1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
2	FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
3	x
4	Columbia Gulf Transmission, LLC Docket No. CP16-361-000
5	x
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7	GULF XPRESS PROJECT
8	
9	Cane Ridge High School
10	Auditorium
11	12848 Old Hickory Boulevard
12	Antioch, Tennessee 37013
13	Tuesday, June 21, 2016
14	
15	The environmental scoping meeting, pursuant to notice,
16	convened at 6:05 p.m, before a Staff Panel:
17	JULIA YUAN, Environmental Project Manager, FERC
18	GERTRUDE JOHNSON, Environmental Project Manager,
19	FERC
20	ROBYN S. SUSEMIHL, Project Manger, Burns-
21	McDonnell
22	
23	
24	
25	

## 1 PROCEEDINGS

- 2 MS. YUAN: Hi, everyone. First of all, I want to
- 3 apologize for the dim lighting. We're trying to work with
- 4 the staff here to get the lights up as much as possible but
- 5 there's been some burned out light bulbs, so hopefully this
- 6 works for everyone.
- 7 So, good evening. On behalf of the Federal Energy
- 8 Regulatory Commission a/k/a the FERC, or the Commission, I'd
- 9 like to welcome you all tonight to an environmental scoping
- 10 meeting for the Gulf Xpress Project proposed by Columbia
- 11 Gulf Transmission, LLC.
- 12 Let the record show that the public scoping
- 13 meeting in Antioch, Tennessee began at 6:06 p.m. on June the
- 14 21st, 2016. My name is Julia Yuan, and I'm an Environmental
- 15 Project Manager with the Commission's Office of
- 16 Environmental Projects. To my left is Gertrude Johnson,
- 17 another FERC environmental project manager. And to my right
- 18 is Robin Susemihl with Burns and McDonnell Engineering.
- 19 Burns and McDonnell is a consulting firm working as a third-
- 20 party contractor to assist us in the preparation of the
- 21 environmental impact statement for this project.
- Working at the sign-in table tonight is L.J.
- 23 Sauder, Chris Estbanbaum, and Emily Robyn, all from Burns
- 24 and McDonnell. You will also notice that we have a court
- 25 reporter transcribing the meeting here. The purpose of

- 1 this meeting is to assure that we accurately capture your
- 2 comments and questions, both for the public record and for
- 3 our use in preparing the EIS for the Gulf Xpress Project.
- 4 The purpose of this meeting is to give you an
- 5 opportunity to learn about and provide specific
- 6 environmental comments on the Gulf Xpress Project. I'll
- 7 quickly run through the agenda for tonight's meeting. I'll
- 8 start out briefly by describing the project before us. I'll
- 9 also explain the role of the FERC and our application
- 10 process. Then we will hear from those of you who signed up
- 11 to speak at the sign-in table and make formal comments on
- 12 the project. If we have time at the end of the meeting,
- 13 anyone who did not sign up and would like to have their
- 14 comments heard, will have a chance to speak.
- The meeting will end once all of the speakers
- 16 have provided their comments or by 10:00 p.m., whichever
- 17 comes first. The Gulf Xpress Project would involve the
- 18 construction of seven new compressor stations and upgrades
- 19 at two existing Columbia Gulf facilities spread across
- 20 Kentucky, Tennessee, and Mississippi.
- 21 Three of the seven new stations and the two
- 22 upgrades will be in Kentucky. Two new stations will be in
- 23 Tennessee, including the nearby Cane Ridge Compressor
- 24 Station. And two new stations will be in Mississippi. All
- 25 of these facilities will be constructed on Columbia Gulf's

- 1 existing pipeline system. After our meeting here is
- 2 adjourned, representatives from Columbia Gulf will still be
- 3 available, with project maps and to answer any questions you
- 4 may have on the project.
- 5 Next, I'm going to talk a bit about the scoping
- 6 process and public involvement in FERC projects in general.
- 7 The FERC is an independent federal agency that, among other
- 8 things, regulates the interstate transmission of natural
- 9 gas. In this regard, the FERC reviews and evaluates
- 10 proposals to construct and operate interstate natural gas
- 11 pipeline facilities; natural gas storage facilities, and
- 12 liquefied natural gas terminals.
- 13 A three and a half minute introduction to the
- 14 FERC's natural gas pipeline application process can be found
- on our website at www.ferc.gov. As a federal licensing
- 16 agency, the FERC is required by the Natural Environmental
- 17 Policy Act, or NEPA, to consider the potential environmental
- 18 impacts associated with new natural gas facilities such as
- 19 Gulf Xpress during its review and evaluation process.
- 20 Scoping, which we are engaged in tonight, is a
- 21 period during which we solicit input from the public before
- 22 beginning our environmental analysis. The idea is to get
- 23 information from the public as well as agencies and other
- 24 groups regarding what issues need to be addressed. This is
- 25 an important step because it allows you to indicate what

- 1 environmental resources are important.
- Your comments tonight, together with any written
- 3 comments you may have already submitted, or intend to
- 4 submit, will be added to the record and used to focus our
- 5 environmental analysis.
- 6 For the Gulf Xpress Project, the FERC is the lead
- 7 federal agency for the NEPA review and the preparation of
- 8 the environmental impact statement. The US Environmental
- 9 Protection Agency has also agreed to participate as a
- 10 cooperating agency in the preparation of the environmental
- 11 impact statement.
- 12 As I said earlier, the purpose of this meeting
- 13 tonight is to give you an opportunity to comment on the
- 14 environmental issues that you would like to see covered in
- 15 the EIS. It will help us the most if your comments are as
- 16 specific as possible regarding the potential environmental
- 17 impacts and reasonable alternatives for the proposed Gulf
- 18 Xpress Project. Scoping comments generally focus on the
- 19 potential for environmental effects but may also address
- 20 construction issues, mitigation, and the environmental
- 21 review process.
- 22 In addition, this meeting is designed to provide
- 23 you with an opportunity to meet with Columbia Gulf
- 24 representatives to ask them questions directly and get more
- 25 detailed information about their proposed facility,

- 1 locations, and construction plans. Now I want to briefly
- 2 describe our environmental review process to you. To
- 3 illustrate how this process works, we've prepared a flow
- 4 chart which was outside but we've moved in here. This was
- 5 the appended to the Notice of Intent that FERC issued on
- 6 June 2nd, 2016. If you did not receive the Notice of
- 7 Intent, there are copies available at the sign in desk.
- 8 Currently, we are near the beginning of our
- 9 environmental review process. We are also in the first of
- 10 two periods labeled 'public input opportunities.' Our
- 11 review of the plan project began on April 29th, 2016 when
- 12 Columbia Gulf filed its application. The FERC's docket
- 13 number for the Gulf Xpress Project is CP16-361-000. The
- 14 docket number is unique to this project and is associated
- 15 with all project materials.
- 16 For those of you who have access to FERC's
- 17 eLibrary website for project documents, you've seen that
- 18 Columbia Gulf application. It includes 12 environmental
- 19 resource reports. These reports describe Columbia Gulf's
- 20 project, review the environmental features potentially
- 21 affected by the project, and present the results of
- 22 environmental surveys in Columbia Gulf's proposed mitigation
- 23 measures.
- 24 As I mentioned earlier, we issued a notice of
- 25 intent to prepare an EIS for this project on June 2nd; and I

- 1 hope most of you received the Notice of Intent in the mail.
- 2 In the Notice we describe the environmental review process,
- 3 some already identified environmental issues, and the steps
- 4 that FERC will take to prepare the environmental impact
- 5 statement for the project.
- 6 The Notice of Intent also initiated the public
- 7 scoping period, which will end July 5th, 2016. Note that
- 8 the end of the scoping period is not the end of public
- 9 involvement. While the formal scoping period is thirty
- 10 days, we will accept comments throughout our review of the
- 11 project. However, for us to adequately analyze and research
- 12 the issues raised in your comments, we ask that you try to
- 13 get those comments to us as soon as possible. There will be
- 14 another comment period once the draft environmental impact
- 15 statement is issued.
- 16 Once scoping is finished, our next step will be
- 17 to start our independent analysis of Columbia Gulf's
- 18 proposal and the project's potential impacts on the issues
- 19 and resources identified during scoping. This will include
- 20 an examination of the proposed facility locations as well as
- 21 alternative sites. We will assess the project's impact on
- 22 water body and wetland, vegetation and wildlife, endangered
- 23 species, cultural resources, socioeconomics, geological
- 24 resources, soil, land use, air and noise quality, and
- 25 safety.

- 1 We will assemble information from a variety of
- 2 sources, including Columbia Gulf, the public, other federal,
- 3 state, and local agencies, and our own analysis and field
- 4 work. When complete, our analysis of the potential impacts
- 5 will be published as a draft environmental impact statement
- 6 and presented to the public for a 45 day comment period.
- 7 This draft EIS will be mailed to all interested parties.
- 8 During the comment period we look to the public to provide
- 9 feedback on our analysis and findings. And we may hold
- 10 another public meeting.
- 11 After revising the draft environmental impact
- 12 statement to respond to the public comments and any new
- 13 information, a final environmental impact statement will be
- 14 issued and mailed to all interested parties. Please note
- 15 that because of the size of the mailing list, the EIS is
- 16 often mailed as a compact disk or CD. That means unless you
- 17 tell us otherwise, the EIS that you will find in your
- 18 mailbox will be on a CD.
- 19 If you prefer to have a paper copy mailed to you,
- 20 you must indicate that choice on the return mailer attached
- 21 to the notes of the text. You can also indicate that on the
- 22 sign-in sheet tonight. If you received the Notice of Intent
- 23 in the mail, you are already on our mailing list already,
- 24 and will remain on our mailing list to receive the
- 25 environmental impact statement and any other supplemental

- 1 notices we may issue about this project unless you return
- 2 the mailer attached to the back of the notice of intent, and
- 3 indicate you wish to be removed from the mailing list.
- 4 Again, there are extra copies of the Notice of intent
- 5 available at the sign in table.
- 6 The mailing list for a project of this scope is
- 7 large and undergoing constant revision. You can be added to
- 8 our mailing list by signing up at the sign in table or by
- 9 submitting a comment to the project. I would like to add
- 10 that the FERC encourages electronic filings of all comments
- 11 or other documents. There's a small brochure that explains
- 12 the FERC's e-filing system at the sign-in table. Also,
- 13 instructions for this can be located on our website. Again,
- 14 that is www.ferc.gov. Under the e-filing link.
- 15 If you want to submit a written comment, please
- 16 follow the directions in the Notice of Intent. A link
- 17 called eSubscriptions is also available for you to sign up
- 18 using an email address to receive notification emails each
- 19 time a document is filed to the docket. It is very
- 20 important that any comments you send, either electronically
- 21 or traditional mail include the docket's number for this
- 22 project. The docket number is on the cover of the Notice of
- 23 Intent. If you decide to send us a comment letter, please
- 24 put that number at the top. This will ensure that members
- 25 of the staff evaluating your project will get your comments

