

1 FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

2

3 TRANSCONTINENTAL GAS PIPE LINE COMPANY, LLC

4

5 DOCKET NO. CP17-101-000

6

7 PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

8

9 Solanco High School

10 585 Solanco Road

11 Quarryville, PA 17566

12

13 Thursday, May 3, 2018

14 5:00 p.m.

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

2 (5:00 p.m.)

3 MR. BUTTERWORTH: My name is David Butterworth,  
4 B-u-t-t-e-r-w-o-r-t-h, let me spell it again,  
5 B-u-t-t-e-r-w-o-r-t-h. I'm a business agent for Pipeliner's  
6 Local 798 and I would like to speak about the quality,  
7 safety and training that Local 798 brings to the table  
8 during the construction of pipeline projects such as the  
9 Northeast Supply Enhancement.

10 I represent approximately 7,600 welders, helpers  
11 and journeymen who live all over the United States. My  
12 jurisdiction extends from Maine to Virginia and there are  
13 around 1,000 of our members who live and work in this  
14 Northeast jurisdiction.

15 Local 798 has built most of the major pipelines  
16 that run across this nation including the Alaska Pipeline.  
17 I would now like to talk about the quality of work and  
18 craftsmanship that Local 798 devotes to these projects.

19 Our welder members must take a qualification test  
20 before they are allowed to weld on the pipeline. These  
21 qualification welds are destructively tested and if any  
22 imperfections are found, then that member is not allowed to  
23 weld on the pipeline.

24 If a member does pass the qualification test, he  
25 then has every weld he makes on the job x-rayed and reviewed

1 by a level 3 x-ray technician who decides if the weld is  
2 acceptable and stands up to 1104 code.

3 In most places if a welder has three or more  
4 unacceptable welds, he will be removed from that project.  
5 With these standards in place, Local 798 welders are held  
6 under some of the strictest guidelines in the construction  
7 industry and these are standards we are proud to uphold.

8 Now on to environmental and safety training --  
9 safety and environmental training is something that Local  
10 798 holds of the utmost importance. Our contractors and the  
11 clients we work for have extensive safety and environmental  
12 awareness programs that protect our workers and the land we  
13 are working on.

14 When these pipelines are built, they are built by  
15 a collective group that understands that when we build a  
16 pipeline, we must build it safely with the least amount of  
17 environmental impact possible and everything else is second  
18 to that.

19 Now on to training -- Local 798 is home to one of  
20 the most state of the art training facilities in the  
21 country. We understand that we must keep up with the most  
22 current welding procedures in an ever-changing industry.

23 Our facility is equipped with 52 welding booths  
24 and state of the art equipment to be used by our membership  
25 so they can brush up or learn new skills. The Local 798

1 training center is a testament to our dedication to  
2 providing our members with the best of the best when it  
3 comes to training so they can apply the latest technologies  
4 when pipelines are built now and in the future.

5 In closing I would like to say that the purpose  
6 of my speech is to show FERC who will be building this  
7 pipeline and to assure you that it will be built with highly  
8 trained, skilled, safe American workers. I support the  
9 Northeast Supply Enhancement Project and hope for swift  
10 approval of the permits, thank you.

11 MR. FISCHER: Mark Fischer, M-a-r-k  
12 F-i-s-c-h-e-r. So I'm here to support the Northeast Supply  
13 Enhancement Project primarily because it's an undeniable  
14 fact that our energy consumption is increasing. We need as  
15 many pipelines and natural gas projects as possible, with --  
16 especially when you consider the fact that we've got a lot  
17 of coal plants that are closing, a lot of nuclear plants --  
18 especially the New York that will be closing soon.

19 They need that additional energy and natural gas  
20 is one of the cleanest methods to get that done. Pipelines  
21 are the safest method for getting them to that end market  
22 and you know, although New York's infamous for their  
23 refusals to allow for some energy infrastructure projects,  
24 which has led to the dubious distinction of having the  
25 highest cost per kilowatt hour next to Hawaii, but I think

1 we know why Hawaii is so expensive.

