jobs. They can be had here. retirement, people are retiring away from here because there's nothing that keeps them here anymore.

I heard many of you speak about how you like to fish and hunt and that's all well and good. But surely you want that same assurance that what you're catching, those trout that you're catching, are going to be edible for your grandchildren. You don't want them contaminated.

I've heard people talk about the impact of climate change earthquakes. All of these are

possibilities of what could happen. Well, we've seen what could happen when industry takes ahold in the state. We've seen what happens. We saw it with the 3 timber industries. We saw it with the mining industry. We talked about acid mine drainage here a little while ago.

Please protect these vital resources that we have. We don't need the gas from the Marcellus and Utica shale. We don't need it. Sure it's abundant, of course it is, and the industry wants to get their money as quickly as they possibly can, so build these 12 huge pipelines to get it out of here so we can get --so they can get their money.

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And what do we have left? We have roads that Cindy talked about that have destroyed our landscape and you can't bring back what's been destroyed. You can't. And there is no guarantee that these pipeline are safe. There is no way you can quarantee that.

I appreciate all of the fine people who 21 have spoken out against this. Consider how many landowners have spoken out against it compared to the amount of industry people here who have spoken for it.

Do you hear many landowners speaking in favor of this? I don't think so.

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                I'm getting angry when we let industry
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   control us.
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                Thank you for your time.
                MR. GLANCE:
                             Next is Suzie Cleaver.
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  After Suzie is Elaine Wine. And after Elaine is Jim
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   Kotcon. Is that right?
                MR. KOTCON:
                             Kotcon (corrects
  pronunciation).
                MR. GLANCE:
                             Kotcon (corrects
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  pronunciation).
11
                              Hi.
                                   I'm Suzie Cleaver.
                MS. CLEAVER:
  live in Doddridge County which is about ten miles from
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  where the Atlantic Coast Pipeline was to go through
14 | Harrison County. And I wanted to also tell you --- I
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  believe it was Justin who spoke about the Rover
  Pipeline which is having a lot of trouble in Doddridge
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   County. Right now there is actually a cease and
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   desist order for the Rover pipeline to not continue
  construction because of so many problems that it's
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  been having.
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                In Doddridge County, we have the
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   Doddridge County Watershed Association. And on
  Facebook you can find the Doddridge County Watershed
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  Association page where you can see the cease and
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  desist order from the WV DEP to the people building
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the Rover Pipeline. They must stop building it now because there are so many problems. And there you can see about 60 to 100 photographs that are photographs of where the pipeline is failing.

It's letting sedimentation into the streams, the sedimentation controls are missing. The bags that they put to try to control the sedimentation are missing or were not installed correctly. We've had so much rain recently. These photographs that you can see on the Doddridge County Watershed Association Facebook page, among other places, they weren't even from these rains we've been having this month of July. They were from April, May, and June.

So I can't hardly imagine what all those failures look like by now. As they have been told they must fix all these failures if they want to continue that pipeline. So I don't see a pipeline as necessarily a very safe thing for our water, because I have seen where maybe they didn't care enough, maybe they didn't use best practices. But this pipeline totally failed the waters of my county.

Apparently they can go back and finish the pipeline if they correct all these failures. That would be a job of great magnitude fixing all these failures. I mean West Virginia, all it is, is hill

and valleys. And at the bottom of every hill is a And all the sedimentation coming into the stream. I hope they can fix it. stream.

Not that anyone wants them to continue the pipeline, but I think it's almost impossible to do 6 a safe pipeline here in West Virginia. Maybe Texas, you know, somewhere where it's flat. I don't think natural gas is going to be in the future for our energy solution. I mean it contributes to global warming. Global warming only makes our problems bigger.

What we have as a very valuable natural resource in West Virginia is our water. We are 14 headland to the water for thousands and probably millions of people. That's where we're going to be able to possibly be profitable if we conserve our beautiful water. People need water. We do not need the natural gas, although we have it.

Thank you. I appreciate all of you. MR. GLANCE: Elaine is up next. after Elaine is Jim. And Jim is the last person to sign up to speak. So if you do want to speak, come

down to the front and sign up.

Thank you for having us. MS. WINE: I have a friend who worked on pipeline

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construction for about ten years. And I work with him and he occasionally looks at me says, Elaine, all pipelines leak, period. I have to believe him.

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I've been told that West Virginia is being asked to be the sacrifice zone, allowing many of these large pipelines to crisscross our land.

Haven't we done enough sacrificing in West Virginia with the coal industry and the gas fracking?