- 1 as soon as possible.
- 2 Again, the docket number for the Gulf Xpress
- 3 Project is CP16-361-000.
- 4 Now I want to differentiate between the roles of
- 5 two parts of the FERC: the Commission and the Environmental
- 6 Staff. Gertrude and I are part of the FERC Environmental
- 7 Staff. We will oversee preparation of the environmental
- 8 impact statement for this project. We do not determine
- 9 whether or not the project gets approved. Rather the
- 10 Commission itself, which consists of up to five
- 11 presidentially-appointed commissioners is responsible for
- 12 making a determination of whether to issue a Certificate of
- 13 Public Convenience and Necessity to Columbia Gulf.
- 14 The EIS will describe the project facilities and
- 15 associated environmental impacts, alternatives to the
- 16 project, mitigation to avoid or reduce impacts, and the
- 17 environmental staff's conclusions and recommendations. The
- 18 environmental impact statement is not a decision document
- 19 but it will disclose to the public and to the Commission the
- 20 potential environmental impact of constructing and operating
- 21 the Gulf Xpress Project. The Commission will consider
- 22 environmental information presented in the environmental
- 23 impact statement as well as public comments, and a host of
- 24 non-environmental issues such as engineering, markets and
- 25 rates in making this decision to approve or deny Columbia

- 1 Gulf's request for a certificate.
- 2 There is no review of the FERC decision by
- 3 Congress or by the President, which maintains FERC's
- 4 independence as a regulatory agency and provides for fair
- 5 and unbiased decisions. Only after taking the environmental
- 6 and non-environmental factors into consideration will the
- 7 Commission make its final decision on whether or not to
- 8 approve the project.
- 9 At this time are there any questions about the
- 10 FERC process or about scoping?
- 11 AUDIENCE: [off mic] Is the FERC document that
- 12 they have -- is it one document or is it a document for each
- of the different stations that they're wanting to add?
- 14 MS. YUAN: So the question is, is the application
- 15 that Columbia Gulf filed an application containing
- 16 information for the one compressor station here or for all
- 17 the compressor stations here? Is that correct?
- AUDIENCE: Yes.
- 19 MS. YUAN: No, the application that Columbia Gulf
- 20 has filed with the FERC includes all seven compressor
- 21 stations that they're proposing under this project. So, not
- 22 just this one that's in proximity to us right now. Okay.
- 23 AUDIENCE: Thank you.
- Is it piece-by-piece, or is it a total?
- MS. YUAN: So the question is, is the

- 1 Commission's decision piece-by-piece or for the entire
- 2 project, correct, for all seven compressor stations? The
- 3 decision or the order -- the decision contained within the
- 4 order is for all seven compressor stations. Not just one.
- 5 AUDIENCE: Can they be modified at all
- 6 individually by location?
- 7 MS. YUAN: The location of the proposed project?
- 8 AUDIENCE: Each individual station.
- 9 MS. YUAN: Each individual station? Right.
- 10 Each individual station, if you read the resource
- 11 report, each station has different alternative sites
- 12 proposed; and there are proposed sites and then there is a
- 13 preferred site. But each station could have multiple
- 14 alternative sites being looked at.
- 15 Yes?
- 16 AUDIENCE: Does FERC ever require the movement of
- 17 a station to another alternative site? Or to an alternative
- 18 site that is not necessarily identified at the beginning of
- 19 the process?
- 20 MS. YUAN: So the question is, does FERC require
- 21 the applicant to look at alternative sites?
- 22 AUDIENCE: And move the --
- MS. YUAN: And move the --
- 24 AUDIENCE: Have they ever required a compressor
- 25 station location to be moved to an alternative site?

- 1 MS. YUAN: Okay, has FERC ever required a
- 2 compressor station location site be moved to another site
- 3 other than the proposed site?
- 4 Do you want to answer that question?
- 5 MS. JOHNSON: Ah, well, yes. There has been one
- 6 instance where a compressor station was proposed, an
- 7 application was filed; and we request that the applicant
- 8 provide us with alternative sites that they've looked at,
- 9 and through public involvement, agency involvement, the
- 10 public may suggest other sites that we would look at.
- In the one instance that I'm thinking about, the
- 12 applicant, because of many different factors, moved their
- 13 compressor station and refiled their application. That's
- 14 one instance that I can recall. Excuse me?
- AUDIENCE: Which one was that?
- 16 Which compressor station was that? And what
- 17 year?
- 18 MS. JOHNSON: That was the Hartwell compressor
- 19 station in Hartwell, Georgia in 2012.
- MS. YUAN: Yes, sir?
- 21 AUDIENCE: So just to clarify, the decision on
- 22 all stations total, but there can be a decision, move one or
- 23 more individual stations. But then all proposed stations,
- 24 if the Commission sees that need?
- 25 MS. YUAN: So the question is that the decision

- 1 comes under one order, but the potential to look at the
- 2 different sites for each proposed compressor stations, that
- 3 there is a potential to move those around? Am I capturing
- 4 that correctly?
- 5 AUDIENCE: Yes.
- 6 MS. YUAN: Yes, so we, while the order -- there
- 7 is one order that is for the project as a whole, we look at
- 8 each proposed site individually. Within our analysis, we
- 9 will look at that individually. But in the end we, FERC,
- 10 issues one order.
- 11 AUDIENCE: Can that order include moving a
- 12 station from where it was proposed.
- 13 MS. YUAN: Well, no. Right. So, if there is a
- 14 new alternative site proposed, the applicant would have to
- 15 file a new application and you would have to provide all the
- 16 resource reports and all the information about that new
- 17 site, and we would have to go through the process of
- 18 evaluating that site. Probably as a supplemental to the
- 19 environmental impact statement. And so it kind of starts
- 20 the process over.
- Do you want to add anything to it?
- 22 MS. JOHNSON: There are a lot of factors that go
- 23 into where a compressor station is sited, from the applicant
- 24 side and a lot of environmental factors that FERC Staff and
- 25 the Commission will consider in looking at alternative

- 1 sites.
- I can recall one instance, but there are a host
- 3 of different things that we consider in either asking an
- 4 applicant about alternative sites, to look at alternative
- 5 sites and ultimately whether we would recommend an
- 6 alternative site or whether they would, on their own accord,
- 7 refile their application for another alternative site.
- 8 So, yes, we do look at alternative sites, but
- 9 keeping in mind that we do look at a lot of different
- 10 factors; and I think if we do issue an environmental impact
- 11 statement you will see all of the factors that we've
- 12 considered in looking at the alternative sites that Columbia
- 13 Gulf has provided in their resource report. All the
- 14 alternative sites that the public has provided or other
- 15 agencies and any one that we've researched ourselves. At
- 16 that time you'll have an opportunity to comment on those
- 17 alternative sites and our analysis.
- 18 AUDIENCE: So alternately, Columbia Gulf would
- 19 have to reapply to change the location of one; there would
- 20 have to be reapplication for all, for the whole project,
- 21 including all seven?
- 22 MS. JOHNSON: Not necessarily, if they are the
- 23 ones proposing the alternative compressor station site, they
- 24 would have to file all new information. It's not an easy
- 25 decision on our part to recommend. If we were to recommend

- 1 an alternative site, it would be FERC staff's recommendation
- and the Commission, the five presidentially-appointed
- 3 commissioners, would adopt their recommendation in the order
- 4 that they'd issued to Columbia Gulf requiring that they move
- 5 their proposed site to an alternative site.
- 6 So in that instance, if we were to recommend, we
- 7 would have all the information and would know what we would
- 8 need in order to say 'well, we think that this alternative
- 9 has some significant environmental advantages to the
- 10 proposed site.'
- MS. YUAN: Yes, ma'am?
- 12 AUDIENCE: Are there guidelines for the
- 13 population density around a station? Do you have specific
- 14 guidelines about how densely populated an area can be to
- 15 allow the compressor station?
- 16 MS. YUAN: I think I'm going to give this one to
- 17 you since you were just talking about it.
- 18 MS. JOHNSON: In our regulations we do have
- 19 citing requirements that an applicant has to abide by when
- 20 proposing certain sites. They have to comply with those
- 21 citing requirements. There isn't a specific density of
- 22 folks or residential, commercial, communities where we would
- 23 say, it's not in our siting requirements but that is one of
- 24 the factors that we consider in our alternatives analysis.
- MS. YUAN: Yes?

- 1 AUDIENCE: This area is heavy residential, and
- 2 what you're putting in is not business, it's industrial.
- 3 And it's totally foreign to this area. It's going to wreck
- 4 our property values. Whatever idiot came up with this idea
- 5 should be tarred and feathered.
- 6 MS. JOHNSON: I understand what you're saying,
- 7 and I appreciate your coming --
- 8 AUDIENCE: I'm sorry, I can't hear that well.
- 9 I've had --
- 10 (Laughter)
- 11 -- but I'm very angry about this.
- 12 MS. YUAN: Why don't we just move to the
- 13 important part of this meeting, why most people are here.
- 14 That way, if you have a comment, a question, you'll be up at
- 15 a microphone so that everybody in the room can year.
- 16 So, let's just start the comment portion of this
- 17 meeting and we'll try to answer your questions as we
- 18 continue on. So, we'll first take comments from those who
- 19 signed up on the speakers list, that was the blue sheet at
- 20 the sign in table. If you prefer, you may hand us your
- 21 written comments tonight, or send them to the Commission by
- 22 following the procedures outlined in the Notice of Intent.
- 23 There is also a form on the sign in table that you can use
- 24 to write comments on and give it to me or one of my
- 25 assistants tonight; there's also instructions on the form to

- 1 detail how to mail those comments to the Commission.
- 2 Whether you provide your comment verbally, by email, or
- 3 electronically, they will be considered equally by FERC.
- 4 As I said before, this meeting is being recorded
- 5 by a court reporter so that all your comments and questions
- 6 will be transcribed and put into the public record. To help
- 7 the court reporter produce an accurate recording of this
- 8 meeting, I ask that you please follow some ground rules.
- 9 When your name is called, please step up to the microphone,
- 10 state your name, and spell it for the record. Identify any
- 11 agency or group you're representing and define any acronyms
- 12 you may use.
- 13 I also ask that everyone in the audience respect
- 14 the speaker and refrain from any audible show of agreement
- 15 or disagreement. Lastly, before we start, as a courtesy to
- 16 our speakers and the rest of the audience please turn off or
- 17 silence your cell phones.
- 18 So, we're now ready to call our first speaker.
- 19 MS. SUSEMIHL: If there's any elected officials
- 20 or individuals holding public office who would like to
- 21 speak, you're invited to approach the podium now.
- MS. YUAN: All right. Chris is coming with the
- 23 microphone.
- 24 SENATOR YARBORO: My name is Jeff Yarboro, J E F
- 25 F Y A R B R O, I'm the State Senator for this area of