2           But New York is neighboring to one of the most  
3 prolific oil and gas fields, arguably in the world and yet  
4 they deny projects like the Constitution Pipeline and  
5 certainly they're fighting a pipeline like this much to  
6 their detriment and the detriment of their neighbors like  
7 Massachusetts.

8           Massachusetts literally, as you may or may not be  
9 aware, literally had to import two mega tankers of liquid  
10 natural gas from Russia this winter to help with their load  
11 -- their base load. They took two tankers from Russia. So  
12 they'd rather buy natural gas from Vladimir Putin than from  
13 their neighbors 250 miles to the south here in Pennsylvania  
14 which is just astounding.

15           It's actually frankly, I think, criminal that  
16 they were able to even do that. So now they're -- you know,  
17 it's not all New York's fault, Massachusetts has made some  
18 horrible, horrible decisions on their very own so I think  
19 that whole New England area needs to sort of get their  
20 priorities straight.

21           But the Northeast Supply Enhancement Project will  
22 help New York and it will help them meet their energy needs.  
23 It will help them meet their very aggressive clean -- their  
24 very aggressive clean air goals which you know in fact I  
25 think I read a statistic that New York is experiencing some

1 of the best air quality that they've had in 50 years.

2           And I'm sure you've heard this statistic that we  
3 are as a whole -- America is enjoying some of the lowest CO2  
4 levels that we've ever had in the past 30 years. All of  
5 this while our consumption is increasing -- so we're  
6 lowering our CO2 emissions while our consumption is  
7 increasing all because of natural gas supplanting coal as  
8 the primary energy generation fuel.

9           So I'll finish with the fact that I'm friends  
10 with a Pennsylvania DEP air quality expert and I thought  
11 this was going to be in front of an audience so I could --  
12 he's in Pennsylvania and he's the leader of an air quality  
13 group and he -- we were having dinner the other night and he  
14 said you know I am going to work myself out of a job in 5  
15 years.

16           I'm like, "Why?" He's like, "Because there are  
17 very few areas where they can make any more improvements to  
18 the overall air quality in Pennsylvania specifically. And  
19 then he cited you know, everything certainly with the gas  
20 and the coal and emission standards are a big part of that  
21 as well, but he did say some of the biggest issues that he's  
22 dealing with right now are tugboats of all things.

23           Tugboats are some of the biggest emitters that he  
24 is faced with, and that's where they would get the biggest  
25 gain at this point. But anyway so I thought that was

1 interesting and you know it's certainly worth taking note  
2 that natural gas is what it's all about.

3           So I hope you all approve -- well certainly it  
4 sounds like you are moving in that direction and I hope you  
5 are able to somehow insure that New York can't pull any of  
6 these fast tricks with the 401 water quality permit that's  
7 held up the Constitution Pipeline. That's an egregious use  
8 of regulatory standards that they are truly a political game  
9 that's being driven by some of liberal elites in New York  
10 that is really just unfair to the people in New York.

11           In fact, I would go so far as to say that this  
12 Mario Cuomo's way of gentrification for making energy too  
13 expensive for poor people in New York so they can get out  
14 and it doesn't really matter to him because it's the elites  
15 that are going to elect him anyway, but it's a sad  
16 commentary and I hope the FERC -- and I know it's a  
17 difficult position for you to be in but I hope the FERC is  
18 able to somehow influence the New York DEP from pulling  
19 these shenanigans in the future, thank you so much.

20           MR. HYDER: My name is Jacob Hyder, J-a-c-o-b  
21 H-y-d-e-r. Hello, my name is Jacob Hyder and I proudly  
22 represent the hard-working men and women of the Laborer's  
23 International Union of North America.

24           We understand the importance of infrastructure  
25 projects like the Northeast Supply Enhancement first hand --

1 LIUNA, which is at the forefront of providing quality  
2 workers for rebuilding and maintaining America's energy  
3 infrastructure in other sectors of heavy highway  
4 construction.

5           More than 3,000 jobs are at stake with this  
6 particular project. Many are going to skilled laborers like  
7 myself and the members we represent. This project will not  
8 just create family-supporting jobs, it will provide a  
9 reliable source of economical, reliable and domestically  
10 sourced natural gas.

