

1 FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

2

3 GULF XPRESS PROJECT

4 DOCKET NO. CP16-361-000

5

6 DEIS COMMENT MEETING

7

8 CANE RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

9 12848 OLD HICKORY BLVD.

10 ANTIOCH, TN 37013

11

12 MARCH 28, 2017

13 5:00 P.M.

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

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

2 MR. RIFE: Lou Rife, R-i-f-e. I live at 7121  
3 Sunny Wood Drive in Nashville. I'm at 615-788-3623. They  
4 already have my information because they sent me that 100  
5 pound package of paper. This is short and simple. I want a  
6 big no registered for this compression station.

7 That we are even having this meeting is insane.  
8 These people bought the property and things started  
9 happening we didn't even know it. As usual things go on  
10 with our government and we are not aware of it. There isn't  
11 anything the government does that's really helpful to us  
12 citizens except here we are fighting this issue.

13 So I wish somebody would ride in on a white horse  
14 and give us some help but it is no. Do not, do not bring  
15 this compression -- both of these compression stations in to  
16 the Davidson County area or the Nashville area, it needs to  
17 stop.

18 If anybody is listening to this, if you have got  
19 children remember children -- kids need to grow up where the  
20 environment is clean and fresh and they are not going to be  
21 harmed by somebody who has got a gas pipeline that's going  
22 to run past them and is going to have problems.

23 I just beg you -- we are human beings here. We  
24 are still human beings. We all have children this needs to  
25 be stopped. No to the compression station -- I appreciate

1 your time. Maybe things will get better. And I don't see  
2 the justification for putting that on the local community  
3 when there is practically no benefit.

4 MR. SULFRIDGE: Aren Sulfridge, A-r-e-n  
5 S-u-l-f-r-i-d-g-e. I live on Bending Creek Drive, 1208  
6 Bending Creek Drive right around the corner from where the  
7 station is going. I have definitely concerns about the  
8 station. First off I would like to make a comment about why  
9 this is even happening.

10 The company has, I understand has been bought by  
11 a Canadian company which means this will benefit Canada.  
12 The pipeline goes straight to the Gulf of Mexico. There is  
13 -- and it will be exported there so there is really no  
14 benefit for the local area. Some people say there will be  
15 jobs created but the station only needs two people to  
16 monitor it at a time which at most is 6 jobs.

17 You can give me a plot of land for the same --  
18 you know area I will put more than 6 people to work on a  
19 community garden. So there is really no benefit there that  
20 I see. I have real concerns about the -- anyway the point  
21 there is that it is benefitting a Canadian company and I  
22 think that the local community is being disregarded not to  
23 mention that the Metro National government has passed  
24 resolutions about the compressor stations going here.

25 The company is going to have to override zoning

1 regulations also in order to put it there which is kind of  
2 funny that we are using eminent domain for a foreign company  
3 to override the local government of Nashville.

4           Anyway that's the main point there. My  
5 environmental concerns are for water, air and noise. Water  
6 because there is Mill Creek which is right there. And I was  
7 going to mention this too -- on the plot of land where they  
8 are they said that they were going to put it away from the  
9 road and hide it but actually what I heard is when they got  
10 there they discovered that the land was rocky back on the  
11 property and so they have actually moved it right up to the  
12 road which will be visible.

13           It will be more easily heard to all the neighbors  
14 around but that goes with the noise pollution part. Back to  
15 the water pollution there's Mill Creek. I know there is an  
16 endangered species of fish there. I'm not confident that  
17 they will be able to prevent any run-off from this plant or  
18 the pollutants from getting into the creek. It is very  
19 beautiful back there, there's a green way, all the neighbors  
20 enjoy it.

21           I got back there pretty often it's a great  
22 getaway. You know you have the stresses of work, daily  
23 life, you just want somewhere quiet to go walk. So it is  
24 really beautiful back there with the creek and everything  
25 and I guess I should go ahead and talk about the noise

1 pollution since I mentioned that.

2           Anyway I know these stations produce noise like I  
3 said they are going to have it near the road now instead of  
4 back on the property like what they said in the beginning.  
5 And the noise is a concern -- they say it is supposed to be  
6 like a washing machine in the background but if I go outside  
7 I don't want to hear a washing machine. It kind of ruins  
8 the quiet nature being back there.

9           And I would like to know who is going to monitor  
10 that and what happens if they pass those levels? I know  
11 it's a very big engine it is over 100,000 horsepower between  
12 this station and the other station combined in Nashville  
13 which is the first time that that is happening in a city in  
14 the United States of one of the top 25 largest cities. So  
15 that's noise pollution.

16           Air pollution -- I mentioned the other station.  
17 There's a crossover between those stations that puts the gap  
18 of Nashville right in the middle which intensifies the issue  
19 because there is nowhere for this air to flow so there is  
20 more concentration of air pollution.

21           Again I would dare say that's unprecedented in  
22 American cities right now. There are concerns -- I know we  
23 have a neighbor that's asthmatic and she is concerned that  
24 you know, she won't be able to go out and do her walks like  
25 she does now, really practical concerns.

1           Also, who would monitor that and what are the  
2 consequences if those are passed over? Water, air, noise --  
3 final concern is emergency management. These stations have  
4 been known to explode and I would like to know what happens  
5 if that happens.

6           As far as I know the local emergency management  
7 teams will have to manage that which puts another burden on  
8 the community again not justified by where the value is and  
9 where the benefit is going for these stations.

10           Again it's a Nashville issue -- Nashville is a  
11 growing city. We are in one of the areas that has the  
12 fastest growing human population right now in the city and  
13 it would be a shame to see that stop. I didn't know I was  
14 going to speak for 5 minutes.

15           MR. VINCENT: My name is Barry Vincent.  
16 B-a-r-r-y V-i-n-c-e-n-t and I live at 371 Dade Drive, 37211  
17 which is approximately 2, 2 and one-half miles as the crow  
18 flies from the subject site.

19           I am a 37 year now real estate agent in southeast  
20 Nashville so I have worked this area extensively with  
21 Coldwell Banker and ReMax. I am concerned about several  
22 aspects of this -- one I am concerned that we are not  
23 getting enough community input because our population is  
24 more transitional and it is younger.

