

1 FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

2

3 Alaska LNG Project

4 Docket No. CP17-178-000

5

6 Public Meeting

7

8 Wednesday, September 11, 2019

9 5:00 p.m.

10

11 Nikiski Recreation Center

12 Mile 23.4 Kenai Spur Highway

13 Nikiski, Alaska 99611

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

- 1 SPEAKER LIST
- 2 John Peconom - Chair
- 3 Debbie McKay
- 4 Bill Warren
- 5 Bill Bookout
- 6 Linda Huhndorf
- 7 Mayor Charlie Pierce
- 8 Gene Palm
- 9 Bob Breeden
- 10 Wayne Ogal
- 11 Ross Njaa
- 12 Barbara Njaa
- 13 Ann Huhndorf
- 14 Byron Nalos
- 15 John Quick
- 16 Paul Huber
- 17 A.J. Ewing
- 18 Mayor Brian Gabriel
- 19 Constance Nicks
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25

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

2 MR. PECONOM: Good evening. My name is John  
3 Peconom. I am a Project Manager with the Federal Energy  
4 Regulatory Commission. I am the Deputy Project Manager for  
5 the Alaska LNG Project. With me tonight is Nancy-Fox  
6 Fernandez, Kara Hempy-Mayer, and Lisa DiNicolantonio.

7 On behalf of the Commission, I would like to  
8 thank all of you for being here this evening. We are joined  
9 here tonight by Dara Glass with the Bureau of Land  
10 Management. Also present are Mark Jen with the  
11 Environmental Protection Agency and Jennifer Morel with the  
12 State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources.

13 Tonight's meeting is being recorded. A  
14 transcript of tonight's meeting will be placed in the  
15 Commission's publicly available administrative record and  
16 will be available for download. The Commission's  
17 administrative record can be accessed through the  
18 Commission's website at [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov). For additional  
19 information on how to access our website and obtain a copy  
20 of the transcript, please talk to one of the ladies in the  
21 back.

22 Hard copies of the transcript can also be  
23 purchased. Please see the gentleman here if you are  
24 interested in purchasing a hard copy of the transcript. Let  
25 the record show that today is September 11th, 2019 and that

1 the Alaska LNG DEIS Comment Meeting in Nikiski, Alaska began  
2 at 5:18 p.m.

3           The purpose of tonight's meeting is to receive  
4 public comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
5 for the Alaska LNG Project. The Alaska LNG Project involves  
6 the construction and operation of new natural gas treatment  
7 facilities on the north slope of Alaska, an approximately  
8 800-mile long natural gas pipeline and associated  
9 above-ground facilities spanning the State of Alaska to a  
10 new LNG export terminal facility here on the Kenai  
11 Peninsula.

12           Construction of the project will also require the  
13 relocation of a portion of the Kenai Highway, and upgrades  
14 to the City of Kenai Water System. The Draft Environmental  
15 Impact Statement issued on June 28th, 2019 was independently  
16 prepared by FERC staff in consultation and cooperation with  
17 other federal agencies, including the Bureau of Land  
18 Management, United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Coast  
19 Guard, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine  
20 Fishery Service and others to inform the Commission, the  
21 public and permitted agencies about the potential adverse  
22 and beneficial environmental impacts that would result from  
23 constructing and operating the Alaska LNG Project.

24           In addition to a description of impacts, the  
25 Draft Environmental Impact Statement contains an alternative

1 analysis, a cumulative impacts analysis, an impact  
2 minimization and mitigation measures we are recommending to  
3 the Commission to further avoid and reduce adverse impacts  
4 on the environment.

5           In the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, FERC  
6 staff concludes that constructing and operating the project  
7 would result in temporary, long-term and permanent impacts  
8 on the environment. Most impacts would not be significant  
9 or would be reduced to less than significant levels with the  
10 implementation of proposed or recommended avoidance,  
11 minimization and mitigation measures.

12           However, some impacts would be adverse and  
13 significant. A summary of impacts described in the Draft  
14 Environmental Impact Statement is available in the back.  
15 The Draft Environmental Impact Statement can also be  
16 accessed through the Commission's website again, at  
17 [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov).

18           The comments on the Draft EIS that you provide  
19 here this evening, whether given verbally or provide to us  
20 in writing, will be considered in the preparation of the  
21 Final Environmental Impact Statement.

22           Your comments will ensure that the Final  
23 Environmental Impact Statement, which we expect to issue in  
24 March of 2020, will be considered by the Commission when  
25 deciding this matter -- excuse me. Your comments will

1 ensure that the Final Environmental Impact Statement  
2 considered by the Commission when deciding this matter,  
3 accurately reflects the impact to the environment that would  
4 result from the construction and operation of the project.

5           Before we hear from our first speaker, I would  
6 like to remind you all that comments -- verbal, written, and  
7 those filed electronically, are treated equally. If you  
8 choose not to speak this evening, you may submit written  
9 and/or electronic comments. Written comment forms are  
10 available in the back. You may leave comments with us  
11 tonight or send them to the Commission via U.S. mail.

12           If you are providing written comments, be sure to  
13 include the FERC Docket Number CP17-178-000. Comments  
14 should be sent so that they arrive in Washington, D.C. by  
15 October 3rd, 2019. Alternatively, you can send -- you can  
16 submit electronic comments. Instructions are available at  
17 the front.

18           Again, verbal, written and electronically filed  
19 comments will be considered equally as we prepare the Final  
20 Environmental Impact Statement. When your name is called,  
21 please come up to the podium. Please speak directly into  
22 the microphone, state your name clearly and spell it so that  
23 your comments can be accurately recorded in the transcript.

24           If you are speaking on behalf of a group or an  
25 organization, please identify the group's name. In order to

1 ensure that everyone has time to speak, I ask that you limit  
2 your comments to no more than five minutes. There are about  
3 20 speakers. If you need a little bit more time, I'm  
4 certainly not going to cut you off. I just ask that you be  
5 respectful of the time, and again, you can supplement your  
6 comments -- written or electronic form, should you need more  
7 time.

8           Lastly, please be respectful of your neighbors  
9 and those with opinions that may be different than your own.  
10 So, our first speaker this evening is Miss Heidi Cunny,  
11 excuse me. I guess, no?

12           MS. CUNNY: I'm sorry, I thought that was the  
13 sign-in sheet.

14           MR. PECONOM: That's okay. Bise Warren?

15           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Would you repeat that  
16 please?

17           MR. PECONOM: Bise Warren, B-i-s-e W-a-r-r-e-n?  
18 Okay, Miss Debbie McKay? Yes, I'm sorry I meant to turn on  
19 that microphone.

20           MS. MCKAY: My name is Debbie McKay, and I live  
21 in the Boulder Point neighborhood where the proposed  
22 pipeline -- can everybody hear me?

23           MR. PECONOM: Maybe you can lean into it.

24           MS. MCKAY: Okay, so it would seem to make more  
25 sense to bring the pipeline into the industrial area at

1 Arness

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Dock

9 where the existing pipelines already come in. The Boulder  
10 Point area is a pristine forest with a diverse wildlife  
11 population that includes brown and black bear, moose, lynx,  
12 wolverine, wolves, fox and porcupine.

13           Disturbing this habitat will have a huge impact  
14 for generations to come, especially on the black bears, not  
15 just in this particular area, but from all of Nikiski, who  
16 ever fall rely on the Devil's Club in this area to fatten up  
17 for their winter hibernation.

18           The Devil's Club wrote the understory of the  
19 cottonwood and alder trees. Without it, it will not renew  
20 its growth as this area will be kept clear of any growth, so  
21 to keep the road open for maintenance, et cetera, the  
22 Devil's Club will not be able to bounce back, and the black  
23 bear population will most likely dwindle.

24           A fish and wildlife study shows that black bears  
25 can only produce young if they eat the Devil's Club berries.



1 This will negatively affect their numbers for decades. This  
2 area is also a major moose camping range whose numbers will  
3 also be reduced by the destruction and disturbance of their  
4 long-time habitat.

5 This construction will surely have a negative  
6 impact on our property values. Most of the people in our  
7 neighborhood spent the last 25 or 30 years paying for and  
8 maintaining what we have thought of as our permanent  
9 residence and our retirement nest egg and our children's  
10 inheritance.

11 The roads in our neighborhood were built by us,  
12 they are not Borough maintained. We plow the snow in the  
13 winter, maintaining grades, the roads, throughout the year.  
14 Several of the neighbors have purchased heavy equipment for  
15 this purpose. Suddenly, it's looking like our neighborhood  
16 is not what we have cared for and maintained all these years  
17 and will likely be worth much less after bringing a pipeline  
18 through the middle of it.