- 1 town; and over the last several months I have talked to and
- 2 heard lots of concerns from the people in this area about
- 3 the health impacts, safety impacts, noise impacts, and the
- 4 like.
- 5 And I think the primary thing that might be
- 6 harder to recognize, Cane Ridge, when you read it on the
- 7 map, might not sound like a city you've heard of before, but
- 8 this is a brand new high school -- and it didn't replace
- 9 something, it was built in the last few years because this
- 10 is the fastest growing area in the county. The fastest
- 11 growing region in the state is between Nashville and
- 12 Murfreesboro. This is a rapidly growing and increasingly
- 13 residential place.
- 14 And I think that we all have to be cognizant of,
- 15 we're still trying to get the infrastructure in place for
- 16 these residents, to support the residents that are going up.
- 17 Much less the ones that are being created in addition right
- 18 now. So, I think we have to be very mindful of what the
- 19 potential impacts are going to be on the people that live
- 20 here; and it's hard for us to understand how if we can't
- 21 find something that would be an alternative that's not in
- 22 this sort of residential area, that wouldn't have this type
- 23 of impact on the people in this area.
- 24 Representative Howell and I will likely be
- 25 submitting a written statement in opposition, but I wanted

- 1 to at least say that part and then hand it over to
- 2 Representative Powell.
- REP. POWELL: Thank you, Senator Yarboro.
- 4 My name is Jason Powell, J A S O N P O W E L L.
- 5 Jason Powell, I'm a State Representative for House District
- 6 53 here in Tennessee, and as well as Senator Yarboro
- 7 represent the area where this compressor station will be
- 8 located.
- 9 I have heard unprecedented numbers of emails and
- 10 concerns from constituents, and we tend to deal with a lot
- 11 of extreme issues in the Tennessee General Assembly that
- 12 solicit a lot of opinions; yet this project alone, I've
- 13 probably seen more communication in my office than any other
- 14 issue since I've been elected. And certainly in the last
- 15 four years in the Tennessee General Assembly.
- 16 Concerns from constituents about air quality,
- 17 wildlife impacts. We've got a Mill Creek that's right
- 18 there, along in the general area where this is going to be
- 19 located. Health and safety concerns. Noise concerns. To
- 20 echo what Jeff said, this literally is the fastest growing
- 21 part of the city, if not in the entire south.
- The rapid growth that is occurring -- on the way
- 23 down here I was just driving through an area that, if I
- 24 don't drive past it every week -- there are new developments
- 25 and new things happening constantly. So, my concern, and I

- 1 certainly will yield to my constituents who have very
- 2 expressed very eloquently a lot of their concerns that they
- 3 have about this is --- no offense to some of the different
- 4 areas that were listed here along this, but we're talking
- 5 about Davidson County, Nashville, Tennessee.
- It looks like the way that this is laid out;
- 7 Rowan County, Kentucky, Garrard County, Kentucky, Metcalfe
- 8 County, Kentucky, Union County, Mississippi, I'm sure there
- 9 are fine folks there, but I've got to think that those are
- 10 mostly, largely urban areas. We're talking about an area
- 11 that's in Davidson County, one of the fastest growing parts
- 12 of the Southeast.
- 13 We're talking about alternative locations, it
- 14 seems like along where this is located there could have been
- 15 many other alternatives and I know other options were
- 16 explored, but my greatest concern is that we're putting this
- 17 here in literally an area that is booming, that's got great
- 18 potential. I hear every day about people who want to open
- 19 up businesses and move here and locate here. It's a
- 20 thriving, growing community, and we want to keep that.
- 21 My fear is, on top of all the other concerns we
- 22 have, and I sometimes get the 'Not in My Back Yard'
- 23 sentiment -- is that to locate this in this community is
- 24 going to be extremely detrimental. It's going to have a
- 25 negative impact on property values and people who have

- 1 staked what little money they might have into this area,
- 2 invest their likelihoods; and to have this project come up.
- 3 It seems like there's a lot of alternatives that would make
- 4 sense and be feasible, that would keep this out of our area.
- 5 So, as Senator Yarboro mentioned, we do plan on
- 6 submitting a formal letter about our concerns to sort of
- 7 summarize everything we've heard from our constituents.
- 8 Senator Yarboro and I cosponsored legislation that would
- 9 have dealt with this in the General Assembly.
- 10 Unfortunately, we couldn't get to be heard and have a vote.
- 11 But we pushed and thoroughly were supported. In addition,
- 12 we also had budget appropriations in the state budget to try
- 13 to purchase this land and turn it into a park or some other
- 14 resource.
- 15 You literally can take, there's an easement that
- 16 goes to where this area is located all the way to Lavender
- 17 Lake that would be a tremendous asset to this community.
- 18 I'm here on behalf of over 60,000 people that I represent
- 19 who have actively voiced their opposition to me -- concern,
- 20 and I've yet to receive one positive, from somebody who
- 21 thinks this is a great idea.
- 22 So, I appreciate your time and I appreciate the
- 23 people I serve and will continue to make our views known.
- MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- 25 (Applause)

- 1 MS. SUSEMIHL: Okay. We have Brant Miller up
- 2 first and on deck is Patricia Miller.
- 3 MR. MILLER: Hello, my name is Brant Miller, B R
- 4 ANT MILLER. I appreciate the opportunity to
- 5 comment to FERC on the proposed Cane Ridge Gas Compressor
- 6 station.
- 7 Again, I'm Brant Miller and I am a resident of
- 8 the Cane Ridge community, and also am Chair of the Friends
- 9 of the Mill Creek Greenway, the Mill Creek Park section,
- 10 which is very close to the proposed site. Our friends group
- 11 was established in 2015 by residents of the Cane Ridge area
- 12 and other nearby areas who use the 1.75 mile greenway and
- 13 who want to help protect and to enhance it.
- 14 We currently have 60 members, and tonight I am
- 15 speaking on behalf of our organization against the proposed
- 16 Cane Ridge Gas Compressor station. Our Mill Creek Greenway
- 17 and the adjoining Mill Creek Park are tremendous assets to
- 18 our community. It is used by hundreds of residents in the
- 19 surrounding neighborhoods to provide a quiet and healthy
- 20 place to walk, run, hike, bike as well as relax and enjoy
- 21 nature next to the beautiful Mill Creek.
- 22 A recent phone survey done by Metro Parks
- 23 revealed that 65 percent of Nashvillians named the above
- 24 activities as the most popular uses of parks and greenways;
- 25 and 64 percent said they visited a park or park facility on

- 1 a regular basis. So these areas are very, very important to
- 2 people in our area and these areas with a lot of folks as
- 3 was stated before who live in the area, and need a place to
- 4 go.
- 5 We at the Friends of Mill Creek Greenway are very
- 6 concerned that the proposed gas compressor station would
- 7 greatly the experience of greenway users due to continual
- 8 noise pollution from 41,000 horsepower turbines that would
- 9 run nonstop; and from period blast from blowouts that would
- 10 be conducted as part of routine maintenance of the
- 11 compressor. We're also concerned about the health effects
- 12 on greenway users from the compressor's continual release of
- 13 air pollutants that are known to cause cancer, including the
- 14 b-tox, formaldehyde, chromium, and radon gas as well as
- 15 methane, NOx, and carbon monoxide that cause respiratory
- 16 ailments and also contribute to greenhouse gas warming.
- 17 The potential of pollutants entering the water is
- 18 also a concern for humans, fish, and wildlife, including
- 19 those that can reach Mill Creek which is the only habitat in
- 20 the world of the federally-endangered Nashville crayfish.
- 21 Our current one and three-quarter miles section of the
- 22 greenway was established in 2014 by Metro Parks and
- 23 Greenways after three years of planning and after much
- 24 public input. It's part of the parks and greenway master
- 25 plan which is a priority of Mayor Barry of Nashville. And

- 1 another 2.75 miles is a trail and six new soccer fields are
- 2 planned for construction within the next year.
- 3 When completed, our greenway will link up with
- 4 two schools and six subdivisions in an increasing network of
- 5 these greenways around the city. So ultimately there will
- 6 be seven million dollars invested by Metro, government and
- 7 taxpayers in land and construction by the time this project
- 8 is completed; an investment that would be threatened by the
- 9 proposed gas compressor station.
- 10 In places, a station would be less than one-
- 11 quarter mile away from the current greenway trail. In fact,
- 12 Columbia's own Resource Report 8 states that a portion of
- 13 Mill Creek Greenway is within the quarter-mile buffer around
- 14 the compressor site.
- So, I'd like to conclude by saying the Friends of
- 16 Mill Creek Greenway believe that our many users deserve
- 17 better than what will be in store for them if the Cane Ridge
- 18 Gas Compressor station were approved. Not only would their
- 19 outdoors experience be diminished by the continual noise of
- 20 the turbines, but the very health they are trying to improve
- 21 by being out there would be compromised by air pollutants
- 22 emitted by the station.
- 23 We urge FERC to deny the permit for this gas
- 24 compressor station and to see that it's moved to a more
- 25 suitable site away from populated areas such as the other

- 1 stations that are proposed by Columbia Gulf.
- 2 Thank you very much.
- 3 (Applause)
- 4 MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- 5 MS. SUSEMIHL: Patricia Miller is up next, and
- 6 following Ms. Miller is Shannon Felton.
- 7 MS. MILLER: Patricia Miller, and that's P A T R
- 8 ICA MILLER. First of all, thank you for this
- 9 opportunity to speak. I'm a resident of the Cane Ridge
- 10 community and a natural resource professional, and I am
- 11 against the proposed Cane Ridge gas compressor station.
- 12 In particular, on two counts: First of all, this
- is a highly populated area, and for the potential negative
- 14 effects on our air quality. Out of the seven new midpoint
- 15 compression stations that Columbia Gulf Transmission is
- 16 proposing, the Cane Ridge compressor station is the only one
- 17 situated in a highly-populated major metropolitan area.
- 18 According to the Tennessee State Data Center, our city, with
- 19 an estimated population of over 650,000 and its surrounding
- 20 areas are leading the state in population growth.
- 21 The top ten fastest growing counties in Tennessee
- 22 are either located on, or in, or bordering the Nashville
- 23 area. This Nashville metropolitan statistical area had a
- 24 2015 population of more than 1.8 million people. That's
- 25 about 28 percent of Tennessee's total population of 6.6