11           Domestic is key as we need to move away from any  
12 dependency on foreign energy. Time and time again Williams  
13 has demonstrated its commitment to maintain the higher  
14 standards of safety utilizing construction and operational  
15 procedures that exceed already stringent industry  
16 regulations.

17           In addition, Williams will use highly skills and  
18 trained labor force including members of LIUNA which I am a  
19 proud member. Nothing is of greater importance to us than  
20 safety. We not only work in these areas, we live in them.  
21 Our members go above and beyond not to just adhere to all  
22 safety requirements but to enforce the best practices in  
23 pipeline and workplace safety.

24           I am passionate about the success of  
25 infrastructure projects like the Northeast Supply



1 Enhancement because quite frankly our livelihoods depend on  
2 it. I urge FERC to approve the permits of this  
3 infrastructure in a timely manner. Thank you, Jacob Hyder.

4 MS. ARNOLD: Candice Arnold, C-a-n-d-i-c-e  
5 A-r-n-o-l-d. Please accept this comment in support of  
6 Williams Northeast Supply Enhancement Project, the careful  
7 expansion of existing energy infrastructure in Pennsylvania  
8 and New York and New Jersey.

9 This is an important natural gas project that  
10 will not just increase access to affordable, clean and  
11 domestic energy. It will create 3,000 plus good-paying  
12 jobs, many going to union laborers who depend on these sorts  
13 of projects to provide for their families.

14 I take this personally as I've made my living on  
15 working on infrastructure projects like Northeast Supply  
16 Enhancement. I'm also very familiar with Williams'  
17 commitment to safety throughout all phases of project  
18 development.

19 This company has maintained an impressive safety  
20 record in its half a century history of operating natural  
21 gas pipelines. Company leaders are taking special  
22 precautions to insure the Northeast Supply Enhancement goes  
23 above federal safety regulations in several areas.

24 Williams has also made it clear they will hire  
25 union labor which will insure the company's commitment to

1 securing good pay for laborers and ensuring safety for this  
2 workforce. Please issue necessary permits for this work  
3 project without delay. The livelihood of thousands of men  
4 and women across the Northeastern region depend on it.  
5 Thank you for your attention, that's it.

6 MR. SASSE: My name is Tyler Sasse and its  
7 spelled T-y-l-e-r S-a-s-s-e. I'm a Maryland resident over  
8 in Cecil County which is south here a little ways and I  
9 guess I'd like to come out here and advocate for the  
10 permitting process that FERC would issue the proper permits.

11 I think it's critical to the, you know, energy  
12 independence of this country and it also is going to create  
13 a whole lot of blue collar jobs which is good for the  
14 citizens of the country and also it's millions and millions  
15 of dollars coming in to the local economy around here.

16 Yeah I just would urge that FERC would -- I  
17 strongly would urge that FERC would issue the permits in a  
18 timely manner and we can get the project built. Do you have  
19 any questions for me? That's it, alright you bet, thank  
20 you.

21 MR. KELLOGG: Bill Kellogg, K-e-l-l-o-g-g. I'm  
22 supporting the gas pipeline. I guess they call it Supply --  
23 Northeast Supply. The reason is it creates like 3,000 jobs  
24 or more, hopefully I'll be on it -- I'm on this one that's  
25 just down the road a little ways from here.

1           But I realize and a lot of people should realize  
2 the importance of all these pipelines for the  
3 infrastructure. There's nothing that can be made without  
4 natural gas and oil. You can't make solar panels without  
5 oil, you can't make propane without oil or natural gas.

6           Natural gas is actually the safest energy there  
7 is. Other than that I guess that's all I've got to say,  
8 thank you.

9           MR. ALLEN: My name is Walter Allen. I'm an  
10 officer with GAR Associates with the headquarters in the  
11 town of Amherst and we also have offices in Albany, New  
12 York. And our corporation has approximately 40 people and  
13 for a period of approximately 10 years we've worked in the  
14 gas and oil business as independent contractors, as  
15 appraisers and real estate consultants.