19 We bought property up here because it is not an  
20 industrial area, because it is pristine forest with a  
21 diverse population of flora and fauna. We are located 3  
22 miles from Captain Cook's State Park. Is there a plan to  
23 compensate for this loss?

24 Three of the families in our neighborhood have  
25 fishing sites here, one each, just on either side of the

1 proposed pipeline. It has been proposed that these families  
2 will be financially reimbursed for their loss of income.

3 Money cannot compensate for the productive  
4 lifestyle that Byron and Maria Nalos's children are  
5 experiencing. Some things can't be measured by money. We  
6 are not looking for handouts, we are asking to be left in  
7 peace.

8 My husband Peter and I chose the Boulder Point  
9 location for our home because it is on the ocean with views  
10 of Mount Vsevidof, Mount McKinley and the Spurr Mountain  
11 Range and it's a short walk to the beach. We have clean air  
12 with a fresh breeze coming in off the ocean.

13 It is our dream come true. We always joked that  
14 we don't have to go on vacation because we already live in  
15 paradise. With the exception of the younger Byron and Maria  
16 Nalos family, all the folks impacted by this project are  
17 either retired or will be soon.

18 The noise and air pollution that will accompany  
19 this project which we have been told will take two to four  
20 years, will undoubtedly be astronomical. None of us want to  
21 be saddled with the type of air quality that this project  
22 will bring.

23 I have chemical sensitivities with the main issue  
24 being petroleum. So, for me, if this project comes through  
25 our neighborhood as proposed, I will have to leave our

1 residence. I won't be able to tolerate the fumes that will  
2 be generated just a couple hundred yards from our home.

3 As air quality goes, our neighborhood is as safe  
4 as it gets. I don't want to move. I don't know where I  
5 could find another place that I could tolerate like our  
6 place on the ocean with the constant fresh air breezes. We  
7 chose this location because it is not an industrial area.  
8 It has clean air and is a great place to raise our children.  
9 We'd like to keep it that way.

10 MR. PECONOM: Thank you.

11 MR. WARREN: Sir, the lady before -- I mean  
12 before the name before was that Bill Warren?

13 MR. PECONOM: It was, I'm sorry I misread the  
14 handwriting, so.

15 MR. WARREN: That because I scribbled, thank you.

16 MR. PECONOM: Mr. Bill Warren.

17 MR. WARREN: I'm Bill Warren and I live in the  
18 proximity of this project on the bluff and we weren't  
19 successful in the earlier property acquisitions. The house  
20 I built for my mother right next to me, was bought but that  
21 left us in a position. We have six acres and I've almost  
22 given up and have my son -- he's building a place on the  
23 north end and we have got a daughter.

24 We're wanting to move on, but I'll qualify that  
25 by saying our family is very supportive of this project. It

1 will be a boom for Alaskans. I worked on the TAPS line as a  
2 welder and the lady that sits behind me, she successfully  
3 sold her home. I think she did quite well. I hope she did  
4 but the whole thing was kind of fouled up during the early  
5 acquisitions, so 600 acres.

6           It was kind of they came in the night and our  
7 representatives wouldn't help us. We were on our own. And  
8 I have always remembered you folks were here in town at one  
9 of those meetings and you said you would be back and here  
10 you are, and I'm glad that you are, sincerely.

11           Because we need to get some safeguards for those  
12 people that live here. How long have I lived on that  
13 property? You know, 50 years or so -- a long time and I got  
14 children and grandchildren that want to reside here too.  
15 So, this is a big step for us. And we're willingly -- AGDC  
16 has been very supportive of us and I have nothing badly to  
17 say about AGDC, but things are in a mix-up now, I don't know  
18 if you guys know from way over the seaboard, but our state  
19 is in a little bit of flux right now, and a different  
20 Governor, different positions.

21           And so, I'm glad we have an opportunity to  
22 testify here. My message is simple -- let's go with the  
23 project and let's treat the people fairly. And that means  
24 in all respects because we do have to relocate my whole  
25 family after 50 years, we've got to relocate. And I know

1 from the lady here it's very hard to relocate when you've  
2 been someplace for a long time.

3 But I do thank you for listening to me and I see  
4 a lot of good people out here. We're all good people.

5 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Mr. Warren. Our next  
6 speaker is Mr. Bill Bookout.

7 MR. BOOKOUT: Thank you very much. Thank you for  
8 the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact  
9 Statement published June 9th, 2019, Docket Number  
10 CP17-178-000. My name is Bill Bookout and I speak on behalf  
11 of my wife Mary Bookout and I, who own the property at the  
12 address that the Borough has assigned at 48622 Nikiski REM  
13 Northwest.

14 Specifically, our property is located just to the  
15 west of the property owned by Peter and Debbie McKay,  
16 immediately adjacent to the proposed pipeline landfall from  
17 the Cook Inlet into Boulder Point.

18 In summary, our property, our lives, our personal  
19 rights will be significantly disrupted and infringed, along  
20 with many of our friends and neighbors in the Boulder Point  
21 residential area should this project as proposed be allowed  
22 to continue.

23 For the record, I will also state that we are not  
24 against responsible energy development, as various projects  
25 do provide benefits to both our state and our nation. This

1 project, however, does not fulfill these objectives and with  
2 the published Draft EIS, not only significantly minimizes  
3 the local impact this project will result in permanent and  
4 unrecoverable damage to the environment, detrimentally  
5 affecting Alaska wildlife, and also contains factual  
6 inaccuracies.

7           Due to limited time, I will only list a few  
8 examples. As documented on page 194 at minimum, black bear  
9 and moose populations will be permanently impacted due to  
10 the loss of both habitat and the permanent loss of forage as  
11 Devil's Club requires shaded areas to thrive.

12           Even with the reclamation, cover would never be  
13 fully restored. Further, on pages 466 to 470 of the Draft,  
14 it is noted that among other things, impact on forest  
15 communities "would be significant given the quantity and  
16 additional forest vegetation that would require to be  
17 removed through construction and clearing."

18           Two -- in addition the main line right-of-way of  
19 AGBC is requiring an additional land in many areas. One of  
20 these comprising more than 10 acres is located for  
21 preparation staging and possible living quarters, helipads,  
22 et cetera, immediately behind our specific property.

23           I call your attention to the example given in the  
24 photo of the pipeline approach of the Cook inlet at Beluga,  
25 Alaska. And I would ask Bob, if you could pass out the

1 first photographs please. Okay, thank you very much.

2 Potentially, this is the view as seen in these  
3 photographs that we would have from our bedroom window.  
4 This is specifically in the EIS Draft on page 1192 noting  
5 "operational traffic noise," which would be significant  
6 during the project and continue for maintenance and  
7 monitoring in perpetuity.

8 I also had the opportunity to accompany our  
9 neighbor, Byron Nalos and his son Spur, while they fished  
10 one day a few weeks ago. While compensation may be offered  
11 for impact and loss of income due to disruption of fishing  
12 operations, as Debbie McKay indicated, there is no financial  
13 measurement that can adequately compensate the impact I  
14 personally observed to families raising their kids,  
15 teaching them about the values and lifestyles which is  
16 uniquely Alaska.

17 These effects in the child's formative years  
18 cannot be measured by money as Debbie indicated. The values  
19 -- these values and heritage are among the reasons we chose  
20 to live in this particular area. You passed out the same  
21 picture as well Bob, yep, that's right.

22 Fourth -- the project as proposed requires  
23 unneeded and unreasonable right-of-way of 145 feet, some of  
24 which is noted in Table B-3, which are particularly  
25 impactful to the residents in the area. In the Draft EIS,

1 FERC has denied that request and stated the project will  
2 remain within the 75 foot right-of-way.

3           However, this is simply not possible or  
4 practical, due to the extremely steep conditions of the  
5 terrain. Therefore, if the project were to go through in  
6 our area, it would likely appear to be in the interstate  
7 highway through pristine Alaskan terrain.

8           Comparatively, remaining within the Cook Inlet  
9 for two additional miles with the proposed Western  
10 alternative, over five miles -- would prevent over five  
11 miles of permanent destruction -- five.

12           I call your attention to comments beginning on  
13 page 874 where it stated, "The mainland facility would  
14 primarily follow designated utility corridors and avoid  
15 residential communities." I suggest for those of us who  
16 live here, this statement is simply factually inaccurate,  
17 and I assure you that if anyone lived in our community, you  
18 would feel exactly the same way.