25           It is in large numbers of ethnic population and

1 they are struggling to just meet the demands of day-to-day  
2 life compared to say our neighbors up in Joelton and the  
3 large united community opposition they have up there.

4           We just don't have that kind of long-term  
5 population here. But we do have a significant portion of  
6 our population that is older. They are people who bought  
7 their homes in southeast Nashville when the homes were built  
8 in the late '50's, the '60's, the '70's.

9           They have planned for the value of their home to  
10 provide much of their retirement money and now with this  
11 project I'm aware as a real estate agent that under the Code  
12 of Ethics of the National Association of Realtors I have to  
13 tell every person thinking about buying a house in southeast  
14 Nashville that this facility is going to likely be built.

15           That will immediately mean that those people lose  
16 large chunks of their home equity. Because I don't think  
17 there is anybody that is going to say, "Oh I would buy a  
18 home by a compressor station just as quick as I would buy  
19 one anywhere else," that just doesn't stand to reason.

20           And I suspect that most of them will do exactly  
21 what I did. When I heard about this I just got online and  
22 Googled gas compressor station -- it was just a few weeks or  
23 months after the Porter Ranch explosion in California.

24           And there with one Google search was page after  
25 page after page of different examples of various kinds of

1 petroleum facilities in communities blowing up and in some  
2 cases completely destroying neighborhoods.

3 I cannot fathom the reason why this should be put  
4 in the middle of densely populated Antioch when there are  
5 miles and miles and miles of undeveloped rural land in every  
6 direction out of Nashville.

7 So I am opposed to it. I am opposed to it on  
8 behalf of my neighbors. I'm opposed to it on behalf of -- I  
9 live in what we refer to as Little Kurdistan and Little  
10 Burma because of the two large ethnic groups that are there.

11

12 And they don't even know this -- they have come  
13 in and they bought homes, invested and they don't even know  
14 this is happening to them and that is just tremendously  
15 unfortunate.

16 MS. BREWER: Hi I'm Cynthia Elaine Brewer and my  
17 address is 1824 Annalee that's one word, Drive that's Cane  
18 Ridge, Tennessee 37013. And I am here today because I want  
19 to voice my concern over this compressor -- excuse me,  
20 compressor station.

21 From an environmental standpoint this is in a  
22 residential area and it is going to affect a large  
23 population here in this area and I think it is essential  
24 that we look at it from the perspective affecting the lives  
25 that live in this community.



1           I realize business is business and we all have a  
2 vested interest and they want to do what's best for business  
3 to make money, to distribute gas but at what cost? When we  
4 look at 20 years down the road if we have this station will  
5 we have disease?

6           What happens if there is an environmental issue  
7 with this station? There's no one running it, it is remote.  
8 They already purchased the property of two houses across the  
9 street from each other and I am sure that's so that they are  
10 somehow getting it into complying with the current law so  
11 that they don't -- the noise level doesn't go up because of  
12 the way the property -- the way they purchased it.

13           And you know I really believe in the power of the  
14 people. While I think it is important to have industry and  
15 business we need to keep it in an industrial area. And I am  
16 so proud to be a Nashvillian and I'm proud to the community  
17 that I live in and I want us to be safe. And even put aside  
18 the property values going down because obviously we have  
19 invested in that. I am looking at the health of kids -- for  
20 example the Joelton area being close to school, the kids  
21 matter.

22           And it is easy for people to make decisions in  
23 Washington if they are not in the actual area. It is easy  
24 to look at us like a piece of paper and you know we are  
25 expendable maybe? Maybe that's what we think? I mean I am

1 just throwing that out there and again I am all  
2 pro-businesses but at what cost?

3           And I will just say that I appreciate people  
4 being here today and taking the time to hear people and I  
5 have been spreading this on social media as far as getting  
6 the word out. I was very grateful to come across this group  
7 through my representative, my local representative and I  
8 have been sharing the information via social media and again  
9 you know just because it is a huge company and again it's  
10 about the bottom line.

11           And I understand that I mean we are all here to  
12 make money but again you know, are we going to be like you  
13 know the person that came to this is pretty hilarious --  
14 Erin Brockovich. I mean you know these people have a  
15 disease. You know 20 years down the road, "Oh we didn't  
16 know anything about that." Yes we do.

17           And the thing is is that all voices need to be  
18 heard and we need to ask the right questions and we need to  
19 answer the right questions. So I am going to go ahead and  
20 end this statement and give someone else a chance. Usually  
21 I'll go on forever but I appreciate your allowing me to  
22 verbally speak to you today, thank you.

23           MS. GOODMAN: Okay my name is Suzanne Goodman,  
24 S-u-z-a-n-n-e G-o-o-d-m-a-n. I live at 3833 Grant Ridge  
25 Lane which is in view of the compression site and as we were

1 having a discussion about the compression station -- if it  
2 ends up being here I think the main concern is that people  
3 feel that they do not have a way to contact someone.

4           In other words my idea is for the gas compression  
5 people to make an App like the Next Door App where people  
6 can post their concerns. I saw this. I smelled this. I  
7 heard this. And have it monitored so that they get an  
8 answer back quickly. Not only that but they could do like  
9 an alert system like they have for tornadoes and emergencies  
10 which would say -- at 9:58 a blow back is going to occur.  
11 Do not be concerned.

12           I would be a simple way to let everyone who lives  
13 in the area know what is going on and feel like they have  
14 more control over what is happening. There can be a give  
15 and a take between people so that I can say tonight it was  
16 really loud, the wind was blowing from this direction, it  
17 sounded like I had a truck in my back yard.

18           At least I can have someone reply and say yes the  
19 winds were blowing in that direction. We have tested it and  
20 it was above or below where it should be. Some kind of give  
21 and take between people with some kind of an App some kind  
22 of a warning system if it has to be in this place.