16           So we've had the opportunity to get in some of  
17 the front end of the shale place, both the Utica and also  
18 the Marcellus. So we've had clients hire us and I'm  
19 licensed in the State of Pennsylvania and also New York and  
20 we have reciprocity with New Jersey and Ohio.

21           But having said that, we've had some experience  
22 with OGM's which are oil/gas and mineral rights and doing  
23 appraisals for clients in Pennsylvania to test the  
24 difference in what properties sell for with and without  
25 those mineral rights.

1           And in conjunction with that we've also appraised  
2 storage facility rights where you store millions of cubic  
3 feet of gas under the ground, sometimes in salt mines. And  
4 in addition, we've worked with National Fuel Gas Corporation  
5 out of Buffalo on a number of their projects which were  
6 approved by FERC. One that was approved -- the Northern  
7 Access and New York State has had some difficulties with  
8 approving that project and also Constitution.

9           We worked on the Constitution Project from the  
10 perspective of analyzing the property sales and so forth, so  
11 in terms of experience we've been there for a little bit but  
12 we also understand the needs in New Jersey and New York  
13 City.

14           And one of the big issues right now is getting  
15 the gas from Marcellus in Utica down east into New York  
16 State and then west but our fair Governor has chosen with  
17 DEC to choose otherwise.

18           We think the Northern Access Project I think it's  
19 going to be approved. I think Constitution has some more  
20 speed bumps, but nonetheless I think the real issue and the  
21 reason that we would support this project and really a lot  
22 of projects throughout the country is we need the good  
23 people at FERC to do their due diligence to make sure it's  
24 justified economically and also emotionally in terms of the  
25 people.

1           There's always a lot of concerns with landowners  
2 who will be giving up their rights usually by 50 foot wide  
3 permanent easement for the length of these rights -- that's  
4 not a standard but -- and the other thing is that we, I'm  
5 not sure about the -- this particular project, the Northeast  
6 Supply Enhancement Project but we also see a lot of the  
7 rights-of-ways taken by permanent easements in negotiating  
8 sales before they have to apply any other condemnation laws  
9 to that.

10           And the vast majority of people are treated well  
11 by the Williams Companies and this is just one of them,  
12 including the Constitution when they go out in the field and  
13 their landmen or appraisers actually meet the homeowners  
14 and/or the people who are going to be subject to the  
15 appropriation and acquisitions.

16           So we support this not only based on a  
17 theoretical basis but I think we support it also because I  
18 think the Williams Companies nationwide they're one of the  
19 largest and so they've had a lot of efforts throughout the  
20 country and particularly in the Northeast recently because  
21 of the findings of the -- of Utica and Marcellus gas.

22           So having said that we're also involved in  
23 appraising power plants -- we've done some nuclear plants  
24 throughout the Northeast, coal plants, hydro generating  
25 plants and so forth but there are a lot of new power plants

1 being built down in south of Albany and into New Jersey.

2           And in the electrical business gas is a good  
3 vehicle to burn clean products to fire the boilers that fire  
4 the turbines and therefore you can get electricity. And not  
5 only New York State but Pennsylvania, New Jersey and the  
6 Boston areas they're having a real problem with congestion  
7 of electricity on the grids.

8           And part of it is the affordability to build  
9 these power plants is not economically justified by the  
10 costs that you could get over the grid to pay for, right now  
11 it runs around 5 -6 cents.

12           And if these big power plants are being build  
13 down state now because of subsidies and we need those and we  
14 need to retire some of the other power plants that have  
15 fossil fuel that are not friendly. But in conjunction with  
16 this project you know, they're going to be able to -- its  
17 creating jobs and some of the jobs will be permanent, some  
18 of them will be maintenance, but it's going through  
19 Pennsylvania and then through New Jersey and from there  
20 they'll get the gas into Manhattan and the city and I think  
21 that's a reality.

22           So one of the real difficulties in approving  
23 these projects is just getting the gas to the demand side  
24 and I think this project -- I think this project has that  
25 capability. I've done -- I haven't read the Environmental

1 Impact Statement but I'm going to get a copy of it but I  
2 know FERC has been a good soldier and a good investigator of  
3 these projects throughout the country and FERC does a lot of  
4 work in terms of creating stability, fairness and so forth  
5 to get these projects going.