19           I also want to state for the record that the  
20 location of our well, I request be specifically noted. I  
21 don't believe that it is, as well as the specific location  
22 of our residence as one of the family's most impacted in all  
23 respects, including property values as well as the  
24 infringement on our personal and peaceful right to  
25 enjoyment.



1           In summary and conclusion, this is emotional for  
2 me and I apologize, okay. When we first came to Nikiski, we  
3 looked for over two years for property here, it's our  
4 retirement home, okay. We looked from Homer to Nikiski,  
5 this was the last property we looked at.

6           We drove from Kenai, came around the corner, I  
7 saw the Agrium plant. I looked at my wife and I said this  
8 doesn't look too good to me. We continued, and it's a  
9 highly -- you know, it's a pretty industrialized area with  
10 oil fields in Sepor. When we got to Nikiski, and we  
11 proceeded on towards Captain Cook State Park, this was  
12 Alaska.

13           So, I would suggest to you -- like I said this is  
14 very emotional and very personal to me. So, I would suggest  
15 to you and everyone in this community, give serious  
16 consideration to the alternative that has been proposed for  
17 the western -- known as the Western alternative.

18           Because it seems to me that this proposed  
19 alternative can accomplish all objectives, from all  
20 stakeholders in this area, minimizing the impact, which is  
21 significant and permanent, to the residents of the Boulder  
22 Point area. I appreciate the opportunity to make comments.  
23 Thank you.

24           MR. PECONOM: Thank you Mr. Bookout. Just so I  
25 can confirm for the record here, Bill, B-i-l-l Bookout,

1 B-o-o-k-o-u-t?

2 MR. BOOKOUT: That's correct. And I will be  
3 submitting comments to the docket as well.

4 MR. PECONOM: Thank you very much. Just as a  
5 reminder, when you come up please state your name and spell  
6 it clearly for the record. I forgot to remind the past  
7 couple folks. I have the names here for those who have  
8 spoken previously but coming forward please remember to  
9 spell your name. Our next speaker is Miss Linda Huhndorf.

10 MS. HUHNDORF: My name is Linda Huhndorf, and its  
11 spelled L-i-n-d-a H-u-h-n-d-o-r-f. And you know we've seen  
12 the presentations, the emotional feelings about those of us  
13 who live in the area, and I am one of them.

14 There's a lot of practical things too that could  
15 be done to mitigate what is assured to be destruction of the  
16 land that we live on. And that alternate is simply a  
17 different route -- I'm getting ahead of myself, so let me  
18 calm down a minute. And I know you're probably used to  
19 people who have the NIMBY point of view, you probably hear  
20 it every single time.

21 The old "not in my backyard syndrome." Well, all  
22 of us here, even some folks who live in the neighborhood  
23 affected -- we are not anti-oil and gas. Many of us have  
24 had families that worked in the industry and that's what  
25 supported us, helped us raise kids.

1           What we do object to is where this is going to be  
2 punched through. It doesn't even make sense. There is  
3 another alternative called the West alternative, instead of  
4 the C2 Boulder Point alternative, and -- okay.

5           Before I go into the alternative, I'd like to say  
6 one thing. I read the 2018-2022 fiscal year FERC Strategic  
7 Planning Manual and it outlines a lot of the  
8 responsibilities of FERC. And one of them being, "In  
9 exercising its authority, FERC ensures the development and  
10 operation of safe, secure and reliable infrastructure, while  
11 ensuring that impacts are mitigated."

12           Keeping those -- this is FERC's own duty and  
13 responsibility here, not as many, but this is one, and  
14 simply put you can't uphold even that duty and  
15 responsibility given the route that's been chosen.

16           And a lot of people are not objecting. Oh, God,  
17 there's a gas pipeline coming through somewhere, it's not  
18 about the gas and oil development, it's about the horrible  
19 selection of how that's going to be put in place. Yeah, and  
20 I'd like to mention just three of the ways -- three ways  
21 that would make it impossible for FERC to hold up that  
22 responsibility.

23           Number one -- this is Seneva Lake Dam and I do  
24 see somewhere in the paperwork that it either has been or  
25 will be addressed to ameliorate the chances of that dam

1 breaking yet again, and putting up with lands, it's pretty  
2 darn close to the gas pipeline where it comes on to the  
3 beach from the inlet. That's smart.

4           You'd think there'd be another place to choose  
5 and that place is the West route -- very simple. The second  
6 way that FERC cannot live up to its responsibilities, as  
7 they themselves describe, is because of the destruction of  
8 17 acres. And I bet by the time it's said and done, it will  
9 be more than 17 acres.

10           That's 17 acres of destruction of habitat for  
11 bear, moose, and I'm sure you've read this is a known caving  
12 area for moose. The Environmental Impact Statement noted  
13 the following -- I think like Mr. Bookout said, there would  
14 be a significant loss of forestation, right.

15           Moose populations have been in decline because of  
16 loss of habitat quality. Well guess what? This project is  
17 not going to improve that, it's going to destroy what's  
18 left. Okay, so the moose and the bears will be losing  
19 habitat, and a further decline in the quality of habitat.  
20 And moose would decline in population which would ensure the  
21 bear would go down in population because moose, Devil's  
22 Club, that moose are also on the menu for bear -- the whole  
23 thing goes downhill simply because the wrong route is going  
24 to be chosen, or it seems to be. We're hoping to affect  
25 that.

1           The third one -- this is kind of a glaring  
2   unsuitability of the C2 Boulder Point route. Let me digress  
3   just for a second. A long time ago I went to New Zealand,  
4   rented a little tiny place on the bay. It was called  
5   Maunganui Bay. I swam in that bay every day we were there  
6   for two or three times a day. I noticed nobody else swam  
7   there.

8           I asked a couple of the neighbors what's with the  
9   no swimming thing? She said well do you know what Maunganui  
10  means. I said no. She said it means great white shark.  
11  It's Great White Shark Bay. Now, if I had known that, I  
12  wouldn't have rented that house. I wouldn't have gone for  
13  twice daily swims in the bay and I have all my limbs, thank  
14  goodness, but to me that kind of correlates to Boulder  
15  Point.

16           It's called that for a reason. There are lots of  
17  boulders in Boulder Point, and that is where the proposed  
18  line is going to go, theoretically. My dad, on board, a  
19  deep sea diver, commercial diver for 40 years. The inlet  
20  was where he worked. It was his office -- 200 feet down.  
21  That's what he did for 40 years, he laid pipelines, he  
22  repaired pipelines. He repaired the legs of platforms and  
23  the things that fall off of platforms like cranes.

24           He knows the tides. He knows it uniquely -- the  
25  whole area. I went to visit him, and I said -- I didn't

1 want to tell him why I was asking him this, so I just began  
2 talking about his diving and the inlet and how that went,  
3 his 40 years-worth. And I said, "Where do most of the gas  
4 pipeline go that are in the inlet? You know, ones that you  
5 said, "Well they go to Nikiski Bay."

6           And I said, "Well, what about laying a gas  
7 pipeline say at Boulder Point." And he looked at me like I  
8 had all my IQ points fall out of my head, and he said,  
9 "Well, no, you wouldn't want to do that." I said, "why?"  
10 And he said, "Well, the big, big boulders you don't have to  
11 worry about."

12           And then I thought oh, man, that's not what I  
13 want to hear. But he meant the ones that are the size of  
14 large buildings. They don't move anywhere. Anything  
15 smaller than that, it's like they migrate, they're moved by  
16 the tide and the current which is the second highest in the  
17 world except for the Bay of Fundy in Canada.

18           Those boulders are not going to stay put and  
19 they're going to impair and endanger any pipeline that's put  
20 down there. And somebody might say well, your dad quit  
21 diving when he was 73, that was about 20 years ago, and  
22 there's new technology now. We can map out where every  
23 single boulder is in Boulder Point.

24           My dad, he was real quick on his feet, he said,  
25 "Well that might be." He said, "But you would know at that

1 point in time when you took that study or technology where  
2 every boulder was. The big ones will stay put, but those  
3 less than the size of a house are going to be different if  
4 you took the same imaging again, a year later." This is not  
5 the place to put a gas pipeline. Even, if I were the Agency  
6 doing it, I'd say wait a minute, no, that won't work, we're  
7 going to go where all the other gas pipelines go, where  
8 there's a right-of-way.

9           And it's just very frustrating, because it seems  
10 so common sense to me. But remember FERC's manual --  
11 strategic planning. One of the responsibilities as I just  
12 read -- it is required to be upheld. And nobody in their  
13 right mind can authorize the Boulder Point route and uphold  
14 any sort of standard. It's okay, I better stop.