Have the people of West Virginia actually benefited much from this?

I mean we're at the bottom of the list in so many areas, education, economics. So I don't know where the benefit has been with all this extraction.

Why would it be acceptable to permit the construction of a pipeline that will ultimately devalue our property?

Do you want a pipeline going through your yard? I don't.

It's also my understanding that FERC is 21 not requiring the pragmatic environmental impact statement needed to assure safeguards. So right away there's things not being done that would maybe make us feel a little more comfortable about this.

Similarly there seems to be a lack of

appropriate protections planned to prevent the pollution to the streams, reservoirs, and watersheds. As well as plans for remediation.

And I also wonder with leaking pipelines and such, when these pipelines cross through wilderness areas and communities where there is not really a whole lot of infrastructure, fire protection.

What happens when a forest fire, when an explosion or leak causes forest fires in these remote areas? What are we going to do then? Lose acres and acres and acres of forest?

12 It just seems very dangerous in our 13 state.

Isn't it better practice to gather all the necessary baseline information concerning aquatic species, prevention of the sediment, and erosion spill, study of karst formations, before embarking on such a potentially dangerous project?

I mean shouldn't we really be making sure of all of these protections before ever permitting anything like this that could be such potential danger?

We know renewable energy is on its way. So even if we get these pipelines and we run gas through them for the next ten years, gas is on its way

out, guys.

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Do we want to sacrifice West Virginia one more time filling the pockets of rich cats at our expense?

Any way. Lastly, I think in West Virginia we need to consider the value to our citizens of projects like this, as opposed to more beneficial stewardship of our land and resources.

Thank you.

MR. KOTCON: My name is James Kotcon, K-O-T-C-O-N. I am chair of the West Virginia Chapter of Sierra Club. I'm here tonight to describe our opposition to DEP issuing a 401 certification. The gentleman from Charleston took some of my thunder, so I'll keep this a little bit shorter.

Suffice it to say in 2014, people in Charleston learned the value of water. They learned how difficult it is to clean up a spill after it starts leaking. They learned how difficult it is to get it out of the pipes when it gets into your distribution system, when it it's in every faucet. Ιf you were in that spill, you know what I'm talking about.

The Rover Pipeline and the Stonewall 25 Pipeline are examples of spills, erosion, slips, the failure to reclaim the site. All the things that a 401 certification is supposed to address, they didn't do.

Someone once said that insanity is endlessly repeating the same destructive behavior, hoping that somehow this time everything will turn out all right. And so my question to DEP is, what are you going to do differently this time to assure that the bad stuff that happened to the water, the wetland spills, the diesel discharges, don't happen with the Atlantic Coast Pipeline? What will you be writing into this 401 certification?

And I urge you to not issue a 401 certification if you do not have site specific designs at every stream crossing. If you want to assure spills, just rubber stamp the same boiler plate design on every stream in West Virginia. Because that's what we've got now and that will give us erosion.

If you want to assure damage to the biological integrity of our streams, just rubber stamp these designs without the baseline data that are needed to verify what's going on in these streams.

If you want to assure water quality damage, just continue with ignoring the kinds of acid drainage that occurs when mine land types are crossed

and that kind of erosion leaks into our streams.

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But my drinking water comes from

Morgantown. I'm downstream from an awful lot of these
sites. I help to pay the bills when those kinds of
accidents happen. And I'm very concerned that DEP has
a bad history of rubber stamping bad designs,
incomplete submittals, incomplete information.

And I'm going to ask you to not issue that 401 certification until you have all of the information needed to guarantee that my drinking water will be protected.

We had a lot of discussion tonight about the economic impact to jobs and infrastructure. I agree that infrastructure is important for economic development unless you have you have stranded costs. I'm holding here a copy of my electric bill from Mon Power. You probably don't pay an electric bill to Mon Power, but I do and I suspect many of the people here do. Down here I have an environmental control charge that works out to around \$12 a year. Most of that is for scrubbers at a power plant in Pennsylvania, Hatfield's Ferry. Those scrubbers are at a plant that closed five years ago and I'm still paying that bill. This is what we call stranded costs. This is what happens when you invest in infrastructure that doesn't

fulfill a useful lifetime. That never actually pays back its benefits.

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If you really want to saddle the economy of West Virginia, approve these kinds of infrastructure projects that are unlikely to ever pay back their costs.

Somebody mentioned climate change. We know climate change is real. If you listen to the scientists, they're going to tell you, we have to be entirely out of fossil fuels in American within 25 years before this pipeline is paid off.