23           There are industrial areas where I would prefer  
24 it to be. I hope that they look at those industrial areas  
25 that are not too far away from where the plant position is

1 now. But if we have to have it I would love to have some  
2 kind of App or some kind of communication between the  
3 neighbors that everyone is on, everyone can see, everyone  
4 can access and get an answer. That's it.

5 MS. COUCH: Okay my name is Susan Couch,  
6 S-u-s-a-n C-o-u-c-h. I live at 4984 Alexis Drive in Cane  
7 Ridge and I am speaking to voice my concerns about the  
8 compression station that is being proposed probably less  
9 than a mile as the crow flies from my house.

10 I am not you know, well versed in terms of  
11 environmental law or I don't have a bunch of statistics but  
12 I just know common sense -- if you live in that area or have  
13 even driven through it you can see that there are hundreds  
14 and hundreds of homes within a 2 to 3 mile radius.

15 There are three public schools and to have  
16 someone to me that's a dangerous thing to have that so close  
17 to people's homes and school. It's just a bad decision. I  
18 know the pipeline has been there I know before the  
19 communities came along and that buried pipeline is probably  
20 I've heard up to 50 years old, which that is a little  
21 alarming anyway.

22 But to add new construction with a new means of  
23 adding force to the line to pump the gas further miles down  
24 the line just seems like a recipe for disaster. I mean if  
25 something were to happen, if there were to be an accident

1 you know -- an explosion, you know it could just be  
2 devastating for people in that community.

3           And you don't have much time to react with an  
4 explosion. You know, maybe nothing would never happen like  
5 that but our neighbors to the south in Alabama have had two  
6 episodes in the last year with gas pipeline explosions and  
7 gasoline fuel explosions.

8           And thank God those were in rural areas, it  
9 didn't really affect anybody close by but if something were  
10 to happen in this area it could be devastating to the  
11 community and to the environment as well.

12           I'm worried about run-off and air pollution from  
13 this station. It's very close to a small creek but it is a  
14 protected waterway that has a species of crawfish -- believe  
15 it or not, that are known here, but in that creek which  
16 doesn't sound like much but in the large scheme of things  
17 who knows?

18           These crayfish could hold the cure to cancer you  
19 know, I mean probably not but never the less there have been  
20 other species in this country that have been protected from  
21 environmental or things that could be detrimental to their  
22 environment and I think that needs to be considered as well.  
23 I appreciate your listening to me pontificate for a few  
24 minutes but I want my voice and my opinion to be heard about  
25 something that affects me greatly, it really does thank you.

1 MS. STRONG: My name is Chris Strong, C-h-r-i-s  
2 S-t-r-o-n-g. I'm Strong. And I live at 6323 Peddis Road at  
3 Cane Ridge, 37013. It is about 2 miles from the proposed  
4 site. I have a number of concerns regarding the site. I  
5 have first -- first I have asthma and I have a hard time  
6 sometimes on days when the air quality is bad in Nashville.

7 And because of the topography that you know it  
8 makes it hard to breathe and you know we have days where we  
9 can't go out. I don't see how adding this station is going  
10 to improve that with the emissions.

11 Also, the location of this site not just even the  
12 proximity to my home, the proximity to the elementary school  
13 where my daughter goes -- I took a drive and it is less than  
14 a mile by road and as the crow flies I think it is probably  
15 about .6 of a mile and that's Maxwell Elementary on Blue  
16 Hole Road.

17 So having -- you know the children are going to  
18 be outside playing and having these emissions in the air and  
19 my other concern is where I live and it is because the  
20 topography -- and I don't know if it has been researched but  
21 I am 2 miles away so I'm you know, fairly a good ways away.

22 But if someone is having a party I am on top of  
23 the hill. If someone is having a party on the other side of  
24 the hill -- like every year there is this big festival on  
25 Old Hickory Boulevard -- it sounds like it is in my backyard

1 because it bounces off the hills. It is really funny how  
2 the sound moves in that area so I think with you know, all  
3 of that bouncing.

4 I am also just you know -- okay so my  
5 understanding is that the gas is for transmission. It is  
6 not to be used locally. It is the convenience for the  
7 company that is going to you know, speed up and get more  
8 through the pipeline and it is going to the export market  
9 and it is you know, not to service the American market. It  
10 is not adding jobs.

11 It is not adding a lot of value. It is actually  
12 just taking away. I mean it is actually going to ruin the  
13 area. And it is going to -- people I mean this is like a  
14 very vibrant and growing area. It is like the area that is  
15 most growing in metro Nashville or Davidson County and this  
16 is absolutely going to kill this entire area.

17 So if people you know, like myself -- my biggest  
18 investment is my home. Nobody is going to want to buy my  
19 home and I am not going to be able to live there because I  
20 won't be able to breathe and I won't be able to go inside  
21 because it is going to be so loud outside that I am just  
22 going to be hearing noise.

23 So I have heard that it is akin to 500 -- the  
24 horsepower is akin to 500 cars revving their engines 24/7 so  
25 you have that noise and the air emissions. So I don't know

1 if that is correct or not but I think it is a pretty  
2 powerful motor. 37,000 horsepower motor -- I don't see how  
3 you can silence that. So I am concerned that they are not  
4 -- okay so if they built it who is going to regulate it?

5           You know we are going to be if we have studies to  
6 say oh by the way people -- I mean it'll just be too bad.  
7 You know, we won't get -- so we are obviously very emotional  
8 about this and we just feel like this is just getting pushed  
9 down our throats and it is going to impact all of our  
10 families and it is going to ruin our health and ruin our  
11 economics.

12           Economically and for the benefit of who -- for  
13 the benefit of a company so why are we allowing this? I  
14 mean normally these installations there's no precedent to  
15 these installations being in such populated areas. There is  
16 no precedent for that and they are all placed in areas where  
17 it is very remote.

18           There are very few people that it is impacting.  
19 If it is a 50 mile radius you are impacting one million  
20 people, one million people. So that's all thank you.

21           MR. GUEST: Okay my name is Matthew the last name  
22 is Guest, G-u-e-s-t. I live in a neighborhood directly  
23 across from the proposed site for the compressor station and  
24 our big concern is that it is an area completely surrounded  
25 by neighborhoods on all sides.