15           Alright, well I thank you very much for your  
16 attention.

17           MR. PECONOM: Thank you. Our next speaker is Mr.  
18 Charlie Pierce. Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

19           MR. PIERCE: Thank you and I'd like to extend a  
20 warm welcome to each of you that have traveled here to hold  
21 this hearing before the residents here in Nikiski and  
22 specifically, on the Kenai Peninsula.

23           I speak for the record, my last name is spelled  
24 P-i-e-r-c-e. I come to you and I speak to you as the  
25 Borough Mayor, and I wanted to start by saying you drove out

1 here this evening. You drove past Fire Station 1, and I  
2 think that the display that was there should remind us all  
3 of the 911 event.

4 I've got several points that I would like to make  
5 and extrapolate tonight. I would say that I'm familiar with  
6 the FERC Agency. I worked for a company for 39 years,  
7 managed the gas operations on the Kenai Peninsula for 28  
8 years. I've been in Alaska for 45 years and I would say  
9 that I am familiar with a number of industry-related  
10 development-type projects.

11 I would say that by and large, the comments that  
12 I have received and the discussions in the meetings that  
13 I've participated in, the support for this project is  
14 clearly a voice of yes, let's build this project.

15 The existing industry development in Nikiski, I  
16 think, provides for many supporting reasons for the terminus  
17 and location of this project to be in Nikiski. Look around  
18 you when you drive in and out of this town this evening.  
19 You will see that there are a number of buildings -- vacant  
20 buildings, along the roadway as you drive out to Nikiski  
21 that at one time housed many workers that you could say  
22 worked in the supporting industries for many of the  
23 platforms that you see out in Cook Inlet today, that many  
24 still operate.

25 A number of pipelines that have been installed in



1 Cook Inlet, across Cook Inlet, that have operated for the  
2 better part of 50 plus years and have done so in a very safe  
3 manner. I would say that this project -- a favorable aspect  
4 of this project is that it will provide the access to over  
5 30 trillion cubic feet of natural gas reserves.

6 This important resource will lower the energy  
7 cost throughout Alaska. One of the things we experience in  
8 Alaska, throughout Alaska, is very, very high energy costs.  
9 It really prevents us from doing many of the things and  
10 applying much of the capital that we have as individuals  
11 towards other things.

12 We buy fuel oil, propane, pay electric bills with  
13 it. If you have the blessing of having natural gas service,  
14 you pay for that as well. But I'd also say that this  
15 project would not only benefit Alaska and lower the energy  
16 costs for Alaska, but it would also lower the energy costs  
17 for other parts of the world that are trying to have a  
18 resource or a predictable long-term availability to this  
19 resource.

20 The environmental benefits are endless -- clean  
21 burning natural gas. I think that we could all say that  
22 there's a number of options, many, many options in the  
23 hydrocarbon environment where natural gas can be utilized to  
24 produce many services and goods.

25 While there have been a number of environmental

1 impacts or design questions that have been placed before you  
2 and that will be placed before you and, in your review, you  
3 cite a number of those. My experience working in the  
4 industry is that many of these challenges are just that --  
5 they're design challenges that can be addressed.

6 I think that's an important part. There are  
7 folks that perhaps are not as familiar with what  
8 technologies are used today for the installation of a  
9 facility like this, and the various options and decisions  
10 that can be made, that would reduce and minimize many of  
11 these questions that would be raised as to "not in my  
12 backyard."

13 I would also strongly encourage you to consider  
14 the many industry developments that are currently operating  
15 in Alaska. We have over 50-60 years in the hydrocarbon  
16 industry environment in Alaska, and I think that if you were  
17 to go back and evaluate the report card and compare it to  
18 other regions in the world within the world, and within the  
19 United States, you would see that Alaska is kind of a role  
20 model I think, for the industry in the development of new  
21 technologies and clean ways to operate.

22 I think we have a good track record in Alaska.  
23 I'd ask you to look at that and consider that. You know  
24 Alaska -- we say it's a natural resource extraction state  
25 and yet in my 45 years of living in Alaska, I've watched

1 numerous projects develop, the plans be discussed and  
2 cancelled only because of the risk. We talk about the risk  
3 -- the management of risk.

4           And I think that -- and we shy away from many  
5 good projects because of the risk that they potentially  
6 present. And again, I just have to go back to my own  
7 personal experiences in managing many of these risks that we  
8 talked about. And I think that the industry -- if you look  
9 at the industry in Alaska, and the companies that have  
10 operated in Alaska, you would find that they operate  
11 responsibly.

12           They select the best methods. If you ever go to  
13 the north slope, or you go into a facility even down the  
14 street and you walk into the facility, you'll find that many  
15 of these have very, very good safety records, they maintain  
16 good safety records for a reason. And I think it's because  
17 the people that operate these companies care.

18           They're responsible and they have been  
19 responsible and what that does for me is it gives me a  
20 higher level of confidence of the results that we will  
21 produce when we build this gas line and this facility here  
22 in Nikiski, is that it will be operated safely.

23           The design concerns that have been raised will be  
24 addressed when we have a project. And I believe that it  
25 will be a long-term, very beneficial resource to Alaskans

1 and to the United States, as well as the world. It's a  
2 major project.

3           This project is very much needed in Alaska today.  
4 Over 50 years ago we built an oil pipeline and we turned it  
5 on, and we've operated it for over 50 years. It's provided  
6 a lot of good development, stable living conditions in  
7 Alaska. You know there was a period of time in Alaska where  
8 we had over two million barrels a day of oil flowing in that  
9 line.

10           And today, it's two-thirds empty, and Alaska is  
11 challenged with ways to pay their bills and yet we're also  
12 tied through regulations and we again, look at the risk of  
13 things. And yet, out of the other side of many of our  
14 mouths, we sit back, and we're challenged with the  
15 conversation when we prepare our budgets. I'm the Mayor  
16 here. I understand the needs, fund to the cap, educational  
17 funding for our children. Where many would say fund to the  
18 cap, fund that, make sure the government can provide that.

19           The same individuals talk out of the other side  
20 of their mouth and say, "But don't do it because it presents  
21 a high level of risk." You know what? I'm an Alaskan. I'm  
22 your Mayor. I had one of the best jobs I've ever had in my  
23 life and I worked with some of the greatest people that I've  
24 ever worked with in my life and I live in a community with  
25 doers. We're doers.

1           We work together as individuals. We solve  
2 problems together, problems together -- these design plans  
3 you're concerned about, there's an interest with the people  
4 that want to build this line to solve those concerns. I'll  
5 assure you of that.

6           You know in 2018, shortly after I became Mayor,  
7 we established an advisory group. It was a community group  
8 that we pulled together and we charged them with the duties  
9 of monitoring Alaska Gas Line Development Corporation's  
10 plans, looking at the local impacts of this project as it  
11 related to the residents, to homeowners, landowners,  
12 property owners, value, standards of living, routings of  
13 road, water sources.

14           We looked at a lot of different issues and we've  
15 catalogued many of those. And I think many of those  
16 concerns have been also addressed to you in writing. Some  
17 of them have been addressed to you in writing, but we do  
18 have a catalogue of concerns that would need to be addressed  
19 at some point. We plan to bring those comments to the  
20 offering and make suggestions with those when and if there  
21 is a permit issued and we have a project. We'll talk about  
22 those things with Alaska Gas Line Development Corporation  
23 and we'll advocate for the voice of the people that live in  
24 this community, that live on the Kenai Peninsula.

25           Keep in mind with this group is looking at the

1 entire Kenai Peninsula, Seward, Palmer, Anchorage -- going  
2 to Anchorage, the road system, the transportation systems,  
3 the availability of just resources in general and the  
4 impacts to our communities.

5           And with that I'll close my comments. I would  
6 say that I believe that this is a very needed project in  
7 Alaska. I understand the magnitude of this project -- it's  
8 a very, very large project. It will have a lot of  
9 challenges, it will have a lot of good and bad that comes  
10 with it, but I overall believe that if you take the  
11 environmental concerns and the environmental group, and you  
12 put the very best of those individuals with the very best in  
13 industry, and you partner those two, we can do this project.

14           We can make -- build a project that is beneficial  
15 to all that will pay dividends to Alaskans and to the United  
16 States for many, many years to come and so with that I'll  
17 close and I'll say thank you again for coming to Alaska to  
18 talk with us and to allow us to have an opportunity to speak  
19 with you tonight, thank you.