- 1 million. Nashville itself is growing by 57 people per day.
- With this population concentration, why would a
- 3 gas compressor station be proposed for this area? The air
- 4 quality index, or AQI, from EPA's AirNow system gives us the
- 5 information on how clean or polluted our air is based on six
- 6 levels. So far this year, 2016, including today, the
- 7 Nashville basin has had 55 days of the second level, the
- 8 yellow level, meaning moderate, indicating the air quality
- 9 is acceptable. However, for some pollutants there may be a
- 10 moderate healthy concern, for a very small number of people.
- 11 Of special note is that we also have already had two days
- 12 this year of level 3, the orange level, meaning unhealthy
- 13 for sensitive groups.
- Due to Nashville's physiographic location in the
- 15 central basin, our air pollution problems are exacerbated.
- 16 The basin is partially enclosed by the highland rim and
- 17 polluted air cannot escape. As Nashville residents we've
- 18 all experienced air conversions, sometimes several days of
- 19 air pollution being contained in the basin. The proposed
- 20 station would have a strong negative effect on the air
- 21 quality of not only nearby neighborhoods but on the central
- 22 basin as well.
- 23 Hazardous by-products of this station, which
- 24 would be continually released into the atmosphere will
- 25 include chemicals known to cause cancer such as benzene,

- 1 toluene, ethenylbenzene, and others. Also, the ones
- 2 affecting respiratory conditions. And radon gas, which is a
- 3 risk factor for lung cancer. 90 percent of the emissions
- 4 will be methane contributing to greenhouse gases and a
- 5 component of smog which we are aware of in Nashville.
- 6 Why would we ever consider adding to our polluted
- 7 air burden as we know this is uncomfortable at the least,
- 8 and at the worst, hazardous to our health? Why, with
- 9 Tennessee's fastest growing counties, located primarily
- 10 right here in the basin, should we not be planning for a
- 11 more breathable community for all of us, and not the
- 12 opposite? I ask you please do not allow this station to be
- 13 built. Thank you.
- 14 (Applause)
- 15 MS. FELTON: Unlike the other speakers, I don't
- 16 have notes, I have a question that I hope can be answered.
- 17 My name is Sharon Felton, S H A R O N, Felton, F
- 18 E L T O N. FERC says that public opinion is important, and
- 19 yet, I'd like to learn what sort of weight FERC actually
- 20 puts on public opinion? I know from, as you may or may not
- 21 know, there is a second gas compressor station proposed for
- 22 the Joelton community. It is a larger compressor, it is
- 23 60,000, whereas the Cane Ridge one is 41,000. In the
- 24 Joelton community we had a petition signed by over 103,000
- 25 people expressing protest saying that they didn't want it

- 1 built in the Joelton area; and yet as far as I know that has
- 2 not held much weight with FERC.
- 3 So my question is authentic: How much wait does
- 4 FERC actually place on public opinion?
- 5 MS. JOHNSON: I would say if we didn't put much
- 6 weight on public opinion, we really wouldn't be out here
- 7 asking people for their concerns or questions about the
- 8 project. I would say that our public opinion as well as the
- 9 Agency concerns and questions are included in our
- 10 environmental analysis and are considered when we're looking
- 11 at the environmental impacts; not just on the natural
- 12 environment but on the human environment. Not to say
- 13 that we just take the public's opinion on whether to
- 14 recommend that a project not be built or be built, but we do
- 15 take into consideration those concerns and questions.
- 16 MS. FELTON: The other body that has spoken
- 17 against gas compressor stations in general was our own Metro
- 18 Council. Last August, Metro Council passed an ordinance
- 19 saying that gas compressor stations should only be built on
- 20 industrial-zoned land. So, I think it is, should be, I
- 21 think FERC should make a statement as to why they have
- 22 decided that they can override this particular Metro Council
- 23 ordinance.
- 24 MS. YUAN: We at FERC have not seen comments from
- 25 the Metropolitan Council yet. I hope that they do file

- 1 comments to the docket so that we can all formally see them.
- 2 We do consider all comments that come in. So when we do get
- 3 comments like that we will consider it in our environmental
- 4 document.
- 5 MS. SUSEMIHL: Laurie Birkhead is next, and on
- 6 deck is Lou Rife.
- 7 Ms. BIRKHEAD: My name is Lori Birckhead. L O R I
- 8 BIRCKHEAD. According to the Southwest Pennsylvania
- 9 Environmental Health Project, there are reported health
- 10 issues by people living in close proximity to gas compressor
- 11 stations. These range from upper respiratory issues of
- 12 irritation, weakness and fatigue, muscle aches and pains and
- 13 a multitude of other medical conditions.
- 14 Because there is no pre-and post testing of
- 15 residents living near compressor stations, there's no way to
- 16 prove these medical claims. My concern is that the people
- 17 near a compressor station would be guinea pigs waiting to
- 18 see what types of medical conditions arise.
- 19 The reason for this station is to push the gas to
- 20 the Gulf Coast for export. It's not for the public
- 21 convenience and necessity of these people, but for the
- 22 convenience and necessity of Columbia Gas. So my concern is
- 23 for the health issue of the people here that don't really
- 24 benefit anything from this compressor station but have to
- 25 bear the burden of their health. Thank you.

- 1 MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- 2 (Applause)
- 3 MS. SUSEMIHL: Lou Rife, you are up and on deck
- 4 is Bill Robertson.
- 5 MR. RIFE: Lou, L O U. Last name is Rife, R I F
- 6 E. I'm a resident at Lennox Village. First of all I want
- 7 to thank the two representatives who came and stated your
- 8 opinion. Thank you so much for representing. I also want
- 9 to apologize we don't have 900 people here. We live in some
- 10 interesting times. Please don't take the fact that we have
- 11 a small number to mean that we don't have the passion for
- 12 this. Because I wouldn't do this to you and your children
- 13 anymore than I want it done to me and my children. So the
- 14 passion is here and I wish there were more, but that's it.
- 15 If I understand what I think I'm reading here, it
- 16 says the ultimate authority on whether or not this station
- 17 gets built is FERC. I'm a big proponent of representative
- 18 government, so I am thankful for this opportunity to at
- 19 least tell you how I feel. Being 70 years old, I've learned
- 20 a few things in life. One of them was, in Vietnam, the
- 21 phrase was 'stay alert, stay alive.' If you didn't you
- 22 would get blood poisoning and you would be dead. It's
- 23 dangerous to the health of children, war; and of course,
- 24 we're still doing it but it needs to be stopped, that's the
- 25 solution to that.

- 1 The other thing is, I grew up in a town from the
- 2 age of 5 until 27, and it had a river running through it and
- 3 it stunk. And we knew back in the 50's you never wanted to
- 4 eat fish that came out of it. So finally, Flint made the
- 5 news and you've heard about our fine water. I've got some
- 6 outside if you want it. It's bad for our health, it's bad
- 7 for children.
- Then when I read about this endeavor I go, "Here
- 9 we go again." Carcinogenic substances, benzene,
- 10 formaldehyde, all those fine things that I want my
- 11 grandchildren, or children, or your children subjected to?
- 12 No. No. The insanity has to stop. The environmental
- 13 statement is really a statement about people. The
- 14 environment's me. It's what my children breathe. It's what
- 15 my grandchildren breathe and it's yours.
- 16 Can you imagine doing this in a metropolitan
- 17 Davidson County? Such a thinly populated area. -- I mean,
- 18 really. You can't make it up. So, please, to the five
- 19 people who are going to put their hammer down and say yes or
- 20 no, you can't do that here. We've got to have a break. Our
- 21 kids have to have a break. We need all the breaks in the
- 22 world.
- Thank you for listening. A big No.
- 24 (Applause)
- 25 MS. YUAN: After Mr. Robertson it's Matt Arcain.

- 1 MR. ROBERTSON: Hi, my name is Bill Robertson B I
- 2 L L R O B E R T S O N. My question concerns how FERC
- 3 evaluates the alternative sites. I've sort of been through
- 4 this process once already. I'm with some of the folks from
- 5 the Joelton area, we're down here as -- this is not in our
- 6 backyard, but we fully support the community here in saying
- 7 that this is a bad engineering decision.
- 8 So I've been through the process of looking at
- 9 alternative sites and interacted with seeing what FERC's
- 10 response is, and it doesn't seem -- I really want to know
- 11 what criteria does FERC use to evaluate the alternative
- 12 sites? For the Joelton example, they gave a bunch of
- 13 different sites, they gave an evaluation; however, the
- 14 highest criteria they put on it was the fact that they owned
- 15 the land already and it wouldn't require the use of eminent
- 16 domain. That seems to me, that's something that's got
- 17 nothing to do with the environmental or the engineering
- 18 aspects of the project.
- 19 FERC and their EA for the Joelton one was
- 20 nonresponsive. I'm getting ready to do the same thing for
- 21 the Cane Ridge. I want to know, how do I do a better job of
- 22 convincing you that there are alternative sites that might
- 23 be better? That's one sort of part of the question I'd like
- answered.
- 25 I'd be interested in knowing if FERC has

- 1 engineering staff that looks at these things. And is there
- 2 a way to interact with that engineering staff? We've gone
- 3 through the air permit from the Metro health for the one up
- 4 in Joelton, and the engineering folks there have had
- 5 engineers from our community up to talk to them about it.
- 6 Is there a process for doing that with FERC? Or is the
- 7 process totally through the filings and the material that
- 8 comes back, because as I said, they were basically
- 9 nonresponsive to a lot of the issues that we showed; and
- 10 specifically up in the Joelton one there were five
- 11 alternative sites that were better for the engineering and
- 12 environmental point of view, and yet, the fact that they
- 13 didn't have to use eminent domain seemed to trump
- 14 everything.
- 15 So that's one aspect, and as to the whole idea of
- 16 eminent domain, obviously that's not a desirable thing for
- 17 the landowner who might have that imposed upon them;
- 18 however, as one of the previous speakers pointed out, the
- 19 600,000 residents of Davidson County are having a zoning
- 20 ordinance of theirs overturned, so again, it's federal
- 21 preemption apparently steps in to step on their property
- 22 rights. And certainly on the property rights of the folks
- 23 who live nearby here.
- 24 The one question is how do they evaluate; and the
- 25 second question is, in this project in particular, a lot of

- 1 the engineering aspects have been put under the CEII, the
- 2 Critical Energy Infrastructure Information. That makes it
- 3 very, very hard for us to judge. I spoke to the engineering
- 4 folks out here and they've brought up some issues that I
- 5 can't answer because I can't judge the project because all
- 6 of that information seems to be hidden. Is there a process
- 7 through FERC to get access to that information for people
- 8 who want to do a thorough engineering review?
- 9 Thank you.
- 10 MS. YUAN: Okay, so, I'll try to answer your
- 11 alternatives question, siting. So, yes, FERC looks at the
- 12 environmental factors involved with the site. The wetlands,
- 13 the water bodies, impacts to habitat, to noise, to sensitive
- 14 noise receptors and things like that. But we also, like you
- 15 mentioned, look at engineering factors which is just as
- 16 important, too, to make sure that if you're siting a
- 17 compressor station, it's sited in the right place for
- 18 whatever needs to be done correctly. That is something that
- 19 our engineering folks look at.
- 20 There's also other things the Commission looks
- 21 at. Rates. We're not involved with looking at rates; we
- 22 are only involved with looking at environmental factors and
- 23 constraints. But there are other things like rates, there's
- 24 engineering. There's markets making sure that the gas, --
- 25 with markets, this gas is going to. So, these are all being