1           And this may have been stated before but it is a  
2 concern that I have heard over and over and over again in  
3 the neighborhood with our neighbors and with the community  
4 at large is that it is very odd it seems to build something  
5 like this industrial project in the middle of a community  
6 that is just all neighborhoods all the way around it.

7           I know they purchased additional land to create a  
8 buffer but at the same time it sits on the side of a hill  
9 that looks down into all neighborhoods with neighborhoods  
10 all the way around it on all sides and then the city  
11 immediately north of it.

12           So the buffer will only do so much. In fact  
13 there's a valley just below it and sound from it travels  
14 down into the valley. There are cows up on the hill or  
15 there have been that you can hear mooing down in the  
16 neighborhoods below. So our big concern is that it seems  
17 out of place for this.

18           This might be a good solution for them as a  
19 business or maybe as a utility but it doesn't make sense for  
20 the placement and so we are opposed to it for that reason.  
21 That's it.

22 Thank you.

23           MR. YOUNGER: My name is Michael Younger. Okay  
24 as a member of the Joelton community which was not given the  
25 courtesy of a FERC hearing regarding our compressor station

1 I felt it important to come down and share this field study  
2 which documents advanced corrosion and poorly maintained  
3 pipeline infrastructure in our neighborhood which this  
4 company deems safe.

5           And which FERC authorized the expansion of fossil  
6 fuel infrastructures to exert additional pressures on this  
7 pipeline that you see in the bottom of this creek. FERC has  
8 authorized an expansion of this at an elevation of internal  
9 pressures and a reversal of flow all of which further  
10 compromises the integrity of the pipe.

11           And inside this is documented advanced corrosion.  
12 FERC has deferred from considering any of this public safety  
13 threat in my community. They have deferred responsibility  
14 to the PHMSA. PHMSA has witnesses first-hand this corrosion  
15 which constitutes a public safety threat in my community and  
16 refused to issue an enforcement action even though the  
17 company in their own words has ignored -- has failed to  
18 remediate a public safety situation as in the Appendix  
19 section -- the very last few pages in here.

20           There is a section where the company itself  
21 acknowledges that the half mile diameter -- that the  
22 potential is for a significant explosion involving multiple  
23 human fatalities in the adjacent community. That's all in  
24 here. FERC says that's safe and so I felt compelled to  
25 share this study with as many people as were down here.

1           I would like to know from you know, what other  
2 major cities have been expected to shoulder this kind of  
3 public safety threat and compressor stations of this scale  
4 60,000 horsepower in our case in Joelton and 40,000  
5 horsepower here in the case of Cane Ridge.

6           What other major metropolitan communities in the  
7 United States are being asked to shoulder that kind of  
8 public safety threat? And in addition I would like to know  
9 why my community of Joelton was not given the courtesy of a  
10 FERC hearing as Cane Ridge is benefitting from today, thank  
11 you.

12           MR. ARGO: My name is Robert Argo, A-r-g-o. My  
13 concern with this project is its location. I live in Lenox  
14 Village which is just to the kind of southwest of where this  
15 project is being proposed. There are neighborhoods that are  
16 even closer than mine.

17           What I don't understand is why what is clearly an  
18 industrial project is going towards a -- going to be put  
19 into a rural area. Specifically a rural area where  
20 Nashville is a growing community continues to grow outward.  
21 And my fear is that number one that this project will stifle  
22 growth within the community. That it will stifle the  
23 property values of everyone who lives close to it and any  
24 kind of impacts, maybe a little bit less and less as you  
25 move away.

1           Number three -- environmental impact. I am in  
2 relatively good health but I have a mother who is an  
3 asthmatic and I have a brother who is an asthmatic and I  
4 have a niece who is an asthmatic and I am concerned about  
5 what the changes in air quality will mean to people who are  
6 like them who have a harder time.

7           And then also I am concerned about any impact  
8 that there might be to ground water and also the impact of  
9 noise that it may have on the surrounding communities.  
10 Right now I can go out on my deck and I can sit and I can  
11 enjoy a relatively peaceful evening but am I going to go out  
12 onto my deck and hear a steady hum or the blow-outs of this  
13 project if it is placed so close to where I live?

14           So what I would encourage is that this site be  
15 moved to someplace that is far more rural. I understand  
16 that they may need to have compression stations but they do  
17 not need to have compression stations smack dab in the  
18 middle of growing neighborhoods. That concludes my comment,  
19 thank you very much for the opportunity to speak.

20           MS. BURKETT: My name is Lori Burkett I live in  
21 Davidson County and one comment I have is that this forum is  
22 very ineffective. That the people -- there are 7900 hundred  
23 people that live within a mile of this proposed compressor  
24 station. They are afraid.

25           You know they have been told that an

1 Environmental Impact Study has been done the recommendation  
2 is this isn't going to hurt anybody. Well if that's the  
3 case then if you are going to have a public meeting, have  
4 one that gives information. That you have someone standing  
5 up that gives the 600 page Environmental Impact Study -- it  
6 is something that most people cannot read and could not  
7 understand so there should be someone to summarize that.

8           There is a summary in the study but take that and  
9 be able to get up and give some sort of summary to you know,  
10 give the people some information rather than just bring them  
11 in here and they are walking around like sheep, like I don't  
12 know -- this doesn't sound good. I'm afraid for my child  
13 that has asthma, my husband that has lung cancer. I don't  
14 even know what questions to ask.

15           This forum should have been one that that  
16 information was given out. And then if you want to have  
17 individual breakouts where someone can talk one on one with  
18 someone that's fine. But it should have been more  
19 informative to begin with and people should be able to ask  
20 questions to the group so that other people hear.

21           And even if you didn't give answers -- I know the  
22 last one I was here for the scoping meeting and I think that  
23 some of the responders from FERC felt a little intimidated  
24 because they get questions they couldn't answer, you know.

25           And they didn't want to go through that probably

1 but too bad. This is too big of an impact on these people's  
2 lives. That if it was uncomfortable to not know the  
3 answers, someone needs to be there to at least give the  
4 summary you know.