20           MR. PECONOM: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. The next  
21 speaker is Gene Palm.

22           MR. PALM: I've got some throat issues, but I'll  
23 try to speak up so I can be heard. My name is Gene Palm,  
24 I'm part of the neighborhood and I just want to -- want you  
25 to look at Boulder Point neighborhood report that I just

1 flipped through. And so, I'm not going to discuss that at  
2 all, I just thought one -- I just wanted to show my wife,  
3 just to tell you that my wife and I are supportive of that.

4           And I actually have a letter I'll send. I'll  
5 give you and in there both of us echo our support for the  
6 project as well. What seemingly maybe a small problem is  
7 that if you wanted to go visit that area where it makes  
8 landfall, you go out north, you go past Nikiski, mile 32,  
9 and you get to Kiska.

10           You'll climb a hill and it will be about a  
11 quarter a mile of Borough maintained property. Then there  
12 will be a big change after that. For the next mile in, it's  
13 basically maintained, Debbie McKay talked about that. It's  
14 a narrow road, it's basically been developed from basically  
15 a cat track to where we actually have to walk in at the --  
16 you talk, you look around the neighbors here know what I'm  
17 talking about.

18           Walking in for several weeks a year. Over time  
19 we've basically pooled our resources as we can and we fill  
20 potholes with gravel and sand and all sorts of things, and  
21 right now we have basically a semi-suitable road, you know  
22 Bob Breeden came in and he brought in some heavy equipment  
23 and it really did make a difference.

24           But right now, it's a skinny road, and it's got  
25 -- basically it's marginally a two-lane road and there have

1 already been several accidents just among the neighbors of  
2 people bumping into each other.

3           So, most of us try to comply with the 15 miles  
4 per hour, so you can drink a cup of coffee rule, and you  
5 could avoid that. But if this project goes through where  
6 basically it's said to go, there's going to be brand new  
7 access to our little neighborhood. The only access from  
8 that highway is Kiska, and it will be multiples of what it  
9 is now.

10           And so, frankly Kiska won't be able to stand it.  
11 It needs to be built into your plan. I looked at the  
12 traffic. I didn't see that noted once. If you're going to  
13 also go that route, you're going to have the new pipeline  
14 corridor. Now I have to admit, I plead guilty. I take  
15 advantage of those for my own use, but there's going to be  
16 dozens and maybe hundreds of people taking advantage of  
17 those corridors, doing the same kind of thing that I do to  
18 get access to hunting and resources.

19           It's really going to change the character of that  
20 neighborhood and that area, and so I just wanted to just  
21 bring that point up. I just don't -- at some point, at some  
22 level, there should be some item that says well what about  
23 access if they're going to put that in?

24           And again, I thank you very much for everything  
25 you guys have done.



1                   MR. PECONOM: Thank you Mr. Palm. Our next  
2 speaker is Mr. Bob Breeden.

3                   MR. BREEDEN: Good evening, my name is Bob  
4 Breeden and I have a home on Boulder Point seven miles  
5 northeast of here. John Peconom and Nancy Fox Fernandez,  
6 thank you for coming here all the way I presume, from D.C.  
7 to be with us.

8                   Thank you for preparing the near 1500 page Draft  
9 Environmental Impact Statement and the nearly 2300 page  
10 appendices. A lot of work went into this on your part.  
11 Thank you now for coming to Nikiski, Alaska to meet the  
12 residents who have chosen to live on this land.

13                   And thank you for hearing us and creating and  
14 considering the West alternative route. I have to say it  
15 was very much appreciated in the Draft EIS, the route, the  
16 West alternative route that avoids the Boulder Point  
17 neighborhood.

18                   FERC, please recommend to AGDC to utilize the  
19 West alternative route as depicted on page 198 of the Draft  
20 Environmental Impact Statement, a copy of which you've been  
21 given there.

22                   Permitting it now so it is time to get the route  
23 corrected now. Paramount is our concern for many reasons,  
24 each carefully specified in this letter we are going to give  
25 you. I have here a letter of -- it's created by the

1 neighborhood of Boulder Point. I'll give you this this  
2 evening, it's been signed as have two other letters that  
3 have been submitted to FERC previously.

4           Again, paramount is our concern for many reasons,  
5 each carefully specified in this letter that we are going to  
6 give you that the West alternative is the best routing for  
7 the main line to cross the Cook Inlet.

8           There's an upside to using the West alternative,  
9 upside for the project including miles of sand waves, which  
10 could undermine the line leading to, as is stated in the  
11 Draft EIS, vortex oscillation and pipeline overstressing or  
12 rupture, upside for the habitat of many species, upside for  
13 the moose caving concentration that is yet to be recognized  
14 on Boulder Point in the Environmental Impact Statement .

15           Upside for the pristine forest that you so well  
16 defined in your Draft Environmental Impact Statement and  
17 upside for the families that live on Boulder Point. There  
18 is no downside. The pipeline and the West alternative will  
19 come ashore into a Kenai Peninsula Borough parcel that is  
20 already proposed to be bisected by the pipeline in the  
21 original proposed routing.

22           I'm going to do better with these glasses on.  
23 The first scoping meeting of the Federal Energy Regulatory  
24 Commission in the Nikiski was held October 27th, 2015, for  
25 Cook Inlet, alternate routes were being considered then by

1 AK LNG. In April of 2017, the fifth revision, C-2 route,  
2 bisecting Boulder Point was submitted to FERC by the  
3 project.

4 Word circulated of AGDC's proposal to route the  
5 pipeline on this route through our neighborhood on Boulder  
6 Point. The first meeting expressed the concerns of the  
7 Boulder Point neighborhood where AGDC's offices in Anchorage  
8 on January 2018.

9 The Boulder Point neighborhood then sent letters  
10 to FERC dated September 10th, 2018 and December 3rd, 2018,  
11 recommending that Nikiski Bay underwater route to avoid  
12 significant disturbances upon over five miles of natural  
13 land.

14 The C-2 proposed routing would be installed upon  
15 the Salamatof Native Association's largest, most pristine  
16 contiguous piece of Kenai Peninsula land, which is on  
17 Boulder Point. The President and CEO of the Salamatof  
18 Native Association, Chris Monfor, today signed this letter  
19 and stated his consistent support for a route that does not  
20 bisect the Salamatof land.

21 Chris Monfor also stated that the Salamatof Board  
22 of Directors unanimously support the West alternative to  
23 protect their property. The Draft Environmental Impact  
24 Statement now details and considers the commendable new  
25 sixth route, the West alternative.

1           The benefits of the route are, and I'll hit these  
2 bullet points: Habitat protection -- unsubstantiated claims  
3 of knowledge of what lies below the bottom of the Cook  
4 Inlet, by AGDC found incapability of trenchless tunneling  
5 and outside boulders.

6           Avoidance of laying pipelines through sand waves,  
7 a potential rupture and loss -- from future loss of support  
8 and protection from a strong current, avoidance of impact on  
9 Boulder Point fishing families, allowing them to continue  
10 uninterrupted with their way of life.

11           Preservation of forest to which loss has already  
12 been deemed "significant" in the Draft EIS, noise impacts  
13 avoided in a residential area moves pipeline safety risks  
14 from a residential area. Avoidance of a moose caving  
15 concentration area, perhaps the best remaining moose  
16 nurtured on the Kenai Peninsula, and avoidance of  
17 disturbance to moose natural protective cover and changes to  
18 moose feeding grounds.

19           Marine mammal impacts of the pipeline under the  
20 Cook Inlet are insignificant -- are deemed insignificant in  
21 the Draft EIS, miles of human visual impacts are avoided,  
22 avoidance of pipeline vulnerabilities from the future --  
23 from any future significant dam washout, as occurred in  
24 1972.

25           Avoidance of residential area that keeps the main

1 line in industrial areas as the Draft EIS states. The West  
2 alternative is an entirely new route, clear of boulders, and  
3 the West alternative arrives at a known location of multiple  
4 successfully operated pipelines.

5           And from a big picture point of view, if the  
6 reason for coming ashore at Boulder Point is to use the  
7 trenchless method, to avoid an open cut through a few feet  
8 of phosphate, is that worth trading what is essentially an 8  
9 lane highway through five miles of pristine forest?

10           The Draft EIS allows for an open cut, if  
11 necessary, and a couple of title swings will refill that  
12 trench, and this is cheaper to the oil companies that will  
13 ultimately pay for this project. An industry has informed  
14 me that trenchless methods are ten times as costly as open  
15 cut.