- 1 evaluated by different offices within FERC, departments
- 2 within FERC.
- 3 So in combination of all of this stuff, all these
- 4 factors. Does the Commission take into consideration, their
- 5 decision to either provide a Certificate of Convenience and
- 6 Necessity. So, it's not just environmental factors that
- 7 FERC looks at, it's a lot of other things. I don't know if
- 8 that kind of answers your question.
- 9 MR. ROBERTSON: So, does that, the engineering
- 10 part, as I said, that's very hard for the community to judge
- 11 the engineering part because we don't, on this one we don't
- 12 have access to the information. Is there a process for
- 13 getting access to that information? Or do FERC's engineers
- 14 write a report, like an analysis report? None of that was
- 15 given out in the EA for the Joelton station. They accepted
- 16 everything the company said, and it was not even addressed
- 17 as a factor.
- 18 MS. JOHNSON: Applicants have to provide a lot of
- 19 the engineering flow diagrams to support their application.
- 20 And all of that is filed under CEII, any one person could
- 21 file a FOIA, Freedom of Information Act for that CEII
- 22 information. I can't tell you that you'd be able to access
- 23 that information after filing for a FOIA of that CEII
- 24 information, because for security purposes and proprietary
- 25 information that's why it's filed under CEII. But I'm not

- 1 going to discourage you from filing that, to access that
- 2 information.
- 3 The engineers on our side do look at the flow
- 4 diagrams. They do ask questions that are on the docket
- 5 concerning the engineering factors that they consider. All
- 6 of their questions are on the docket. All of the applicants
- 7 that respond to them are on the docket provided that they
- 8 are for public viewing. Any other information they would
- 9 provide us under the CEII would be under CEII, not
- 10 accessible.
- 11 MR. ROBERTSON: That makes it kind of hard for
- 12 the public to judge some of those things because then we
- 13 have to trust them to your engineering division. As I said,
- 14 the engineering division was not particularly responsive on
- 15 the last one. For any technical questions there's almost no
- 16 analysis or response.
- 17 As I said, I'm getting geared up to do for this
- 18 one and I'd like to do a good job and I'd like to do a
- 19 better job to see if we could establish a viable alternative
- 20 site, and it makes it very, very hard to do that process.
- 21 If I can't have the information, I can't interact with the
- 22 people making the decision.
- 23 MS. JOHNSON: I understand that, and I can't
- 24 speak for the Commission on why certain portions are CEII,
- 25 but if you go through the process of being able to access

- 1 that information and there would be a disclosure if you were
- 2 to access that information, I just can't tell you whether
- 3 you would be able to. MR. ROBERTSON: Okay. Thank you.
- 4 (Applause)
- 5 MR. ARCAINI: My name is Matt Arcaini. That's M
- 6 ATT, last name, ARCAINI.
- 7 In reference to the statement you made about the
- 8 consideration of the markets that this gas is going to be
- 9 going to, I'd like to put this in a comment and also point
- 10 out to everybody here that federal preemption is being given
- 11 to a private company that is about to be foreignly owned and
- 12 operated. Federal preemption is usually meant for
- 13 utilities, so, you know, if there's a part of the country
- 14 that needs a power plant and doesn't have one, the federal
- 15 government can step in and say, 'you have to build this
- 16 here.' This a private company foreignly-held, or soon to be
- 17 foreignly-held, transporting gas to the Gulf for foreign
- 18 export; this is not going to any American markets.
- 19 So this is the epitome of dump on us expansion
- 20 and in a major metro area, the only major metro area on the
- 21 Gulf Xpress pipeline which is Nashville's Davidson county.
- 22 The hundreds of thousands of people that live here are being
- 23 subjected to that level of negligence.
- 24 So just to point out a few numbers here, the six
- 25 other sites on this pipeline that are getting compressor

- 1 stations or upgraded compressor stations, one of them is
- 2 Morehead, Kentucky. Their population is just around 6,000.
- 3 Paint Lick, Kentucky. Population 2,000. Goodluck,
- 4 Kentucky, 1,500 -- and that's within a ten mile radius of
- 5 the downtown area. Clifton Junction, Tennessee. 2,600. New
- 6 Albany, Mississippi. 8,000 and then Holcomb, Mississippi,
- 7 600.
- 8 Antioch, Cane Ridge, according to the 2014 census
- 9 has 80,000 people. As we all know, this area, as the
- 10 Senator and Representative said, is the fastest growing, not
- 11 only area in Nashville but area in the entire state. It is
- 12 very likely that the population of Antioch is well over
- 13 100,000 at this point, based on the 50 or so people a day
- 14 that are moving to this area.
- 15 A main concern of that is South Nashville is one
- 16 of the few areas that has the room left to accommodate that
- 17 type of population expansion. We've already heard from
- 18 developers in the area that are in the middle of developing
- 19 that, had they known that this compressor station was being
- 20 proposed for this site, they would not even have bothered to
- 21 develop the land.
- 22 So in the case socioeconomic impact, we're
- 23 already feeling that and it's not even here. Because these
- 24 developers don't want to have anything to do with it.
- 25 Because Columbia has stated time and time again that these

- 1 compressor stations don't affect property values. While
- 2 they may not effect property values in smaller towns where
- 3 the income of that town is being heavily subsidized by the
- 4 tax income, here Nashvillians, we're a little bit more
- 5 aware. We're educated and we want to stay healthy.
- 6 We have a huge greenway system as many people
- 7 have stated and the people in Nashville are going to be
- 8 aware of a giant industrial facility, compressing a volatile
- 9 substance and they're not going to want to live near that so
- 10 logically, that is going to decrease property values. I can
- 11 say with 100 percent certainty that our property values are
- 12 going to decrease here because of that.
- 13 And because of those decreased property values,
- 14 developers aren't going to want to move into the area and
- 15 keep expanding. We're rapidly expanding. This compressor
- 16 station will, without a doubt, completely halt the growth of
- 17 Southeast Nashville indefinitely. This is not a temporary
- 18 facility; it's a permanent fixture and it will be here for
- 19 decades to come if this is allowed to be built.
- I guess I don't need to say in many words what
- 21 this, I appeal to you guys and to the people that you report
- 22 to that we are an unprecedented area of population. We're a
- 23 major metro area. This is not only unprecedented on this
- 24 pipeline but it's almost unprecedented in the United States.
- 25 To top it off, if we're going by our metro ordinances, this

- 1 station is illegal. The federal government is giving
- 2 preemption to an illegal structure to be built for the
- 3 export of natural gas and we get to pay the ultimate price
- 4 for that.
- 5 I thank you guys for taking the time to come down
- 6 here and listen to us, and I really hope that you take our
- 7 comments seriously.
- 8 (Applause)
- 9 MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- 10 MS. SUSEMIHL: Catherine Byrd, you're up next and
- 11 on deck is Jim Tokarski.
- 12 MS. BYRD: Hi, thank you for having me here. My
- 13 name is Catherine Byrd, C A T H E R I N E, Byrd, B Y R D. I
- 14 didn't have anything prepared. I thought I signed up for
- 15 just a regular question list and I'm sorry about that; but
- 16 what I guess I want to know is, what can we get for you guys
- 17 specifically that can help you make a decision against this?
- 18 Do you need peer-reviewed journal articles from the Lancet
- 19 that has shown that it is against the health and well-being
- 20 of individuals that live in a 10, 20, 30 mile radius of a
- 21 compression station?
- You know, we are great as Nashvillians, we can
- 23 rise to the challenge of whatever we need to do, we just
- 24 need to know what information you guys need that helps you
- 25 to understand that impact, and we can try to gather that

- 1 information. I'm just an individual and I might need to dig
- 2 deeper into a little bit more of the information.
- I guess, is it more of the dollar and cents
- 4 impacts? Do you guys need that kind of information? Do you
- 5 need information on, just like this other gentleman's
- 6 talking about, economics and developers moving in and the
- 7 potential economic impact it could have? What can we get
- 8 you guys to make this important? I guess because we'll have
- 9 a secondary round, and if it's about gathering important and
- 10 correct and detailed information, we'd like to do that.
- 11 MS. YUAN: I would say to be as specific as
- 12 possible in your comments, if you have something you want us
- 13 to review or look at, like we were talking earlier before,
- 14 you know, file that report with your comments to the docket.
- 15 If you have information about a site that you think we may
- or may not be aware of, make sure you're specific about
- 17 that. If there's some information you're citing or maybe
- 18 there's some information from a local economic agency or
- 19 something that we're not aware of and that's information
- 20 that maybe we should follow up on, let us know what that
- 21 agency is.
- 22 We also have another cooperating agency on this
- 23 project; the Environmental Protection Agency is a
- 24 cooperating agency, basically they lend their expertise from
- 25 their agency to the preparation of our environmental impact

- 1 statement. We look for folks with expertise in those kinds
- 2 of areas. They have a lot of expertise in socioeconomic
- 3 impact, they have a lot of obviously expertise in air
- 4 quality impact; and so we look to them and any agencies that
- 5 would have that specific, particularly local agencies, for
- 6 specific knowledge in that specific area that you have
- 7 concerns of. So, file it in your comment so that we are
- 8 aware of it and we will follow up with that.
- 9 Anything else you want to add?
- 10 MS. BYRD: I did have one other question. I was
- 11 curious, before this -- and it might be in some of the other
- 12 information, are we going to be zoned industrial if we do
- 13 have the compressor station, or would we still be
- 14 residential?
- 15 MS. YUAN: So that is up to your, I believe the
- 16 Nashville Metropolitan Council. The FERC does not deal with
- 17 zoning. That is a local issue. That's all I can say about
- 18 that.
- 19 MS. BYRD: That's fine. Thank you.
- 20 (Applause)
- 21 MS. SUSEMIHL: After Mr. Tokarski, Anna Ortiz is
- 22 up. MR. TOKARSKI: Hello, my name is Jim Tokarski. T
- 23 OKARSKI. I wish I had a dollar for every time I said
- 24 that during my lifetime. I'm certainly not an environmental
- 25 activist. I wouldn't say I am. I heat my home with natural

- 1 gas. I always have my whole life. I want to take a few
- 2 minutes to tell you why I'm against this, okay?
- 3 My wife and I, we built our home in the
- 4 subdivision about 13 years ago. When our home was built it
- 5 was about half full; a lot of empty lots around us. And if
- 6 I went across the street it was mostly farmland and fields.
- 7 Up and down Barnes Road, fields, farmland on the left and
- 8 the right. Taking a drive down Old Hickory Boulevard is
- 9 like a country drive. Farmland mostly. And Nolansville
- 10 Road was very easy to get on and off. No schools around,
- 11 either.
- 12 Fifteen years ago if this company was here, I'd
- 13 probably tell them to put it across the street, I don't
- 14 care. What do have now? All of us that live here. You
- 15 look across the street from Mill Run subdivision, you've got
- 16 more subdivisions. Go on over the hill, more subdivisions,
- 17 right? Up and down Barnes Road, what do you have?
- 18 Subdivisions on the left and right. You drive down Old
- 19 Hickory Boulevard, what do you have? Subdivisions on the
- 20 left and the right.
- 21 We've got schools near us now. A booming
- 22 Nolasville Road is ready for a makeover. And now you want
- 23 to drop this compression station on top of all this growth.
- 24 I mean, as a homeowner, this doesn't make sense to me
- 25 economically, engineering, environmentally; it doesn't seem