5           And then let people verbalize so that everyone  
6 could hear, neighbors could here. So this was very  
7 ineffective and very wrong. You know we -- there are two of  
8 these massive compressor stations and my second comment  
9 would have to do with the air quality and what's happening  
10 to Nashville.

11           Nashville is one of the fastest growing cities in  
12 the United States right now we get 90 new people every  
13 single day. We are growing by leaps and bounds. The  
14 terrain of Nashville is that we sit basically in a bowl. We  
15 are very impacted by asthma, upper respiratory disease  
16 because of the terrain of Nashville but yet we are being  
17 bombarded with 101,000 horsepower compressor station -- one  
18 on the north, one on the south right within the city.

19           That is unprecedented and I can't believe that  
20 there is no other option for either one of these. I know  
21 that the one in Joelton we gave other options and what it  
22 boiled down to was money. This is most convenient and we  
23 are too far in it and we bought the land and too bad, so sad  
24 for the people that live around it or for the impact of the  
25 air quality.

1           There's a park sitting right next to that  
2 compressor station where these children go every single day  
3 because it has after school care. They play sports there,  
4 they live there. Those kids will grow up there and those  
5 children that grow up there that could potentially be  
6 impacted by the formaldehyde or the toxins -- you get those  
7 kids 10 years from now end up with leukemia which I know the  
8 formaldehyde is linked to.

9           It is awful that there is not more care and  
10 concern for the health of the people. For what it's worth  
11 those are my comments and there is a report that will be --  
12 that does show more evidence from an air expert as to the  
13 cumulative impact of these two compressor stations and that  
14 that should be taken into consideration.

15           MR. PETERSON: My name is Andrew Peterson,  
16 A-n-d-r-e-w P-e-t-e-r-s-o-n. Address is 3338 Stevens Hill  
17 Lane and I'm just going to read what I have written.

18           As a 10 year resident of the Cane Ridge community  
19 I strongly oppose the presence of a gas compressor station  
20 in our neighborhood. Not only will its presence hurt the  
21 value of hundreds of homes in the area but it will create  
22 both a health hazard from the carcinogens in the air and  
23 leaking into the ground but in light of the regular  
24 tornadoes in our area -- one touched down within two miles  
25 of the site of the proposed station.

1           I am deeply concerned about what might happen if  
2 a compressor station were damaged by one of these storms.  
3 Thousands of people who live nearby would be at risk. The  
4 station will create noise pollution, air pollution, ground  
5 pollution and might cause physical harm to the residents.

6           The station should be placed in an industrial  
7 zone not near elementary schools, parks, multiple  
8 sub-divisions, natural springs and Mill Creek where an  
9 endangered and protected species of crayfish lives.

10           How will the noise levels be monitored? What  
11 will change if the noise levels are exceeded? How will the  
12 air and ground and water pollution be monitored and what  
13 happens if those levels are exceeded? Why don't the zoning  
14 regulations for our precious wooded residential part of the  
15 county apply here?

16           Why is the station being placed in a growing area  
17 that's already densely populated with homes? What will  
18 happen in the case of catastrophic events such as a tornado  
19 or a fire? The construction of this station puts money in  
20 the pocket of the gas company and has absolutely zero  
21 benefits to our community. It only hurts us.

22           I urge you to keep our part of the city safe by  
23 moving the plant to an appropriate area far from so many  
24 homes, parks, schools and natural areas. Thank you.

25           MS. PETERSON: Jamie Peterson. I have lived here



1 in the beautiful Cane Ridge -- oh sorry J-a-m-i-e Peterson.  
2 I have lived here in the beautiful Cane Ridge community for  
3 about 10 years. My family and I live on 10 acres near the  
4 proposed gas compressor station. This is a beautiful  
5 residential area full of neighborhoods, schools, creeks and  
6 a greenway.

7 I'm concerned about many things. Most important  
8 to me is the health and safety of my family and my  
9 neighbors. I don't feel safe with the idea of the gas  
10 compressor station moving in. I am concerned about the air  
11 pollution, the soil pollution and the noise not to mention  
12 the population of an explosion.

13 This station needs to be placed in an industrial  
14 area, not a residential area. It will also hurt our home  
15 value. No one will want to move next to a gas compressor  
16 station. We have a cave that runs under our neighborhood.  
17 Has anyone tested whether or not this will affect the  
18 natural habitat and ground water?

19 There is also an endangered crawfish that should  
20 be protected from any hazardous possibilities. This station  
21 definitely needs to be put on a more appropriate location.  
22 I certainly disapprove of the station entering our beautiful  
23 community. Thank you.

24 MICHELLE: This is Michelle and I feel that this  
25 project has incorrect zoning. It needs to be in an

1 industrial zone. This area is too populated. There are too  
2 many sub-divisions, too many houses. There are five schools  
3 right nearby, there's a greenway where people are walking  
4 and there are parks and this is just not an appropriate  
5 selection of site.

6 I think Nashville is the first metropolitan area  
7 to have two of these compressor stations in the same county  
8 and I think we are just too big of a metropolitan area to  
9 have either of these because there are too many people in  
10 this area.

11 We think it is bad for our tourism industry. I'm  
12 also very concerned because these are unmanned stations and  
13 I think those are more dangerous -- that they need 24 hour  
14 manning they need 24 hours, 365 days a year to have  
15 surveillance at these stations so that there are eyes on the  
16 scene that can see problems, they can call repair people and  
17 they can prevent calamities.

18 The roads here -- Barn's Road are terribly  
19 inadequate they are little country roads. There is nowhere  
20 to exit in case of a problem like a fire, an explosion or  
21 any dangerous event. Perhaps this should be near an  
22 interstate or somewhere where it is more industrial and  
23 there are better roads.

24 We have had pipeline accidents in Alabama just a  
25 few months ago with the break in the line and it caused

1 severe problems. We don't want any more of those. There  
2 were 92 significant incidents between 2006 and 2014 in  
3 pipelines in our nation that caused critical damage to  
4 people and property. We would like to see that approved.