16           A level laid down area of 10 acres is depicted  
17 for connecting pipe sections. In any event, trenchless  
18 methods are selected to succeed in Nikiski Bay as at Boulder  
19 Point. FERC, for all the reasons stated, please direct AGDC  
20 to route the main line along the West alternative.

21           The Boulder Point neighborhood awaits  
22 confirmation that the West alternative will be the permitted  
23 alignment in the Final Environmental Impact Statement for  
24 the Alaska LNG Project. Thank you.

25           MR. PECONOM: Thanks Mr. Breeden. Our next

1 speaker is Mr. Wayne Ogal.

2 MR. OGAL: My name is Wayne Ogal. I'm a Nikiski  
3 resident and I'm very much in favor of the project. I  
4 believe it's something that Alaska desperately needs in our  
5 present economic situation.

6 90% of our government expenditures are based on  
7 oil revenue of some kind and we're trying to do something  
8 about that but at the present moment that is where we're at.  
9 I think that we -- in needing this project, I used to live  
10 out in Bethel, and that's 400 miles west of here. I was the  
11 public work's director out there and the expenses for  
12 villages and communities out there are just astronomical --  
13 7 dollars a gallon for gasoline and milk 8 dollars a gallon  
14 and that type of thing, and it's very hard for those  
15 communities to survive.

16 This particular project would be, I think, a boom  
17 for their particular economic development and their ability  
18 to continue living out there in that particular environment.  
19 I do believe in the EIS process. I've been involved with  
20 that in my previous careers as far as on the regulatory  
21 side.

22 I think it is -- especially with this  
23 administration, this national administration in place, I  
24 think it's a fair -- has the potential of being a very fair  
25 process. If you can't answer the questions like our friends

1 from Boulder Point are making about development, then the  
2 project should not go forward.

3           That doesn't mean that there are -- I believe  
4 most of these problems can be, are not insurmountable and as  
5 far as the design and that type of thing. There are some  
6 issues, as I mentioned, Boulder Point has I think, some very  
7 well opened issues that need to be looked at.

8           The water for this particular project is -- the  
9 concept is basically to have it piped up from Kenai, which  
10 is the 4 or 5 mile run up the road. I believe the water  
11 supply can be found here in Nikiski. I think the 4 or 5  
12 mile pipeline creates what I would say a security risk to an  
13 LNG facility which I think is not really something we'd want  
14 to have.

15           Also, something that hasn't been mentioned  
16 tonight and it's not really a FERC process, or a part of it,  
17 but it's PILOT, it's a payment in lieu of taxes. The  
18 previous AGDC project manager said and I think there's some  
19 truth to it, that Nikiski will have sustained about 50% of  
20 the impact of this project and I think that is something  
21 that we need to really kind of focus on emphasize.

22           The payment in lieu of taxes for construction as  
23 well as the project costs are a reality that we -- I think  
24 we need to look at and make sure that is taken care of as  
25 far as the project development is concerned.

1           We have a road reroute within the road here, the  
2 Kenai Spur Highway is an extremely important part of our  
3 community, it's how we get around -- the only way we can get  
4 around. And I think instead of just having an "as is" type  
5 of route, we need to think in terms of increased traffic and  
6 that type of thing.

7           So, a two-way road, I think, is not a  
8 satisfactory solution. And I think we need to do something  
9 better than that. On the -- I can say from the AGDC side, I  
10 think as an organization I think they have been very  
11 responsive and sympathetic and involved with the process.

12           They've held numerous public meetings and I think  
13 have been valuable for the community. The -- our Borough  
14 Mayor, Mayor Pierce, had mentioned the fact that he  
15 established an advisory group, which I think was a very,  
16 very good thing. We've been meeting on a fairly regular  
17 basis and have identified many different aspects that may  
18 impact the community and concerns, and that has been through  
19 our Open Meetings Act, and that type of thing.

20           And people can come and listen and participate in  
21 that and a lot of those specific concerns will be brought to  
22 you in comments to the FERC process. And finally, there is  
23 risk to the project, there always is, but we've done this  
24 before. We've done the Alaska Pipeline and there was a lot  
25 of concern about migration of animals back and forth and so



1 on and so forth, and the tundra being thawed out and all  
2 sorts of other different concerns.

3 Those concerns were addressed, and I think a lot  
4 of lessons were learned from that and I think those were not  
5 newbie's as far as being able to build a trans-Alaska type  
6 of pipeline, and I think we can do it here.

7 But we do need to listen to points -- hard  
8 points, which the Boulder Point people have brought up and  
9 they need to be addressed. There is something I think also  
10 is important in projects is good will. I think project  
11 people, project managers for projects need to have that in  
12 mind.

13 In other words, they don't have to do something,  
14 but sometimes it is the right thing to do as far as building  
15 something that they don't have to and I think that brings  
16 about a lot of positive feelings in the community back and  
17 forth about the project.

18 And with that, thank you very much for coming  
19 here and having people be able to testify.

20 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Mr. Ogal. Our next  
21 speaker is Mr. Ross Njaa and Barbara.

22 MR. NJAA: My name is Ross Njaa, Jr. I'm one of  
23 the Boulder Point residents.

24 MR. PECONOM: Can I ask you to spell that for me.

25 MR. NJAA: Oh, N-j-a-a is how you spell the last

1 name.

2 MR. PECONOM: Thank you.

3 MR. NJAA: And my concern is where the pipeline  
4 is supposed to come out of the inlet at the Boulder Point  
5 area and that would just disrupt the whole neighborhood and  
6 I am for the Western alternative as a lot of the reasons  
7 that Bob Breeden and Bill Bookout and Linda Huhndorf, Mary  
8 McKay and or Debbie McKay and the rest of the people are  
9 going to speak.

10 I'm one of the signees of the letter that Bob  
11 gave, and I've lived in that area for 40 years and my wife  
12 and I were the first ones that moved back there. We let the  
13 road go in the wintertime, we just stay back there for like  
14 six months without ever coming out, and it's changed quite a  
15 bit since we've moved in there.

16 And I hate to see it change even more, so thank  
17 you very much.

18 MR. PECONOM: Thank you, sir.

19 MS. NJAA: And I'm Barbara Njaa, N-j-a-a, and I  
20 don't know if you all would have the time to get to come out  
21 and look, because sometimes just seeing for yourself can  
22 make a huge difference. It's rugged, Devil's Clubs are  
23 anyone who likes to crawl through the woods, a nightmare.  
24 The alders are equally so, and yet I moved out there in 1967  
25 when I was just 13 and we bought it from Mike Timinoff. He

1 was a veteran, he had a home site, there was not even a  
2 north road.

3           So, it was his trapping trail and it's so  
4 beautiful, country back there when you get to know it and  
5 learn to forage for all the different plants. There's a lot  
6 of unique vegetation and I think right now my husband I  
7 probably do forage foods, we put up maybe 50% or more of  
8 what we eat throughout the year just things that I blanch  
9 and freeze and put in the freezer or dry from.

10           So, it's land that is like an onion. As I've  
11 gotten older and peeled back the layers, I love it more. I  
12 think when I was 13 I wanted to move anywhere away from  
13 mending nests and Devil's Clubs, I love it now.

14           And so, I just wanted to say again, our concern  
15 is not to hold up the project and I don't know the pro's and  
16 con's of the project, but I do know that it's an industrial  
17 area that Arness Bay or Nakiska Bay has been you know, is a  
18 point where pipelines come in.

19           If it could just stay there and as the Mayor  
20 pointed out, there is empty buildings all along the way from  
21 a service company that used to be occupied when the oil was  
22 a bigger concern in the inlet. Now, there's a lot of places  
23 and things that have already been -- that could be used  
24 again or, you know, a better route.

25           But this is remote and wild, and it has remained

1 that way because of the boulders, the fast tide, and the  
2 hills. It's glaciated and extremely rough, and I'd just  
3 like to see, you know, keep it the way it is and go ahead  
4 and take the western route and everybody's happen, so  
5 anyway, thank you.

6 MR. PECONOM: Thank you ma'am. Our next speaker  
7 is Miss Ann Huhndorf.

8 MS. HUHNDORF: Hello, my name is Ann Huhndorf,  
9 last name is spelled H-u-h-n-d-o-r-f. I forgot to bring my  
10 phone because I was going to give you the parcel numbers of  
11 where I live. I live pretty much adjacent to where this  
12 proposed site is wanting to be built.