- 1 to make business sense at this point. There's just too much
- 2 growth here.
- That's all I really wanted to say. You know, I
- 4 mean, I've seen this area boom, and it's growing, and it
- 5 just doesn't make sense to me to drop this station in the
- 6 middle of all that growth. Thank you.
- 7 (Applause)
- 8 MS. SUSEMIHL: Thank you, Anna Ortiz and on deck
- 9 is Rachael Hoffman.
- 10 MS. ORTIZ: Hello. My name is Anna Ortiz. It's
- 11 spelled A N N A O R T I Z. I am a resident of Mill Run,
- 12 I've been a resident for 16 years. I have been an asthma
- 13 sufferer for a lot longer, I won't say how many years
- 14 because that would give away my age.
- I, when I heard about the proposed gas compressor
- 16 project, I contacted my primary care physician and met with
- 17 him back in April. The intent of that meeting was to
- 18 discuss with him some of the health implications that a
- 19 project like this would have on somebody like me. I did
- 20 some of the research and rattled off some of the chemical
- 21 byprodocts, you know, the benzene, methane, so on and so
- 22 forth, and his initial reaction was just to look at me and
- 23 just kind of 'do this.' So, I interpreted that as being bad.

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25 He did say that some of those gases would have

- 1 some significant impact on the air quality which would
- 2 directly impact someone like me. So, my alternatives are to
- 3 pack up and move, or be put in a plastic bubble. Neither of
- 4 those options are really appealing. Like I said, I've been
- 5 in Mill Run like I said 16 years and it's home.
- 6 For me, the whole basis of my comment is really
- 7 just the way it would impact somebody like me who is not
- 8 fortunate enough to be born with a healthy set of lungs.
- 9 So, I would just kindly ask FERC, both the Commission and
- 10 the environmental teams involved in this process to consider
- 11 folks like me, you know, your asthmatics and people with
- 12 upper respiratory issues.
- 13 I know you probably hear this at public scoping
- 14 meetings everywhere you go, but I don't feel like it's fair
- 15 for my alternative to be pack up and move if there is that
- 16 slim chance that this project can be moved to an alternative
- 17 site, so. That was just my whole reason for being here and
- 18 that I really thank you all for being here and giving me and
- 19 everybody else the opportunity to voice some concerns. So,
- 20 thank you.
- 21 (Applause)
- MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- 23 MS. SUSEMIHL: Okay, Rachael Hoffman, you're up
- 24 and on deck is Heather Hixson.
- MR. HOFFMAN: I'll be speaking for Rachael

- 1 Hoffman. My name is Tom Hoffman. T O M H O F F M A N. I
- 2 would like to speak in opposition to the proposed plant for
- 3 three reasons. The air quality issue, the noise pollution
- 4 issue, and the population density issue.
- 5 Regarding air quality, there are factors there.
- 6 They have mentioned the types of pollutants that are
- 7 produced by such a plant. The fact that they are not
- 8 possibly or likely, but known to be carcinogens and cause
- 9 other adverse health effects, this is -- I assume FERC in
- 10 doing their research has a certain threshold above which
- 11 these pollutants will not be permitted. Personally, I tend
- 12 to consider these things suspect until proven healthy rather
- 13 than safe until proven dangerous.
- But even with a threshold that FERC operates
- 15 with, mention has also been made about another proposed
- 16 plant in Joelton on the northwest side of the city. And I
- 17 have seen maps, as I understood they were prepared by the
- 18 FERC, showing the fallout area of the respective plants such
- 19 that they overlapped one another. And if both plants are
- 20 indeed built, we will be suffering twice the pollutants.
- 21 I want FERC to definitely bear that in mind, that
- 22 whatever your threshold is by which you consider known
- 23 carcinogens to be admissible into a system, you need to
- 24 double that and factor the fact that there could conceivably
- 25 be two plants affecting people adversely.

- 1 The second issue I want to address is the noise
- 2 pollutant issue. That is something that is an issue for me
- 3 personally, but for a number of people in this room also. I
- 4 can see the proposed site from my front door, and so that is
- 5 something that does effect me personally, but I have to look
- 6 up a hill to do it; and it's something that is not reflected
- 7 on the application, I don't know if you look at a
- 8 topographical map, but the proposed site is on top of a hill
- 9 so that any noise that is produced is going to be broadcast,
- 10 rather than to be sheltered by any sort of natural
- 11 surrounding.
- But before Columbia brought this property they
- 13 used to graze cattle up on that hill and when the cattle
- 14 would moo, I would hear them as if they were in my front
- 15 yard. If the noise pollution that comes from a compression
- 16 plant is magnified to that degree, it's going to become a
- 17 nuisance for a good many people.
- 18 The third issue that I want to speak to are those
- 19 good many people. The population density issue is, for me,
- 20 a tremendous problem. The gentleman who spoke earlier
- 21 mentioned the fact that of all of the proposed plants along
- 22 the line, the one in Cane Ridge has nearly nine and a half
- 23 times the population density of any of these other areas.
- 24 Any potential problems are going to affect nearly ten times
- as many people.

- I suffer from a neurological condition and I need
- 2 to watch very carefully the chemicals that I come in contact
- 3 with. My wife has an autoimmune condition, and she also
- 4 must be very careful about the chemicals she comes in
- 5 contact with, and has asthma. And maybe there are strong
- 6 and healthy people in some communities where such plants are
- 7 placed and maybe the rest of us are not statistically
- 8 significant, but there are ten times as many of us in the
- 9 orbit of this proposed plant and that is why I want to speak
- 10 out as strongly as possible against it. Thank you.
- 11 (Applause)
- MS. SUSEMIHL: After Heather it's Lillian
- 13 Hawkins.
- MS. HIXSON: Good evening, my name is Heather
- 15 Hixson. H E A T H E R H I X S O N. I'm going to echo the
- 16 sentiments you've heard this evening from a lot of the other
- 17 residents and the people that are here. I'm a resident of
- 18 the Stamford Village subdivision which resides directly
- 19 across Barnes Road from the proposed gas compressor station
- 20 in the Cane Ridge area.
- 21 I'm extremely concerned about the impact that
- 22 this station would have on the more than 6,000 homes and the
- 23 over 20,000 residents that are located within three miles of
- 24 this station. Not to mention the elementary school, the
- 25 Mill Creek Greenway which was mentioned by Brant which is

- 1 within a mile of the proposed site. To place a 41,000
- 2 horsepower station in a site that houses more than sixteen
- 3 subdivisions and five schools within a three mile radius of
- 4 this proposed location, like Matt said, is unprecedented.
- 5 Antioch, Tennessee, the city in which this
- 6 station would be built, has a population, like they've
- 7 mentioned, of over 79,000 which again as Matt mentioned is
- 8 probably closer to 100,000 now. Which is again,
- 9 considerably more than the 600 in Holcomb, Mississippi, the
- 10 2,000 in Paint Lick, Kentucky, or the 8,400 in New Albany,
- 11 Mississippi, which are all proposed sites along this Gulf
- 12 Xpress Project system.
- 13 Again, it makes this Cane Ridge station in
- 14 Antioch, Tennessee unprecedented in it's population density
- 15 as related to the site location. Nashville, Tennessee,
- 16 which sites directly next to Antioch, has again, like
- 17 somebody mentioned, a population of 640,000 back in May of
- 18 2015, which adds to the overall concern regarding the
- 19 selection of this area. Due to the mentioned dense
- 20 populations of both Antioch and Nashville, I am most
- 21 concerned about the proposed station, what's the impact of
- 22 having the air quality like others have mentioned.
- 23 Antioch, again, is a growing community as is
- 24 Nashville as everybody knows. Already houses businesses
- 25 big, businesses small, which are already putting pollutants

- 1 into the air. So to add additional pollutants, cancer
- 2 causing ones like those that have been mentioned; benzene,
- 3 formaldehyde, chromium, it would be detrimental not only to
- 4 the air quality of the 20,000 of us that live within the
- 5 three-mile radius, but to the almost 79,000 in Antioch and
- 6 to the now well over I'm sure, 640,000 Nashville.
- 7 Also of concern is the catastrophic result of an
- 8 event such as a pipeline explosion. This again would have
- 9 extreme negative consequences for the densely populated area
- 10 directly around the station, but would also effect both
- 11 Antioch and Nashville. So I urge you to focus on the impact
- 12 an event would have on this huge population.
- 13 Just like everybody else, I want to thank you for
- 14 coming here tonight, for giving us an opportunity to speak
- 15 to you, to have eye contact with you. We thank you so much
- 16 for your time and thank you to everybody else that came out
- 17 tonight, too. Thanks.
- 18 (Applause)
- 19 MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- 20 LILLIAN HAWKINS: Good evening, my name is
- 21 Lillian Hawkins. LILLIAN HAWKINS. And my
- 22 husband, child and I have lived in the Oak Highlands
- 23 subdivision in Cane Ridge for the past twelve years. I'm
- 24 here as a homeowner and also the property manager for 525
- 25 homes in the Oak Highlands Deer Valley subdivision. We are

- 1 very opposed to this particular project and I'm going to
- 2 tell you why.
- When we bought this home we carefully checked
- 4 what could be potentially built around us. We knew the area
- 5 was going to grow. We were confident we had chosen a safe
- 6 site in a suitable location based on zoning that was there.
- 7 We were stunned to learn that Columbia intended to put a gas
- 8 compression station right in the middle of this very heavily
- 9 populated residential area near schools and adjacent to a
- 10 greenway and a federally protected waterway. It did not
- 11 make any logical sense, unless that is, you're the gas
- 12 company.
- 13 First, let me start with the water concerns.
- 14 When we went to the open house hosted by Columbia their
- 15 representatives said, there is no danger posed to Mill Creek
- 16 because there was no stream on this property. That is
- 17 absolutely not true. There is a documented stream on two of
- 18 those parcels that they own that go down hill into Mill
- 19 Creek. The elevation of that property is higher than Mill
- 20 Creek and as we all know, water goes downhill. So, the
- 21 Nashville crayfish is an endangered species, and it can only
- 22 be found, guess where? In Mill Creek. So, a single
- 23 catastrophic event could result in the loss of thousands if
- 24 not all of the crayfish.
- 25 Pollution events from gas compression stations