It is a stranded cost. It is an infrastructure white elephant that will not pay itself down. And certainly there are a lot of folks that want a quick payoff and a short term profit.

It is in your best interests to really support the economy of West Virginia. Do not fall victim to those kinds of stranded costs. Please avoid the kind of infrastructure investments that all of our scientist are telling us cannot fulfil a use a lifetime. We have to be out of fossil fuels before this thing will get paid off. If we burn it all, we doom our children. And I'm hoping that you won't do that.

Thank you.

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Next speaker is Rob Merritt. 1 MR. GLANCE: 2 MR. MERRITT: I'm Rob Merritt. I work 3 for IUOE Operating Engineers. I have actually put 42 inch line in in southern West Virginia. The gentleman was talking about the crisis with the water, I live there. I got property at Jenny Lake. The pipeline's across our property. We didn't have no problems, no I've worked environmental on pipelines. issue. a good economic thing --- I'm a --- I'm a big time 10 fisherman and hunter in the state. A lot of people know me. I fish bass tournaments. I hunt everything 11 in the state. 12 13 It would be a great opportunity for 14 this area. And I understand people's concerns about 15 water. I've been there, you know. There's a little 16 chemical company above the water company that they 17 didn't inspect their tanks and there was a problem. Yeah, they had a bear but it --- it wasn't no account. 18 And that plant's been there probably 40 years. 19 20 born here in West Virginia. I was born in Morgantown. 21 I grew up in Charleston, east end. 22 As far as economic applies. I think 23 it'll help. You know, poor West Virginia, we're --you know, we're behind. We're always 50th. 2.4 25 think this will help the economy. And I have worked

1 FERC jobs. A lot of people don't even know what a 2 FERC job is. It's federal. Everything is to a T. Ι worked years for a company called S&T, Carl Smith. 3 FERC is very, very --- I mean, just very tough. Most of the time that's why a lot of the gas companies, when they have a FERC job, they team up with us guys because the know we've got the --- we've got the experience. I mean our people's been doing this since 1930. We even got the knowledge how to do this. 10 I know the lady talked about the Rover. Yeah, they do got some problems. And they 11 12 | will be corrected I'm sure. The way I --- the way I 13 feel, you know, sometimes like our Governor Jim 14 Justice says, you know, we're tired of being last. 15 Let's do some infrastructure. 16 I built windmills. I worked on windmills, Black and Blue Mountain. 17 I mean, I worked 18 all over the State of West Virginia. I built hydrates, Summersville Hydrating. I worked on one 19 20 down at Blue Stone for a little bit. There's a lot of 21 ways to produce energy. The lady was talking about 22 gas is out. Well right now we're converting --- we converted Big Sandy Fire House. They took it off the 23 24 coal and put --- run natural gas. John Amos was 25 talking about doing it.

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I've got a cousin that works on a 1 2 peaking plant for AEP. We built it back in probably 3 It's down in Kenova, West Virginia. And it does very well. There's a lot of ways to produce energy and, you know, fortunately I know --- I live in Boone I know who talks the resources getting --- I County. see it. Coal mines. I mean, a lot of big coal companies come in, they sweep the resources and move on. I think Dominion is a friend. I've worked for 10 Columbia Gas, I've worked for Dominion. I've worked for a lot of --- a lot of big gas out there, EQT. 11 12 There --- you know, we, you know, ---13 the way I always looked at it, it's what we make of 14 this, you know. The restrictions are there. And I 15 understand what the people are saying. everybody comes to talk about the water crisis. 16 17 lived it. I've been there. But if it's done right, it will be done right and I believe in that. I mean 18 our guys are very skilled, very trained, you know, 19 20 very educated. 21 But, you know, I'm in favor of this. 22 I think it will produce some jobs. And you know, this 23 is not about jobs. It's about the water. And I 24 understand. I mean, I fish up there. I fish on the 25 Buckhannon River. I muskie fish. I mean, it's ---

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1 but I think if it's done right it can be done. And 2 like I said, I've been around 21-some years.

3 And if it's done right --- the guy talked about the one at Sissonville. My brother-inlaw was there from West Virginia Paving. The next day they were in there paving, that line was put in in the early '60s and I don't think Columbia did a lot of maintenance on it to be honest with you. I done some digs on that line prior --- ten years prior to that 10 and they checked it. They was supposed to run a fitting and --- you know, and that's sad. That's sad, 11 you know, but I really believe --- I believe Dominion 12 13 will be a good neighbor to everybody and hopefully we 14 can work together.