13 And I wanted to give some -- I need my glasses.  
14 I wanted to give a little history, family history. My  
15 husband isn't here today. He's Duncan Nikolski and that's  
16 on the Aleutian Chain, and I would have loved if he would  
17 have been here because he's a great speaker. I am not.

18 But I really didn't prepare anything because like  
19 I said, I didn't think I had signed-up, but I definitely  
20 want to say something. So, my husband's family has -- they  
21 homesteaded on Seneva Lake and that lake is the dam that  
22 people have been -- the neighbors have been talking about  
23 that is very pristine, very -- how don't know how to  
24 describe -- the dam is very sensitive.

25 I live right below that dam and my husband I own

1 8 acres there. My husband, to give you a little history,  
2 like I said his parents homesteaded on Seneca Lake and as  
3 Barb mentioned that she had bought property from Mike  
4 Dementiv, that was my uncle or my husband's uncle.

5           And my husband's dad had purchased the -- so  
6 fishing sites, back in the '40's, '50's, and we have been  
7 fishing there since -- well, since my husband was a child  
8 and now, we have grandchildren, and our kids fished there.  
9 They made money working on the sites out there.

10           And now we have our grandkids that are learning  
11 this way of life that has been in my husband's family for  
12 over -- almost 60 years now, and I drive the Southside  
13 Avenue. Every day I pass that site where this proposal site  
14 is -- that you're wanting to build -- LNG wanting to build.

15           The thought of having the path, or helipad or a  
16 man camp and all these people, and I just know that that  
17 road will not be able to sustain the pristine that my  
18 neighbors are -- have come to love over all these years.

19           Also, I'm getting ahead of myself here. I have  
20 so much to say. Also, the -- for 25 years, we've lived on  
21 this property, but my husband can go way back where Mike  
22 Dementiv was you know, going there on a cat trail. And you  
23 know, to lose that and you know, this property that we  
24 purchased back in '95, right -- it's right on the water and  
25 it's like I said, just adjacent to the proposed site.

1           I was -- 25 years ago when we purchased this  
2 property, this was our retirement. This is where I want my  
3 future generations to enjoy just like the rest of our  
4 neighbor's family and generations to come.

5           I would have to say I hope that the alternative  
6 is the way that LNG is going to go with this. But I just  
7 hate to see this project come right like my backyard. I  
8 guess that's all I want to say right now but I will be able  
9 to go online and submit some more information because I do  
10 have pictures and I definitely want my husband to go online  
11 and voice his opinion as well, so, I'm going to keep it at  
12 that for now, so.

13           Oh, one more thing -- several years ago there was  
14 a local excavating company that wanted to take some boulders  
15 off of Boulder Point, and there was a public meeting at the  
16 Kenai Peninsula Borough in Soldotna. And of course, we all  
17 got together, went to the meeting and gave our two cents and  
18 there was a marine biologist that did go to this meeting,  
19 and he gave a crucial study of the impact it would have on  
20 Boulder Point.

21           So, I just want that for the record that that --  
22 that there is a study on Boulder Point, so. That's it for  
23 now, thank you.

24           MR. PECONOM: Thank you, ma'am. Our next speaker  
25 is Mr. Bryon, excuse me, Byron Nalos.

1           MR. NALOS: Thanks for coming. My name is Byron  
2 Nalos, B-y-r-o-n N-a-l-o-s. I'm representing myself. I'm  
3 representing the Marthadoll family. They are fisherman  
4 also, so we fish right where this proposed route -- I  
5 believe its mile 793 falls ashore. It goes through one of  
6 our sets. The -- I'm speaking to the construction phase  
7 right now that would inhibit our operation and also the  
8 Marthadoll family from being able to access their site from  
9 the private property where we launch.

10           It would have a significant impact on our ability  
11 to launch our boat in the water, considering there's not  
12 public access for miles and also where we launch our boat  
13 comes from the Seneva Lake washout area, which is -- I'm  
14 sure you're familiar with that.

15           I took some notes, yeah, so that would be during  
16 the construction phase. During the finished phase, I'm not  
17 totally sure of how it works but I think one of our sets  
18 would be unusable, there's a beach there, or not a beach but  
19 it's close enough to the beach where that's where the pipe  
20 comes ashore.

21           As for -- I'm also a landowner in the area and  
22 all that's in the Boulder Point neighbor's community, so I  
23 don't think I have anything to add there. I guess I will  
24 add one thing, being very familiar with that specific area,  
25 right between Mr. Bookout and Ann Huhndorf's property, and

1 their houses are close to the edge of their property and the  
2 height of the bluff there, and the amount of bluff that  
3 would be moved, and the taper of that bluff coming down and  
4 the scope of the project that you want to do to build pipe  
5 and launch it from there, I think someone more knowledgeable  
6 from me can give you the right answers, but I think it  
7 doesn't pass the eyeball test for me and the massive impact  
8 it would have on the Huhndorf's and Mr. Bookout.

9           And then for everything as far as the Boulder  
10 Point community, my signature is on the neighbor's stuff, so  
11 that's all I have to say.

12           MR. PECONOM: Thank you very much. Our next  
13 speaker is Mr. John Quick.

14           MR. QUICK: John Quick, I live in Nikiski,  
15 Alaska. And first of all, I just want to say thanks to  
16 everybody for you all to come up here. I know that you're  
17 probably in a different city or town every week, and I bet  
18 that that's cumbersome on your all's family and so I  
19 appreciate the fact that you all came up here.

20           I had the privilege of coming to a FERC meeting  
21 last year on this topic and it was fun to be a part of. I  
22 really speak in favor of this project. The State of Alaska  
23 -- we are the highest unemployment rate in the entire United  
24 States. I think we're sitting at 6.3% and that's a big deal  
25 for us.



1           We see people leaving these communities, leaving  
2 boroughs, leaving the state, every day and that's sad for  
3 us. And I do think there's valid concerns, whether it's  
4 with Boulder Point or with other fishing communities, I do  
5 think there are valid concerns, but at the end of the day I  
6 want to speak in favor for this project.

7           You could be a big part of helping save Alaska's  
8 community and economy and I think that's a cool thing to be  
9 a part of. So, thank you for your time and I just want to  
10 be very, very favorable for this project, thank you.

11           MR. PECONOM: Thank you very much. Our next  
12 speaker is Mr. Paul Huber.

13           MR. HUBER: Hi, I'm Paul Huber, H-u-b-e-r and I'm  
14 from Nikiski. Now, I spent 25 years in the Coast Guard all  
15 over, from the east coast to the west coast, from the  
16 Midwest to Alaska, and one of the things that I learned is  
17 that change is inevitable.

18           I saw it in all the communities I was in. But I  
19 moved to Alaska because of its pristine nature. I also  
20 support the project. But I only support the project and ask  
21 that you ensure the oversight is applied so that it is  
22 correctly and safely done.

23           When the state took over this project, AGDC had a  
24 Community Advisory Council that did not have one  
25 representative of this community. It wasn't until Mayor

1 Pierce was elected, and he and his Chief of Staff, John  
2 Quick, were informed of the ignoring of our community that  
3 they formed a Project Advisory Council that included the  
4 people of Nikiski.

5           The proposed bypass for the highway will create  
6 additional hazards and increased travel times. This highway  
7 is our lifeline. Just this summer, the Sterling Highway was  
8 closed to a fire. The peninsula was dramatically affected,  
9 and if there was any mishap, this community will be likely  
10 impacted.

11           This highway is presently dangerous as it is.  
12 Just last week we had a fatality. How is this bypass and  
13 construction traffic and other increased industrial traffic  
14 going to make our transit safer?

15           Lastly, this proposed route will destroy hopes  
16 and dreams, especially finances of those whose property is  
17 between the proposed bypass and the fence of the facility.  
18 There's also a proposed water source from Kenai, I'm  
19 adamantly against this. Nikiski has viable water sources  
20 that will meet the requirements for this project.

21           Also, this will now provide a foot in the door to  
22 a possible annexation by the City of Kenai. Am I  
23 far-fetched? Well, just ask the neighborhoods being forced  
24 in annexation by Soldotna. Lastly, Nikiski has many areas  
25 that are industrial. Alaska private property ownership is

1 less than 1% of all Alaska lands -- why? Why? Why are you  
2 willing to destroy more dreams and futures of people by  
3 allowing a pipeline to be placed through a pristine  
4 neighborhood around Boulder Point?

5 We have many other industrial areas, many other  
6 state lands. Don't take more of our privately owned lands  
7 and destroy it. Thank you.