5           There are too many fires, explosions caused by  
6 these pipelines. And I was wondering if FERC is going to  
7 come and test the air, water and the soil every month or  
8 every six months and who is responsible for this besides the  
9 Trans Canada people?

10           Who is going to monitor the site? Someone  
11 suggested putting a dome cover over the stations several  
12 stories high with air filters inside that could clean some  
13 of these gasses and filter them out before it is emitted to  
14 the atmosphere that perhaps would be a possibility.

15           And also I have many in my family that have  
16 served in the military. Several members served in Vietnam  
17 and 47 years later they are still suffering ill effects.  
18 They are both ill all of them are ill from the chemical  
19 agents and gasses that were used there. They are not  
20 getting adequate help from the VA and these are some of the  
21 same kinds of chemicals that can be -- these chemicals can  
22 cause the same kind of illnesses that are being exited from  
23 these stations.

24           The blow-downs make a lot of toxic chemicals  
25 available to the atmosphere that can make folks sick. And

1 we think this is contrary to our right to life, liberty and  
2 the pursuit of happiness. We are so glad you are here to  
3 hear our comments. We really appreciate it and we think we  
4 should have the same comment time in Joelton at the other  
5 unmanned station in Davidson County because both of these  
6 together are going to create huge, huge problems as the  
7 circles overlap in these potentially dangerous and toxic  
8 substances are released into the air and for people to  
9 breath and with all the particulates and things that go with  
10 it.

11           So again we thank you for having this, it's  
12 wonderful. It's good to ask questions and learn more about  
13 it and we hope that we can have a safer way to have energy  
14 and they are not even getting any benefits here in Tennessee  
15 you are just coming through here.

16           And perhaps we can do better and have some other  
17 energy's that don't provide so many toxic substances, thank  
18 you.

19           We would like to invite FERC to have a hearing on  
20 the Joelton Project which is on the north part of Davidson  
21 County because that was an oil pipeline that they are now  
22 using for gas so we think that FERC would have some  
23 responsibility over that line and we would invite them to  
24 come and have several hearings in the north part of the  
25 county in the Joelton area, White's Creek area. That would

1 be swell, thank you.

2 (Whereupon the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.)

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

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: Gulf Express Project

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16 Docket No.: CP16-361-000

17 Place: Antioch, TN

18 Date: March 28, 2017

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

23

24 Gaynell Catherine

25 Official Reporter

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

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

- - - - - x  
Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC      Docket No. CP16-357-000  
Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC      Docket No. CP16-361-000  
- - - - - x

MOUNTAINEER XPRESS  
GULF XPRESS

Cane Ridge High School  
48 Old Hickory Boulevard  
Antioch, Tennessee 37013  
Tuesday, March 28, 2017

A public verbal comment session on the DEIS was held,  
pursuant to notice. starting at 5 o'clock p.m.

## 1 VERBAL COMMENT SESSION

2 LILLIAN HAWKINS: My name is Lillian Hawkins.  
3 It's L I L L I A N. H A W K I N S. I live at 5729 Sonoma  
4 Trace in Cane Ridge, Tennessee. I have several concerns.  
5 For example, how often will noise levels be monitored? Who  
6 will be monitoring these noise levels? Will it be local,  
7 state, or federal? What will be the result if the noise  
8 levels are exceeded? Has the background sound level been  
9 set? Because currently, we already experience a loud volume  
10 from airplanes, traffic, the train, and just trying to  
11 figure out how much louder it's going to be if you add a  
12 compressor station 400 yards from our house.

13 Air pollution. How often are the air levels  
14 monitored, and by whom? What exactly is going to be  
15 monitored? How can citizens be sure that non-monitored  
16 particulates remain at safe levels? And what if the air  
17 quality levels exceeds government standards? For example,  
18 I'm very concerned that right now Nashville does not always  
19 meet the clean air standards on some days. We're growing at  
20 an average of 85 people per day here in Nashville.

21 There is another one of the largest compressor  
22 stations up in Joelton that is likely to go in, and once you  
23 add that one in, are they even going to be able to put this  
24 compressor station in? because I'm pretty sure -within a  
25 years time we're no longer going to meet the air quality



1 standards at all. So how are you going to be able to put a  
2 second compressor station into Davidson County? And what  
3 happens when you constantly exceed the clean air levels? Do  
4 you suddenly tell people they can't move here any more? Do  
5 you shut down one of the compressor stations? Do you shut  
6 down both of them? How do you control those levels once  
7 they've already exceeded acceptable safety air quality  
8 levels?

9 I'm very concerned. When I read the draft  
10 environmental impact statement, there was really no mention  
11 to speak of regarding Mill Creek. Mill Creek is a  
12 federally-protected waterway. The Cane Ridge compressor  
13 station is set on top of a hill. Last time I checked, water  
14 rolls down hill. That being the case, logic would stand to  
15 reason that at any point if there are any leaks or any of  
16 the particulates that settle into the surrounding area, the  
17 rainwater would wash them downhill into Mill Creek.

18 It was my understanding, checking through the  
19 Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Game that mitigation measures  
20 had been taken to alleviate that problem. I want to know  
21 what specific mitigation measures were taken and how is it  
22 supposed to alleviate the potential for any pollution going  
23 into Mill Creek?

24 Now, how often is the water quality going to be  
25 monitored? Who will be monitoring the water quality? Has

1 there or will there be any testing to the water and the air  
2 done prior to construction to set a base level? What if the  
3 water quality pollutants exceed government standards? What  
4 happens then? How can we trust that the on site retention  
5 pond is collecting all the runoff or what if that's  
6 compromised?

7 In addition to that, it was my understanding  
8 based on metro property maps that there is, in fact, a  
9 stream that is on the property or a very close adjacent  
10 property of which Trans Canada and Columbia Pipeline own  
11 that runs from that property where the compressor station  
12 will be located into Mill Creek? Has any testing been done  
13 to see if there is, in fact, any underground caves or water  
14 sources? Also, there are other industrial zones within a  
15 two mile radius that are suitable for this type of  
16 development. Have those been considered? They need to be  
17 considered seriously. That's it. Thank you.