Thank you.

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MR. GLANCE: Next is Brenda Weese.

And if anybody else wants to speak, just come down the aisle.

MS. WEESE: My name is Brenda Weese. I live in Elkins, West Virginia and I am quite concerned about the pipelines and the use of fossil fuels in West Virginia and the amount of damage it's done to our state, to the residents of our state, the --- you know. I take a look at McDowell County, classic coal country, and the amount of suffering the

folks down in McDowell County go through. I'm very, very concerned when it comes to our water.

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The fact that, you know, there's a link from DEP to alert fisherman in the State of West Virginia that there is not a single body of water in West Virginia from which you can safely fish and just eat any amount of fish that you want to because there are so many toxins in our bodies of water in West Virginia that the fish have a consumption limit. And most of them are one a week or one a month or half a portion of this or that because of the amount of toxins that are already in our waters.

And now we have nine proposed pipelines and this hub that will be another number six pipelines in essence that want to come in West Virginia and add what could potentially be even more toxins to our water that we don't need. Sierra Club had to sue to even get DEP to start doing the TMDLs that they hadn't been doing correctly for a decade because we didn't know how toxic our water was. We didn't have an appropriate account. So I'm worried that DEP is not going to appropriately issue certificates for water permit to ACP.

We have --- Dominion submitted a --- their application to DEP. They crossed --- they have

1 nine stream crossings in West Virginia and DEP is issuing one permit as if all those stream crossings are exactly the same and have exactly the same impact. None of those biologies are the same. They all have their own unique biodiversity. So you can't have one permit for nine different stream crossings. That just --- it can't happen.

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There is a whole lot of information lacking in the application that Dominion submitted for the ACP. Things that we don't know. Things like the impacts to trout streams and to our drinking water. Why don't we know this stuff? I'm worried about that. I want to know what's in my water. We have one of the 14 highest cancer rates in the country. Why? Is that possibly because of all the fossil fuel stuff that has been going on here for decades?

As far as jobs are concerned, it will bring jobs to the medical industry, yes, because people are going to be injured. People are going to be suffering. People are going to be dying. It will bring about 22 permanent jobs. The ACP will bring about 22 permanent jobs to West Virginia. A lot of the other jobs will be from out of state because they're specialty jobs. It's going to cost most communities money. It's going to cost those that pay

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power bills. They're going to be paying through it through their power bills.

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3 And each community can expect 22 permanent jobs thereabout for maintenance on that pipeline. Harrison County, four permanent jobs. Lewis County, 13. Randolph, where I live, gets five. That's all in West Virginia. But the rest are probably going to be people coming in from out of state setting up man camps which are just like little 10 rows of temporary homes and that leads to drugs, increased crime. They don't respect our communities 11 like we do, because they're not here permanently. 12 13 They're just here and they move on. We do not need this. 14

Fossil fuel jobs do not pay for us.

They do not --- natural gas, for every million dollars invested in natural gas, we get five jobs out of it.

Something like solar energy, for that same million dollars, we could have 14 jobs. Why are we not investing in solar?

Wind jobs --- wind jobs are one of the leading jobs in the country, the fastest growing in the country. You get 14 out of wind job --- or 13 out of wind jobs. All the green energy jobs you get much more for your investment than you do for the

75 fossil fuels and they're healthier all the way around. But our water is critical to so much 2 3 of what happened in West Virginia. I don't trust the They haven't proven themselves to me that I can trust them to ensure my water safety. EPA had to come down on them and say do your job. And now we got somebody who is a --- who is a coal hound in charge of EPA, so why can I --- why should I trust EPA? My other recommendation, since Rover 10 just had their big violation, is that no permit should be issued for any water certification until Rover 11 corrects its violation and a re-inspection of the 12 entire rover system in West Virginia is completed. 13 14 Thank you. 15 Is there anybody else MR. GLANCE: 16 here who would like to speak? If not, this concludes 17 the public hearing on the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. 18 The public comment period ends on Friday. Thank you 19 for you participation and have a nice evening, safe 2.0 drive home. 21 MEETING CONCLUDED AT 7:46 P.M. 22 23

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## CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify, as the stenographic reporter, that the foregoing proceedings were taken stenographically by me, and thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or under my direction; and that this transcript is a true and accurate record to the best of my ability.

I certify that the attached transcript meets the requirements set forth within article twenty-seven, chapter forty-seven of the West Virginia Code.

Caroline Swanson,

16 Court Reporter