8 MR. PECONOM: Thank you, sir. So, at this point  
9 we've gone through the list of speakers who signed-up. Is  
10 anyone else interested in speaking? You would like to  
11 speak, yeah absolutely, that's what I was going to say, if  
12 folks are interested in speaking, just go ahead and raise  
13 your hand. Be sure to state your name, spell it out for the  
14 record.

15 MR. EWING: My name is A.J. Ewing, E-w-i-n-g.  
16 I'm a landowner in the Boulder Point neighborhood also. My  
17 parcel number is 01301015. And because I'm a landowner, Mr.  
18 Breeden has been diligent in giving me all the emails that  
19 have been in the train around in association with this  
20 project.

21 I've read all of them, I've done all the research  
22 on my own as well. And I didn't have anything prepared for  
23 this, so I wasn't planning on speaking, but since I heard  
24 all the other objections and they're all valid, they're all  
25 good, but I haven't heard anything about what I was going to

1 submit which is throughout all those emails and all the  
2 research that I've done, I haven't seen anything that  
3 addresses the pipeline operational standards.

4 Like, I work in the oil field, so I support the  
5 oil field. It supports me, I support it. But -- and I  
6 support the project, I just don't support the route. I  
7 would -- I support the Western suggestion. So, I haven't  
8 seen any noting of how deep the pipeline is going to be  
9 buried.

10 My water well is 32 feet and I have good clean  
11 water and every pipeline that I've ever worked around has  
12 failed before in one spot or another. It will fail. If  
13 it's metal, it's going to fail. I don't know where the gas  
14 is coming from, or what kind of H<sub>2</sub>S levels that's in the  
15 gas.

16 And if the pipeline fails that H<sub>2</sub>S, well H<sub>2</sub>S is  
17 dangerous and it will kill you, that's not my primary  
18 concern, it's massively corrosive to metals especially. So,  
19 if it's in the pipeline eventually it's going to fail. Even  
20 if it's clean, sweet gas, gas itself is corrosive, not as  
21 corrosive as H<sub>2</sub>S, but if it leaks, if the pipeline is buried  
22 10 feet underground and the water well is 32 feet, there's  
23 not a lot of room for error for any type of liquid will fall  
24 out.

25 And while natural gas in its gas form is much

1 lighter than air, and H2S also, being mostly methane, is  
2 also lighter than air, but the liquid will seep and  
3 potentially hurt water wells.

4           And also, as far as the Mayor's comments of  
5 doers, I agree with that. Everybody around here are doers  
6 and everybody in the Boulder Point area are doers. I'm a  
7 doer. Mr. Breeden's a doer, you have to be. If you're in  
8 the Boulder Point area you have to be. And if you're not a  
9 doer, you're not going to go to the Boulder Point area.

10           You're not going to choose to live there. So, I  
11 do support the project. I do not support the route. I am  
12 in favor of the Western movement. Another thing -- the  
13 natural gas, like the Mayor said, everybody that can use  
14 natural gas to heat their homes as a utility and things like  
15 that, nobody in the Boulder Point area uses natural gas to  
16 heat their homes, it's not available there.

17           So, it's -- there's not a lot in it for the  
18 people that live there. There's a lot of negativity in it  
19 for the people that live there. So, the end goal is the  
20 same, just construction projects, moving the pipeline to the  
21 Western suggestion, thanks.

22           MR. PECONOM: Thank you, sir. Would anybody else  
23 like to speak this evening? Yes, sir? Again, just a  
24 reminder, name for the record please.

25           MR. GABRIEL: Good evening, my name is Brian

1 Gabriel, B-r-i-a-n G-a-b-r-i-e-l, and I'm the Mayor of the  
2 City of Kenai. I wasn't planning on testifying this  
3 evening. I just wanted to come here to listen to the  
4 different folks, but after listening to some of the  
5 testimony, I would just like to say that we are -- our city  
6 planner has been tasked with analyzing the EIS and will have  
7 any comments, if necessary, before City Council in the first  
8 meeting in October which is before the comment period, so  
9 we'd have something and possibly a resolution.

10 I will say that our Council Administration does  
11 support this project. If you go back to when the  
12 Trans-Alaska Pipeline was built, there were concerns that  
13 you know, a lot of caribou, environmental concerns that were  
14 looked at, issues resolved, and we've enjoyed the quality of  
15 life we do today because of the construction of that  
16 pipeline.

17 So, it's also a national security issue. We,  
18 it's not only going to boost our economy, but I think add to  
19 the level of energy independence that the United States  
20 would realize, and therefore move forward to a more secure  
21 nation. So, there's a ripple effect that this project would  
22 move forward.

23 Addressing Mr. Huber's concern, I did hear that  
24 the worries about the City of Kenai annexing north Kenai  
25 because the water pipeline -- I'm just here to say that, and

1 I've heard this from other people and I'll tell Mr. Huber  
2 what I tell those people, you should be more worried about  
3 Savana than Kenai.

4           There's no need for that. We were approached by  
5 AK LNG to look at the feasibility of doing that which we  
6 have, so anyway, I just want to -- like I said, I wasn't  
7 planning on testifying this evening, but we do support that  
8 project and comments will be coming forward, thank you, and  
9 thank you for coming here.

10           MR. PECONOM: Thank you, sir. Would anybody else  
11 like to speak this evening, ma'am?

12           MS. NICKS: My name is Constance Nicks,  
13 C-o-n-s-t-a-n-c-e last name Nicks, N (as in Nancy)-i-c-k-s.  
14 I live right off of South Miller Loop and that is where the  
15 road is going to be rerouted. That is a huge community  
16 there that has a lot of kids, so just to have a road that is  
17 a two-lane going through a community is not really the  
18 safest for kids. So, I suggest that it should be widened  
19 for the safety factor alone for the community.

20           Because the speed going through the different  
21 curves and it is a high accident area right there as it is,  
22 so just rerouting something around as is, is not going to be  
23 as beneficial as if you would improve it a little bit  
24 better, even just by adding a turn lane or adding lighter  
25 sidewalks or wider lanes on the side, but just make it a

1 little bit wider for the kids in that community to be able  
2 to be safe. Thank you very much.

3 MR. PECONOM: Thank you. Would anyone else like  
4 to speak this evening? Sure.

5

6

7

8

9

10 MR. WARREN: Bill Warren, and I've previously  
11 been on here of course. But one thing we have a huge state  
12 and a lot of our income is industrial oil and gas. And I  
13 want you folks to really keep that in mind that one  
14 industrial area in south central Alaska is enough, if it's  
15 done right.

16 If it's engineered right and we get the markets  
17 right, we don't have to have an industrial complex in Palmer  
18 or anyplace else. Right here is where it's established, and  
19 I am in true agreement with what the Boulder Point people  
20 are saying. That's why I'm urging again here that we have  
21 to do this right and I'm depending upon you folks to do  
22 this.

23 And then we could have a project that would last  
24 for 100 years and we'll have other industrial needs, just  
25 not this LNG plant. It will be probably 50 others, you



1 know, look at Port Arthur, Texas. We don't want to be that,  
2 of course, but anyway, let's keep it all in one area and  
3 we've got a good area here and we've got a good start on it,  
4 thank you.

5 MR. PECONOM: Thank you very much. As a reminder,  
6 the DEIS comment period will close on October 3rd, so if you  
7 are planning on submitting a written or electronic comment  
8 please do so by then. If you are interested in staying  
9 informed and receiving updates on this project, including a  
10 Final Environmental Impact Statement, please talk to someone  
11 at the back table.

12 In conclusion, the comments received here tonight  
13 will be considered and addressed in the Final Environmental  
14 Impact Statement. With your assistance, decision makers  
15 will be better informed. On behalf of the Commission, I  
16 thank you for coming tonight to participate in the  
17 environmental review of the Alaska LNG Project.

18 Your participation is essential to ensuring that  
19 thorough an environmental review. Thank you again and drive  
20 safely and if you'd like to ask any questions, we'll be  
21 around here for as long as folks want to talk. Thank you  
22 very much.

23 (Whereupon, the meeting concluded at 6:45 p.m.)  
24  
25

## 1 CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL REPORTER

2

3 This is to certify that the attached proceeding  
4 before the FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION in the  
5 Matter of:

6 Name of Proceeding: Alaska LNG Project

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15 Docket No.: CP17-178-000

16 Place: Nikiski, Alaska

17 Date: Wednesday, September 11, 2019

18 were held as herein appears, and that this is the original  
19 transcript thereof for the file of the Federal Energy  
20 Regulatory Commission, and is a full correct transcription  
21 of the proceedings.

22

23

24 Larry Flowers

25 Official Reporter