6           So FERC has a very, very important role, but  
7 that's just the beginning. And a lot of the projects  
8 similar to this one, they all -- they often times initiate  
9 some of the rights-of-way in planning and surveying before  
10 they get the FERC approval because it's a long process.

11           And so these companies have strong public  
12 relations and sometimes they're out there for a year to a  
13 year and a half before they finally get approval after they  
14 go back to FERC and make adjustments on their plan and so  
15 forth. So it would appear to me that this is a very, very  
16 critical project for the industry because it is going from  
17 Pennsylvania -- there's 10 miles in Pennsylvania, roughly 3  
18 and one-half miles in New Jersey and then another 23 miles  
19 in parts of Jersey and it goes into Queens and Manhattan  
20 area.

21           And then in addition to that I think the project  
22 also is building more capacity in the compressors to drive  
23 the gas through the -- I think it's going to be a 26 inch  
24 pipeline. So, I'm here from another part of New York State,  
25 up closer to Toronto, Buffalo, New York and we're a

1 third-party consultant and so that means we're independent.

2 We're independent of FERC, we're independent of  
3 the landowners and we're independent of the Williams  
4 Company, particularly the Northeast Supply Enhancement  
5 Project. So I've come here just to support the project and  
6 hopefully it will move along through the "pipeline" and get  
7 approved. So that's all I have to say.

8 (Whereupon the comment session was adjourned at  
9 7:25 p.m.)

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## 1 CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL REPORTER

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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:

7 TRANSCONTINENTAL GAS PIPE LINE COMPANY, LLC

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15 Docket No.: CP17-101-000

16 Place: Quarryville, PA

17 Date: Thursday, May 3, 2018

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.

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24 Gaynell Catherine

25 Official Reporter

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
Office of Energy Projects

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Transcontinental Gas : Docket No. CP17-101-000  
Pipe Line Company, LLC :  
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NORTHEAST SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

Solanco High School  
585 Solanco Road  
Quarryville, Pennsylvania 17566  
Thursday, May 3, 2018

The public comment session, pursuant to notice, opened  
at 5:00 p.m.

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

2 5/04/2018

3 MR. SHEPSTONE: It's Tom Shepstone. S H E P S T  
4 O N E. And I'm from Honesdale, H O N as in November, E S D  
5 A L E. Pennsylvania. All right.

6 I'm a consulting planner with over 40 years of  
7 experience consulting with businesses and communities in  
8 Northeastern Pennsylvania. I also publish a blog  
9 supporting natural gas because I see what it's done  
10 economically for our region and our nation. The Northeast  
11 Supply Enhancement Pipeline Project should be approved by  
12 FERC for a host of reasons relating to environmental and  
13 economic impact.

14 First of all, New York City, which this project  
15 would serve, is already maxing out on available natural gas  
16 on its coldest days. According to ConEd, natural gas  
17 demand has increased 25 percent in the past six years.  
18 Overall, the number of New York City natural gas heated  
19 homes, based on my own research, has grown by 18 percent in  
20 just the last seven years with gains in every one of the  
21 five boroughs and as high as 30 percent in the Bronx.

22 New York's conversion of boilers to burn natural  
23 gas has dramatically improved air quality throughout the  
24 city and has saved as many as 600 lives per year previously  
25 lost to asthma and other afflictions from air pollution.

1 The New York City Housing Authority is now saving tens of  
2 millions of dollars a year in fuel costs after converting a  
3 number of its buildings from heating oil to natural gas over  
4 the past few years and they want to continue that.

5           That natural gas is mostly produced in  
6 Pennsylvania and Ohio and is helping those areas at the same  
7 time with wages and every other measure of economic  
8 development in Susquehanna County, for example, showing  
9 great gains there. There's room to grow as well. Only 39  
10 percent of Bronx and Manhattan households and 61 percent of  
11 all New York City households currently use natural gas to  
12 heat their homes. The upside potential for growth and  
13 cleaner air is huge.