- 1 are not unheard of. If a gas compression station is
- 2 permitted on the proposed location on the corner of Barnes
- 3 Road and Old Hickory Boulevard, the water quality in Mill
- 4 Creek will be inevitably impacted in negative and
- 5 irreparable ways. In addition, construction near Mill Creek
- 6 supposedly, is supposed to be limited to May and September,
- 7 and I'm concerned how they propose to start construction in
- 8 October. I'm just confused about that a little bit.
- 9 Secondly, I have concerns about the impact that
- 10 this will have on Nashville's air quality. I know a lot of
- 11 people who spoke about the air quality, but we already
- 12 suffer from air quality concerns. The ozone forecasts were
- 13 issued from March 1st to October 31st, which a typical ozone
- 14 season for Tennessee; and in October 30th, 2014, the
- 15 American Lung Association ranked Nashville the 29th most
- 16 polluted metropolitan city in the nation for ozone. So far
- 17 this year Nashville declared air quality action days on May
- 18 24th, June 10th, June 11th, and June 12th because of the
- 19 high ozone levels and fine particle pollution.
- 20 People with lung disease including asthma, older
- 21 adults and young children are most affected by low air
- 22 quality. Those most affected are advised cut back on
- 23 strenuous outdoor activities until air quality improves. To
- 24 help improve the air quality, citizens are advised to cut
- 25 back on driving. Use public transportation, avoid using

- 1 gas-powered yard equipment, and limit outdoor drilling.
- 2 This location is less than a half mile from an
- 3 elementary school. It's less than a mile from a middle
- 4 school. It's just over a mile to another elementary school.
- 5 This location is also 440 yards from my home. I have
- 6 asthma, my child has asthma. I am very concerned that there
- 7 will be more days that we will not be able to walk through
- 8 the neighborhood because it will not be safe for us to
- 9 breathe.
- 10 In addition, it states that approximately one in
- 11 every ten children suffers from asthma. With the population
- 12 at Maxwell Elementary alone, you're looking at the potential
- 13 impact on 50-70 children every single day they're in school
- 14 at that location. In addition to where they live, right
- 15 next to it.
- 16 As individuals, we are expected to take and limit
- 17 measures on our pollutants. We have taken action, We are
- 18 encouraged to take steps to limit the output. We expect
- 19 FERC to recommend this project be moved to an alternative
- 20 location that will not add more pollution to Nashville's air
- 21 problems. We do want to know if FERC will be taking into
- 22 account the combined impact of two gas compression stations
- 23 within such close proximity to one another.
- Now, we have talked a great deal about the health
- 25 concerns, but the constant noise from station operation and

- 1 blowdowns will add high levels of noise and we already
- 2 endure living in the flight path to Nashville airport.
- 3 There are already times when we're outside talking on our
- 4 porch and we cannot hear each other. I can only begin to
- 5 imagine based on the videos we've seen online what kind of
- 6 impact there's going to be when we can't even talk outside
- 7 anymore because of the constant noise.
- 8 And it has been documented, and the EPA states
- 9 that the problems related to noise include stress related
- 10 illnesses, high-blood pressure, speech interference, hearing
- 11 loss, sleep disruption, and lost productivity. Research has
- 12 shown that exposures to constant levels of noise can cause
- 13 countless adverse health effects. That is from the EPA.
- 14 There are additional health concerns that have
- 15 been documented by the EPA, the Southwest Pennsylvania
- 16 Health Project, the environmental chemist, Wilma Subra of
- 17 Urdworks and Dr. Curtis Norgaard, Boston Pediatrician.
- 18 These researchers have found the medical conditions
- 19 prevalent in individuals living in close proximity to
- 20 compressor stations; they're saying more than half the
- 21 people suffer from respiratory impacts, throat and nasal
- 22 irritation, weakness and fatigue, and muscle pains. Close
- 23 to half of the people suffer from vision impairment and
- 24 sleep disturbance. 42 percent suffer from allergies, eye
- 25 irritation, and sinus problems. 39 percent suffer from

- 1 joint pain, breathing difficulties, and severe headaches.
- 2 The chemicals detected in the air near
- 3 compression stations are associated with these medical
- 4 conditions. The chemicals of most concern are the three
- 5 carcinogens repeatedly mentioned here this evening; benzene,
- 6 formaldehyde, and radon as well as nitrogen dioxide and fine
- 7 particulates.
- 8 They did -- Subra documented acute and chronic
- 9 health impacts by people living and working near compressor
- 10 stations. In addition to what I just mentioned these acute
- 11 impacts include nausea, vomiting, dizziness, light-
- 12 headedness, irregular heartbeat, depression, and anxiety.
- 13 However, what's even of more concern are the serious long-
- 14 term health effects that have been documented including,
- 15 damage to the liver, lung, kidney, cardiovascular system,
- 16 damage to developing fetuses, and reproductive systems,
- 17 mutagenic impacts and developmental malformations. Brain
- 18 impacts and damage to the nervous system, aplastic anemia,
- 19 leukemia, and changes in blood cells and blood clotting
- 20 ability.
- Now, on February 4th, 2016, John Cooper, director
- 22 of law for metro Nashville, sent a letter to FERC -- I'll be
- 23 happy to bring you a copy, which I have here -- at the
- 24 request of Megan Barry, the Mayor of Nashville -- that FERC
- 25 not grant a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

- 1 for natural gas compression stations located within the
- 2 jurisdictional limits of metropolitan Nashville in Davidson
- 3 County unless such facilities comply with all local land use
- 4 regulations.
- 5 The proposed site for the Cane Ridge compression
- 6 station does not comply with local land use regulations.
- 7 And finally, I do want to make a few comments just to have
- 8 them on the record about the serious flaws that I seem to be
- 9 observing in this particular process. First, we received a
- 10 notice from Columbia Gulf Transmission, May 23rd, 2016. It
- 11 was postmarked May 17 2016. The deadline to file comments
- 12 listed on that document was June the third. That was a
- 13 seriously short window of time. It didn't allow for most
- 14 people to read through all the documentation and research
- 15 what the possible impacts of a gas compression station might
- 16 actually be.
- 17 In addition we have a very culturally and diverse
- 18 neighborhood. There were no other language options provided
- 19 so that these homeowners could fully understand what was
- 20 going on in their native language. I know for a fact from
- 21 talking with many other homeowners in our neighborhood, all
- 22 within a half mile of this project, that did not receive the
- 23 mailing from Columbia or from FERC. The notification
- 24 process did not appear to me to be properly executed.
- 25 In addition, several metro council members have

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1 expressed their extreme displeasure that this particular
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- 2 meeting was scheduled at dinner time on an evening when our
- 3 metro council city meets and when the council members in
- 4 opposition to this project could not possibly attend. I'd
- 5 like to know why this meeting was not held at Maxwell
- 6 Elementary, which was the closest school to this particular
- 7 project; instead it was several miles away from where the
- 8 site is being proposed; and the strategic planning and
- 9 timing of the mailings and the meetings most certainly
- 10 resulted in the reduction of number of people that filed
- 11 comments and were able to attend the meeting here tonight.
- 12 In closing, I strongly believe it would be
- 13 completely irresponsible, illogical, and immoral to permit a
- 14 gas compressor station to be built on the currently proposed
- 15 Cane Ridge location. There are other industrial locations
- 16 in Davidson County and many more locations outside Davidson
- 17 County where a gas compression station would have far less
- 18 irreparable damage to the environment and the health and
- 19 well-being of the citizens of Tennessee. We request that
- 20 you do not grant the Certificate of Public Convenience and
- 21 Necessity for the Cane Ridge compression station. Thank
- 22 you.
- 23 (Applause)
- MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- MS. SUSEMIHL: Up next is Lindsey G.

- 1 MS. JOHNSON: I believe its Gardener.
- 2 MS. SUSEMIHL: Did anybody named Lindsey sign up
- 3 to speak?
- 4 MS. YUAN: Oh, maybe you signed up on the wrong
- 5 list.
- 6 MS. SUSEMIHL: Up next is Carol Tangren, and on
- 7 deck is Gwen Orr.
- 8 MS. TANGREN: Hello. My name is Carol Tangren.
- 9 It's C A R O L T A N G R E N. I'm getting up, I have had
- 10 an opportunity to talk with several of you -- thank you for
- 11 listening -- earlier. I went ahead and took the opportunity
- 12 to put this on record.
- I am a clinical audiologist, and I want to put a
- 14 disclaimer here I am not representing my company, although I
- 15 work for the government. This is simply me wanting to come
- 16 up and express some concerns with regards to this
- 17 compression station. Based on my clinical experience as an
- 18 audiologist for nearly 25 years, I'll tell my age. Some of
- 19 my concerns I can share, some of them the other folks have
- 20 also shared. Certainly we have concerns about air quality.
- 21 I did share with you ladies as well the fact that
- 22 just as we know we are in this space where all of this air
- 23 pollution is going to gather and it sits, it doesn't rise
- 24 out very easily. I don't know how much pollution would come
- 25 out of a place like Bridgestone, which truthfully is only

- 1 one exit down from here. Actually it's just around the
- 2 corner from here. Not too terribly many miles, maybe 25 or
- 3 so if you drive it, is where the Nissan plant, a car
- 4 facility is at as well.
- 5 I think those things become very synergistic
- 6 concern for us as to what is the total impact going to be on
- 7 Davidson County, as far as air quality. Also as far as
- 8 water quality, we do have concerns where the Mill Creek is
- 9 concerned. One of the things I want to point out is that
- 10 the noise, although we have talked about the effect of
- 11 noise, noise is not just the sound you hear when that thing
- 12 is running. There's also something called low-frequency
- 13 noise which is basically vibration. I have concerns about
- 14 that.
- The company has said that, 'Certainly, oh the
- 16 noise is not going to be that bad, no you don't have to wear
- 17 hearing protection." Okay, fine. I get that. But what
- 18 about the effect on our ground? If they say, "Oh there's
- 19 not going to be leakage, you know of this stuff down in to
- 20 the Mill Creek, "well, sooner or later if you vibrate a
- 21 silent object enough you're going to start getting cracks in
- 22 it. Let's face it, just like Lillian said, all water runs
- 23 down hill. So sooner or later some of that will end up
- 24 within our streams, so I do have an issue with that.
- 25 As well as the fact, that, as I pointed out to

- 1 you ladies earlier, it doesn't matter if the sound isn't at
- 2 a level where I have to have hearing protection on to be out
- 3 there while that thing is running. I know from clinical
- 4 experience that many people have normal hearing, that they
- 5 also have something called hyperacusis, meaning they're very
- 6 sensitive to any sound. I have had multiple patients come
- 7 through in my clinic who have said that "It doesn't matter
- 8 if it is not a really loud sound that everybody else is
- 9 wincing over; it hurts me."
- 10 So certainly we might have part of that
- 11 population right here in our area. And I have concern for
- 12 those folks because that's very painful. Loud sounds on a
- 13 vibration level also can have every single one of the health
- 14 impacts that you've heard mentioned earlier;
- 15 gastrointestinal, you can have increased nosebleeds, it can
- 16 effect those who already have cardiovascular issues or it
- 17 can bring some things on with regards to hypertensive
- 18 issues.
- 19 I know that there are some studies going on
- 20 elsewhere, I believe they're down in Texas, it may or not be
- 21 part of this same Gulf Xpress thing, but they are looking at
- 22 some of those issues, those health concerns. We just don't
- 23 have enough long-term research behind this to say this is
- 24 definitely the cause of this particular problem, but knowing
- 25 what I do about noise and its impact in an industrial