18 HOLLY GREENE: My name is Holly Greene. Greene  
19 is with an E on the end. I'm a Davidson County resident for  
20 47 years now. My family is native Nashvillians and started  
21 businesses here in Nashville and that's why I'm still here.

22 I am very concerned about another compressor  
23 going underground here. I know one is going in Joelton and  
24 then there's the one here. I don't know what the final  
25 result of both are going to be but my concern is raising

1 children. Mainly, not even necessarily my children. My  
2 niece, my nephew. Your children. You know, anybody who  
3 lives near. Just the danger of that being underground here  
4 is very frightening to me.

5 I am an environmentalist. I fight to help  
6 protect the earth. My concerns are who are going to watch  
7 for the leaks when our EPA is being ripped apart right now  
8 and dismantled and losing funding. That concerns me. My  
9 huge fight is for animals in this lifetime. I work with  
10 zoologists; we save snails. We save frogs. We work with  
11 Walden's Puddle. You know, so I am very much worried about  
12 the environment and what animals may be affected or ran off  
13 from their areas. We're already moving in on them as it is.

14 So, my concerns is the danger of leaks. The  
15 dangers of an explosion. And how much land would it take  
16 out if it exploded? How many people have to die for us to  
17 have oil or gas in our homes. I get very concerned over  
18 these things because there's so many other green ways of  
19 energy that we could do life that are less costly, safer for  
20 the environment. I just wish there was another source  
21 besides natural gas or oil always being the new way to go or  
22 something else to do to our poor mother earth who we  
23 disrupt so much, so, so, so, much on a daily basis.

24 I haven't used plastic in like 30 years. I've  
25 grown my own food. I've, you know, I live off the earth as

1 much as possible. We even have bees. We eat our own  
2 honey. We grow everything from asparagus to rhubarb. I  
3 don't want my earth to be disturbed like that. I want to  
4 give to her, not take from her. I don't even believe in  
5 taking stones from the earth. You know, like with people  
6 with diamonds, or amethyst, I don't even like that. I don't  
7 think we should strip the earth anymore and dig holes put  
8 very dangerous compression gas under our ground like that.

9           That's my concerns. That's what I wanted to say.  
10 My heart is broken and I hope that somebody helps stand up  
11 for Tennessee and protect our grounds. And that's why I'm  
12 here.

13           MARGARET CARTOZZO: My name is Margaret, M A R G  
14 A R E T. Cartozzo, C A R T O Z Z O. My husband and I have  
15 been South Nashville residents for the last seven years.  
16 This past summer we moved out of our small condo in search  
17 of a bigger home to raise our family. We looked all over  
18 the metro Nashville area but ultimately we decided to stay  
19 in South Nashville.

20           We purchased a home along Mill Creek in Cane  
21 Ridge. We are now expecting our first child in September.  
22 We now worry about our decision to stay in South Nashville.  
23 We worry about raising our child near this gas compressor  
24 station. We worry about pollution to our air, to our water,  
25 and the noise the station will produce. Why must this

1 station be built in a residential area? This area is home  
2 to hundreds of families and lots of wildlife.

3 We are distressed thinking of what could happen  
4 to our home, to our family if a catastrophic event were to  
5 happen. Will the proper steps be taken to ensure our  
6 safety? Will our air be safe to breathe? Will our water be  
7 safe to drink? We live here and we worry about this gas  
8 compressor station. We don't want this to happen in our  
9 local Nashville area.

10 HEATHER HIXSON-MCGOVERN: My name is Heather  
11 Hixon and my husband and I reside in the Stanford Village  
12 Subdivision directly across Barnes Road in Southeast  
13 Nashville, along with the other over 100 homes in our  
14 subdivision alone, just a few yards from the proposed Cane  
15 Ridge Gas Compressor station site. I've called Nashville  
16 home for over six years.

17 In mid-2015 my husband and I purchased our first  
18 home in the Cane Ridge area of Nashville. We chose this  
19 area for its proximity to local businesses, restaurants, its  
20 beauty, and its potential for increased property values.  
21 Now this area is under threat by a natural gas compressor  
22 station proposed by Columbia Gulf Transmission, Docket No.  
23 CP16-361-000.

24 As I have gone over the draft environmental  
25 impact statement, I along with many other fellow community

1 members, find it to be deeply flawed in a myriad of ways  
2 mostly in the fact that it leaves so many questions  
3 unanswered.

4           You will see the following questions submitted by  
5 several other area citizens as we all feel united in the  
6 fact that we strongly feel they still need to be answered by  
7 both FERC and Columbia Pipeline Group. How often will noise  
8 levels be monitored? Who monitors noise levels? Local,  
9 state, or federal? What are the repercussions if noise  
10 levels are exceeded? Has a background sound level been set?  
11 How often are air levels monitored and by whom? What  
12 exactly is monitored?

13           How can citizens be sure that non-monitored  
14 particulates remain at safe levels? What if air quality  
15 levels exceed government standards? How often is water  
16 quality monitored? Has there been or will there be any  
17 testing done prior to construction to set a base level?  
18 What if water quality pollutants exceeds government  
19 standards? How can we trust that the on site retention pond  
20 is collecting all runoff or that it won't be compromised?  
21 Can further testing be done to rule out any underground  
22 caves or water sources on the site?

23           Do current local zoning regulations matter?  
24 Wouldn't a true industrial zone location be a better place?  
25 Does population play any role in the decision? How can we

1 be assured that standards will be kept with a decrease in  
2 enforcement agencies or the EPA? Why can't the station be  
3 run by electric motors on the Nashville power grid, which  
4 would virtually eliminate all air pollution?

5           Why is it the burden of private citizens and not  
6 the burden of the company to spend money to relocate the  
7 site to a more appropriate location? What are the combined  
8 effects if both the Joelton and Cane Ridge stations are  
9 built? Thank you so much for your time. Sincerely, Heather  
10 Hixson-McGovern.