14           This project has the potential to displace nearly  
15 16 million tons of CO2 annually; the equivalent of removing  
16 3 million passenger cars from the roadways annually. The  
17 benefits in terms of reducing greenhouse gas emissions are  
18 therefore enormous. The metro area needs energy security  
19 with respect to both natural disasters and foreign threats.  
20 Superstorm Sandy proved that natural gas supplies were the  
21 most resilient energy sources available and multiple routes  
22 into the area via pipelines are essential. This project  
23 serves that purpose.

24           Natural gas, in contrast to politically correct  
25 renewables, requires no taxpayer subsidies and provides

1 dispatchable energy on demand, which is the one thing  
2 actually required to develop renewables as supplementary  
3 sources of energy. Natural gas can be supplied via this  
4 pipeline project and others from areas removed from the  
5 metro areas without significant transmission losses or NIMBY  
6 opposition costs that are always associated with attempts to  
7 locate energy production near New York City. Natural gas  
8 supply increases will stimulate additional economic  
9 development in the areas where it's delivered due to the  
10 cost advantages and reliability of the energy source. This  
11 will help make the metro area more competitive economically.

12

13           The poor neighborhoods of New York City,  
14 especially public housing residents, desperately need more  
15 reliable, clean burning fuel equipment made possible by the  
16 availability of Marcellus Shale nearby, provided that the  
17 pipelines exists to service those projects. The Northeast  
18 Supply Enhancement Pipeline is such a project. Thank you  
19 for your time.

20       >>       MR. ARNOLD: My name is Barrett Arnold. I live  
21 at 2953 Newport Road, Batesville, Arkansas. I'd like to  
22 show my support for the Northeast Supply Enhancement  
23 Project. I feel that it's a critical expansion of existing  
24 energy infrastructure in Pennsylvania, New York, and New  
25 Jersey.

1           This is an important natural gas project that  
2 will increase access to affordable, clean, and domestic  
3 energy. It will create three thousand plus good paying  
4 jobs, many of them going to union laborers, who depend on  
5 these sorts of projects to provide for their families. I  
6 take it personally, as I have made my living working on the  
7 infrastructure projects like the Northeast Supply  
8 Enhancement. I'm also very familiar with Williams'  
9 commitment to safety throughout all phases of the project  
10 development. This company has maintained an impressive  
11 safety record in its half a century history of operating  
12 natural gas pipelines.

13           Company leaders are taking special precautions to  
14 ensure Northeast Supply Enhancement goes above federal  
15 safety regulations in several areas. Williams has also made  
16 it clear they will hire union laborer, which demonstrates  
17 the company's commitment to securing good pay for laborers  
18 and ensuring safety in the work force. Please issue the  
19 necessary permits for the project without delay. Thank you.  
20

21       >>       MR. HORN: My name is David Horn. D A V I D. H  
22 O R N. As a Northeast resident and a proud union laborer,  
23 I'm writing in support of the Northeast Supply Enhancement  
24 Project. A critical expansion of existing energy  
25 infrastructure that will provide northeastern consumers with

1 greater access to cleaner burning industrial natural gas  
2 necessary to reduce emissions and reach their region's clean  
3 air goals. The economic benefits will be immediate and  
4 tremendous, creating more than 3,000 jobs and generating  
5 approximately \$327 million in additional economic activity  
6 across Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey. This is  
7 exciting for the hard-working people of the region, and  
8 because this is a Williams project I am confident it will be  
9 constructed and operated according to the highest standards  
10 of safety and efficiency.

11           For example, project developers have cited  
12 pipeline corridors within the adjacent existing utility  
13 corridors to maximize -- I'm sorry, minimize, environmental  
14 disturbances. Extra efforts have also been taken during the  
15 analysis to potential pipeline routes to identify sensitive  
16 areas of ecological and historic significance. Teams of  
17 experienced field scientists, archaeologists and biologists  
18 have conducted detailed environmental surveys and  
19 evaluations of potential corridors searching for threatened  
20 or endangered species, sensitive wildlife and vegetation  
21 habitats, wetlands and water bodies.

22           In its Draft Environmental Impact Statement, FERC  
23 noted the project would not have a significant impact on the  
24 environment, largely because Williams proposed mitigation  
25 measures. I'm proud to support a company that takes such

1 thoughtful approach to this work. At a time when our  
2 natural gas industries are facing unprecedented market  
3 challenges, Northeast Supply Enhancement will deliver  
4 immediate relief by adding needed pipeline capacity, all  
5 while following the highest security standards and  
6 supporting good jobs for local labor like myself. For all  
7 these reasons, I support the Northeast Supply Enhancement  
8 and urge FERC to do the same.

9 >> MR. BOZZA: My name is Nick Bozza. B O Z Z A.  
10 I'm with the laborers, I'm a business agent for the Laborers  
11 Local Union 158 out of Harrisburg, P A.

12 Dear Chairman McIntyre, I'm sharing this comment  
13 in support of Williams' proposed Northeast Supply  
14 Enhancement, a critical expansion of the region's natural  
15 gas network that will increase access to affordable,  
16 reliable, natural gas and generate a needed economic boost  
17 in the region. I am a proud member of the Laborers  
18 International Union of North American, LIUNA, which is at  
19 the forefront of providing quality workers for rebuilding  
20 and maintaining America's energy infrastructure and other  
21 sectors of the heavy construction industry.

22 More than 3,000 jobs are at stake with this  
23 particular project, many going to skilled laborers like  
24 myself. I'm am passionate about the success of  
25 infrastructure projects like the Northeast Supply



1 Enhancement because, quite frankly, my livelihood depends on  
2 it. I was a strong supporter of Williams' Atlantic Sunrise  
3 and I stand to be ready to do all I can to support Northeast  
4 Supply Enhancement. This project will not just create  
5 family-supporting jobs, it will provide a reliable supply -  
6 an economical, reliable, and domestically-sourced natural  
7 gas domestically, as we need to move away from the  
8 dependency on foreign energy.

9           For those reasons, I request that FERC approves  
10 Northeast Supply Enhancement without delay. Thank you for  
11 considering my letter.

12       >>       MR. WILLIAMS: I'm Guy Williams. G U Y. W I L L  
13 I A M S. I am a member of Pipeliners Local 798 out of  
14 Tulsa, Oklahoma which is, provides a livelihood for about  
15 eight thousand members. I've been in Pipeliners Local 798  
16 for 51 years. I have raised my children, educated them on  
17 the money that I made on the pipeline right-of-way. This  
18 particular project, like many others that are going on now  
19 that we've advocated for, is direly needed in our nation;  
20 we're almost getting ready to achieve energy dominance -- or  
21 not dominance, but energy sufficient means that we don't  
22 have to buy energy from somewhere else and that would be a  
23 great thing since it hasn't happened in this country in  
24 quite some time.

25           We provide a very skilled work force. This work

1 is very specialized. We provide that. We provide training  
2 for those that are among our ranks. We have a training  
3 school. A welding training school in Tulsa, Oklahoma that  
4 will accommodate 50 welders at one time. We're quite proud  
5 of that. We turn out three classes a year. We're ready,  
6 willing, and able to provide labor for, to build these  
7 projects in a timely and cost-efficient manner.

8 That's about all I need to say.

9 >> MS. CATARINO-WISSMAN: So, name and then the  
10 spelling of my name. It's Stephanie Catarino-Wissman. S T  
11 E P H A N I E. Catarino, C A T A R I N O. Wissman, W I S S  
12 M A N. All right. This is an unusual format. So, it's all  
13 good though. It's all good.

14 My name is Stephanie Catarino-Wissman and I am  
15 the Executive Director of API Pennsylvania. APIPA is a  
16 division of the American Petroleum Institute, which  
17 represents all segments of America's oil and natural gas  
18 industry. Its more than 625 members produce, process, and  
19 distribute most of the nation's energy. The industry also  
20 supports 9.8 million U.S. jobs and eight percent of the U.S.  
21 economy.