11           ROGER ROTONI: My name is Roger Rotoni. R O T O  
12 N I. I live right down the street within a third of a mile  
13 of this thing and I mean, obviously, this is going to  
14 pollute the whole air from what I'm hearing about it. My  
15 wife has asthma and so, I mean, the property values are  
16 going to be destroyed from everything I'm hearing about it.  
17 I lived over near the airport for a while, and I mean, that  
18 noise was pretty bad but this is going to be horrible from  
19 what I understand.

20           We're kind of out in the country right now and  
21 this is going to turn it into like, you living next to an  
22 interstate right next to your house. I think, well  
23 personally, I think it's traitorous, I think if our country  
24 lets something like this happen right in the middle of a  
25 city like this, and we know what pollution is doing

1 nowadays. For what? For the, to let a Canadian company  
2 just come in here and make a lot of extra money? Right next  
3 door to our property, not providing any extra jobs. If  
4 they're saying it's going to create extra taxes, extra taxes  
5 for what? I mean, you're going to drop our property values  
6 over there. The growth of the area is tremendous. You're  
7 going to drop our property values over there, their going to  
8 lose all that taxes. Like I say, for what? For a little  
9 bit more gas in the area? That's supposedly going to be  
10 going over out of this country, is my understanding of it.

11           So, I mean, you know, it's not the whole thing  
12 of, I understand there has to be progress, that there's such  
13 a thing as progress, but we're going backwards at this  
14 point, to where we're going to sit there and just have a gas  
15 plant come in just to pollute the whole area. We're just  
16 going backwards. We know what pollution is doing to the  
17 whole country anyway. Of course, I mean, that's another  
18 whole side of a whole half of the country, I get that.

19           But, I mean, I couldn't be happy about it. Who  
20 could be happy about being right next door to it?  
21 Literally, I'm going to be right next door to it. I don't  
22 know much else to say except that I think that any  
23 politician, it's just obvious in my mind that any politician  
24 would agree to it who is supposed to be on our side, would  
25 be taking bribes. That's all I can see about it. I mean,



1 it's just that simple to me. Which I know that's what a lot  
2 of them do all the time anyway, but that's not, that doesn't  
3 mean I'm going to be happy about it, or anybody else is  
4 going to be happy about it. And, you know, I just think,  
5 you know, you pushing a lot of people around is all you'll  
6 be doing if they did something like, I'm saying you, because  
7 I don't even know who these people are. Who do you people  
8 represent? Who do you all represent?

9           FERC: I'm not answering questions at this time.

10           ROGER ROTONI: You're not answering questions,  
11 Okay. I mean, answering questions on behalf of who?

12           FERC: No, I'm not able to answer questions while  
13 you're submitting in your comment.

14           ROGER ROTONI: Oh, I'm sorry. I guess that's  
15 about the end of my comment. I mean, I would like to say  
16 more, if I have five minutes, I guess I'd like to be able to  
17 say more but I don't know what else to say except I think  
18 you just, dirty rotten plan.

19           You know, I felt sorry for the Indians that they  
20 were going to sit there, out there, and they were going to  
21 push the pipeline through their water and if it leaked it  
22 was going to destroy their water sources. I thought it was  
23 just horrible, but I know that they pretend that they're  
24 going to create all these jobs. The jobs that the gas  
25 companies and the oil companies are creating will not be,

1 these are jobs of the past. I mean, people have to realize  
2 it's jobs of the past.

3           They think they're going to -- the jobs of the  
4 future are the clean sources and we have to be able to, and  
5 how everybody thinks that they can pollute everything there  
6 is and then they're not going to have to drink that water  
7 and they're not going to breathe that air and they're going  
8 to move to where? I don't get it, personally. I don't get  
9 what they think of. They think they got so much money, some  
10 of them that they can go to the doctor and get themselves  
11 healed? I don't know what they think but I guess that's, I  
12 guess that is all I have to say about it.

13           CARL HARRIS: My name is Carl Andrew Harris. I  
14 am a resident of the Cane Ridge Community. My house is  
15 approximately three miles away from where the site is  
16 planned, and I'd like to state that I'm absolutely opposed  
17 to the gas compression plant in the middle of Cane Ridge.  
18 I've looked at the plans. I understand from an engineering  
19 standpoint why the compressors have to be put in those kinds  
20 of locations. I'm still opposed to the whole idea of  
21 putting it in the middle of Cane Ridge.

22           However, I looked at the alternate sites and it  
23 appears that there is one site that is much better, even  
24 though it's still in Cane Ridge, but it's right next to I-24  
25 in the Hickory Hollow Parkway. It's on the plan, I guess

1 the site has been considered and the lady who I was talking  
2 to didn't know why that site was not chosen. It makes so  
3 much sense, because it's not an area where housing would be  
4 built. It would be right next to a highway so the noise is  
5 going to be almost inconsequential.

6           So, I don't understand why that site is not being  
7 considered more seriously, rather than putting it right in  
8 the middle of a residential area. I drive by that place at  
9 least once or twice a day and there are a lot of houses, a  
10 lot of kids. And the growth in this area of Cane Ridge is  
11 just staggering right now. Thousands of houses and  
12 apartments are being built. It just doesn't make sense to  
13 plop a gas compression plant right in the middle of it.

14           So I listed the pollution, the noise; all these  
15 different kinds of things. The fact that I don't see being  
16 considered is the fact that there are human beings in the  
17 middle of all this and it's just not a good site. I don't  
18 think I really have much more to say, but the bottom line is  
19 do not build the gas compression plant in the middle of our  
20 neighborhood, is my bottom line. Thank you.

21           7:09 p.m. [Pause]

22           [Whereupon at 9 p.m., the verbal comment session  
23 concluded.]

## 1 CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL REPORTER

2

3 This is to certify that the attached proceeding

4

5 before the FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION in the

6

7 Matter of:

8

9 Name of Proceeding: Gulf Express Project

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19 Docket No.: CP16-361-000

20 Place: Antioch, TN

21 Date: March 28, 2017

22

23 were held as herein appears, and that this is the original

24

25 transcript thereof for the file of the Federal Energy

26

27 Regulatory Commission, and is a full correct transcription

28

29 of the proceedings.

30

31

32 Dan Hawkins

33

34 Official Reporter