22 I'm here today to testify to the importance of  
23 pipeline infrastructure expansion in Pennsylvania, the need  
24 to continue to develop and utilize American-produced energy  
25 safely and to offer our assessment that the Federal Energy

1 Regulatory Commission, FERC, DEIS demonstrates that the  
2 Northeast Supply Enhancement Project, NESE, will have  
3 negligible environmental impact in South Central  
4 Pennsylvania. FERC has spent the past year  
5 studying the project's need and potential environmental  
6 impacts. The Commission's DEIS on NESE released in April  
7 2018, was a wide ranging and thorough environmental  
8 assessment which addressed the environment, including but  
9 not limited to, geology, soils, water resources, wetlands,  
10 vegetation, fisheries, wildlife, threatened and endangered  
11 species, land use, visual resources, cultural resources, air  
12 quality, noise, and safety.

13 After this extensive review, FERC has concluded  
14 that with implementation of Transco's impact avoidance  
15 minimization and mitigation measures, as well as their  
16 adherence to our recommendations, all project effects would  
17 be reduced to less than significant levels. API further  
18 notes that FERC's reasoning in reaching this conclusion is  
19 simply more evidence that Williams designed the NESE project  
20 in such a way that it will have minimal impact on  
21 surrounding neighbors and the environment. The proposed  
22 facilities will be largely out-of-sight and unnoticed by  
23 communities and the local population. The proposed project  
24 successfully strikes a balance between ensuring access to  
25 clean burning, affordable, American natural gas, and

1 protecting and preserving the environment.

2           Standards. High standards are part of the API  
3 mission. For more than 90 years we have taken our  
4 industry's collective wisdom on everything from drill bits  
5 to environmental protection to embrace proven, sound  
6 engineering and operating practices and safe interchangeable  
7 equipment and materials. We believe safety and  
8 environmental protection go hand-in-hand with industry  
9 operations. Recognizing that we as an industry must  
10 continue to be committed to the good stewardship of our  
11 environment. We have set our goal at zero incidents. State  
12 and federal regulators who have incorporated our standards  
13 into their regulatory structures have recognized our  
14 balanced approach. We see the same balanced approach  
15 reflected in the FERC DEIS. We need this balanced  
16 approach. We can and do address multiple environmental and  
17 safety concerns, while at the same time we recognize the  
18 additional pipeline infrastructure is key to helping  
19 Pennsylvania and the Northeast fulfill the full promise of  
20 local energy production and the positive economic impacts  
21 that come with it.

22           In so, the proposed NESE project, if approved,  
23 will expand and upgrade the existing energy infrastructure  
24 in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York to safely provide  
25 consumers access to enough natural gas to serve the daily

1 needs of about 2.3 million homes.

2           However, the challenge we continue to have in  
3 Pennsylvania's natural gas industry is the lack of necessary  
4 infrastructure to connect our natural gas production with  
5 other areas like the extremely close Northeast market. It  
6 is estimated that 25 to 30 percent of the Marcellus wells  
7 drilled, to date, still do not have pipeline takeaway  
8 capacity. Once additional pipelines become in service in  
9 Pennsylvania, NESE's increased capacity will benefit  
10 markets, businesses, and millions of residents in the  
11 Northeast.

12           Pennsylvania has been part of an American energy  
13 renaissance and it has cut oil imports to its lowest levels  
14 in 20 years. This new form of energy independence helped  
15 our state ride out the economic recession better than most,  
16 has created and supported over 178,000 jobs and contributed  
17 billions to the state's economy and tax coffers.

18           We need pipeline projects like NESE to keep that  
19 economic momentum going strong. A strong economy and a safe  
20 beautiful environment are not values that are mutually  
21 exclusive of each other. API and Williams stand united to  
22 bringing those values together. Williams has clearly made  
23 its mission to bring values together, all of which will  
24 make them a good neighbor, partner, and steward of the  
25 environment. We urge you to approve this plan.

1 [Pause; 6:10 p.m.to 7:30 p.m.]

2 [Whereupon at 8 p.m., the verbal comment session  
3 concluded.]

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## 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:

7 TRANSCONTINENTAL GAS PIPE LINE COMPANY, LLC

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15 Docket No.: CP17-101-000

16 Place: Quarryville, PA

17 Date: Thursday, May 3, 2018

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

Dan Hawkins

25

Official Reporter