- 1 situation, as an occupational audiologist I can't help but
- 2 believe that there is a definite correlation between those
- 3 health effects.
- 4 So, that also is one of the concerns I'd like for
- 5 you to look in to; what does it show the effect is
- 6 vibration-wise from that plant on the ground, in the
- 7 surrounding area, because I think that is going to be a
- 8 major issue for health. Certainly as everyone has mentioned
- 9 it's within easy walking distance of several schools. We're
- 10 concerned about our children, I'm sure you've gotten that
- 11 very clearly within the course of this.
- I have written down something else. I don't want
- 13 to beat the dead dog here, but we do have concerns about
- 14 wildlife, the effect on wildlife, and part of that is very
- 15 unique, for Davidson County. Although we are within the
- 16 city limits and we're part of a big city, we're kind of a
- 17 country section and we all kind of like that. I think we
- 18 all know that we have deer. I've seen fox run through my
- 19 yard. I may not like the groundhogs and the moles, but
- 20 they're there. There are owls that are in this area.
- 21 Large-horned owls that we've had a nesting pair at one point
- 22 on our home property.
- 23 Animals are so much more sensitive to some of
- 24 this stuff than even we are. And, we've got skunks as well.
- 25 My concern is, if you begin to create an environment that

- 1 affects those wildlife, where are they going to move to?
- 2 They will naturally try to escape that environment. Which
- 3 is reasonable, but where are they going to move to? And
- 4 they're going to be coming in contact with more and more
- 5 humans on a more frequent basis. Now these animals can also
- 6 carry, you know, diseases that might impact humans if they
- 7 bite them or scratch them, etcetera, etcetera.
- 8 So I also have some concerns as how it's going to
- 9 possible displace these wild animals that are already here.
- 10 additionally, I have to say I agree with everybody else.
- 11 Why does this company want to come in and put this plant in
- 12 such a densely populated area?
- 13 One last thing I want to put out, I just quickly
- 14 looked at some information before I turned my phone off
- 15 again, I had it back on briefly, I apologize. But looking
- 16 at all of these other six sites, if you add up from the 2010
- 17 census on all six of those other counties, they don't even
- 18 come up to 100,000 people. And in 2010 Nashville, Davidson
- 19 County already had over 600,000 people in this community.
- 20 So, to put something that large with so much
- 21 potential health effect and impact on quality of life in
- 22 such a densely populated area just seems wrong and very
- 23 errant to me. It's very apparent that this is really more
- 24 for the luxury of the gas company itself. And that's very
- 25 clear, I think.

- 1 So I just want to go on record again with
- 2 everyone else saying I'm very much against this. I think it
- 3 will have a very negative impact on health, quality of life;
- 4 and I think it will also ultimately impact even our
- 5 neighboring counties because what comes out of this plant as
- 6 close as we are to Rutherford County, which is another big
- 7 major metropolitan area, is also going to impact on them;
- 8 and I think it's wrong to not take them into consideration
- 9 as well. This entire metro area is not just Davidson County
- 10 but we bleed over into some of these other counties which I
- 11 think also needs to be something that you look at; how is
- 12 that going to impact them as well? Thank you.
- MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- 14 (Applause)
- 15 MS. SUSEMIHL: Michael Rozenboom is the last
- 16 person on our list, and after he speaks we will open it up
- 17 to anyone else who would like to provide a comment but did
- 18 not sign up.
- 19 MICHAEL ROZENBOOM: All right, I get to go last.
- 20 Thank you. Again, thank you to you guys for coming. It
- 21 really does mean a lot to us here publicly that you guys
- 22 came out. There's an LA Times article May 15th, 2016.
- 23 First of all let me say that I was told at the
- 24 public meeting that Columbia pipeline group held that don't
- 25 even worry about the natural gas because it is lighter than

- 1 air and it goes up; "it's nice and airy, we don't have to
- 2 worry about it." Sounded pretty cool. LA Times May 15th,
- 3 2016 regarding the aliso. Let me pause, my name is Mike
- 4 Rozenboom, R O Z E N B O O M. Just in case you didn't get
- 5 that. Aliso A l I S O Canyon natural gas leak, which was
- 6 this year, it's been going on for a little while, but this
- 7 is the quote from that article:
- 8 The natural gas leak prompted 8,000 families into
- 9 temporary housing because of complaints of
- 10 illness, including headaches, nose bleeds, and
- vomiting.
- 12 My curiosity was, if this light, airy substance is so great
- 13 and it's going to float off into the atmosphere then why in
- 14 the world would you have to evacuate 8,000 families into
- 15 temporary housing because of complaints of illness including
- 16 headaches, nose bleeds, and vomiting? That's thing one.
- 17 Thing two.
- 18 I am a realtor with the number one real estate
- 19 team in Tennessee. Eleven years of experience. In my
- 20 professional opinion, the effect on property values here in
- 21 this area would be, and I quote, "Bad, bad, bad." Just in
- 22 case you didn't get that.
- 23 Number three. Air quality in Nashville, I just
- 24 really want to make sure that you guys get that part. I
- 25 know it's been mentioned several times, and if someone can

- 1 help me out here, the one up in Joelton, just to make sure
- 2 you guys reference that, because they're being billed as two
- 3 separate projects. They're not. I understand they're by
- 4 two separate companies, but they obviously impact one
- 5 another. Is it the Kinder Morgan Broad Run. May sure you
- 6 write that down, Kinder, K I N D E R, Morgan Broad Run.
- 7 That has to be considered because the areas do
- 8 overlap, and they overlap over the City of Nashville. That
- 9 effects a lot of people. It doesn't make any sense. We're
- 10 not allowed to mow the grass, in terms of environmental
- 11 impact, around Mill Creek; we have signs posted in our
- 12 neighborhood where we must halt. I can't imagine approving
- 13 the building and operating of a gas compression station.
- 14 The last thing is that TransCanada purchased Gulf
- 15 Xpress in May for 13 billion dollars. They're proposing
- 16 increasing the gas through these lines for export. Denying
- 17 this project would not prevent gas from going through these
- 18 lines; gas is going through those lines right now. But they
- 19 want to increase it. And I understand, and very reluctantly
- 20 supportive of federal preemption, which is what we all do.
- 21 It's for the greater good of the nation, particularly things
- 22 like highways and public utilities like it was mentioned
- 23 before.
- 24 This is not a highway or a public utility that
- 25 will benefit the United States at all. Anybody, that's the,

- 1 you guys are the federal government. You have a foreign
- 2 company knocking at our door, saying 'Hey, can we increase
- 3 gas through these lines to export?' The answer, I'm asking
- 4 you guys, should be no. No. No. It's not even about "Hey,
- 5 can we do it in another area?" No. You can't. "Our job as
- 6 the federal government is to allow and protect usage for our
- 7 citizens." This is not that at all.
- 8 So in my mind I cannot imagine approving this for
- 9 TransCanada to push more gas through these lines. The fact
- 10 of the matter is, really, instead of public use or benefit,
- 11 by them pushing more gas through those lines those lines are
- 12 essentially a public energy resource of this country. By
- 13 increasing the flow through those lines, really all you are
- 14 doing is speeding up deterioration of those lines. This
- 15 makes no sense to me.
- 16 So, I'm asking you to deny it, completely, it
- 17 does not make any sense. At the very least because of the
- 18 potential environmental impacts, and I don't know that
- 19 they're potential, I think they're very real. To the people
- 20 surrounding this community, I'm asking you at the very least
- 21 if TransCanada can purchase Gulf Xpress for 13 billion
- 22 dollars they can certainly find a little bit of money in
- 23 their budget to find a location that is not going to hurt
- 24 this many people.
- I thank you for your time.

- 1 (Applause)
- 2 MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- 3 MS. SUSEMIHL: Who wants to follow Mr. Rozenboom?
- 4 (Laughter)
- 5 Any volunteers, anyone who would like to come up
- 6 and speak?
- 7 MR. COLE: In case you wonder, I have a broken
- 8 hip, so it takes me a little while to get someplace.
- 9 MS. YUAN: Take your time.
- 10 MR. COLE: Every one of these folks who've spoken
- 11 tonight were very vocal.
- MS. YUAN: Please state your name and spell it
- 13 for the record.
- MR. COLE: My name is Ollie, O L L I E, Cole, C O
- 15 L E. Real short easy name to pronounce, easy to spell.
- 16 Now, these folks have spoken very well against
- 17 this project. There are some things in favor of it. The
- 18 funeral homes will get a lot more business.
- 19 (Laughter)
- The gas transmission company will get a lot more
- 21 money. Unfortunately, the people of Nashville are the ones
- 22 who are going to suffer. I cannot conceive of how a federal
- 23 agency, supposedly looking out for the welfare of the
- 24 citizens of this country, could even think about permitting
- 25 this thing to occur.

- I am sorry that I am here because this is
- 2 terrible. Tonight on the news they have forecast terrible
- 3 weather going on. A lot of people didn't come. We almost
- 4 didn't come. You needed a lot more people here because you
- 5 apparently have not done sufficient background checks.
- 6 Thank you for your time. I really don't expect
- 7 you to listen to us because you're going to do whatever
- 8 somebody else wants you to do, but if you think anything of
- 9 the people of this city, you will turn this thing down flat.
- 10 Thank you.
- 11 (Applause)
- 12 Oh, incidentally, I'm 86 years old. I'm entitled
- 13 to say what I want to say.
- (Laughter) (Applause)
- MR. TALLEY: My name is Samuel W. Talley. S A M
- 16 UEL, initial W, TALLEY. I noticed in the brochure
- 17 concerning noise pollution that the specification is I
- 18 believe 55 decibels at 300 feet from the installation, on
- 19 average. Is there a maximum allowable decibel level
- 20 permitted?
- 21 MS. JOHNSON: A maximum allowable noise level
- 22 from a compressor station?
- MR. TALLEY: Yes, ma'am.
- MS. JOHNSON: I can answer our standard noise
- 25 criteria for compressor stations. I am not speaking

- 1 specifically about this project because we haven't made any
- 2 conclusions yet. But our standard noise criteria is 55
- 3 decibels at the nearest noise sensitive area. Noise
- 4 sensitive areas could be residences, churches, occasional
- 5 parks where people camp on a regular basis, commercial
- 6 properties, things like that.
- 7 MR. TALLEY: That 55 decibel level, is that an
- 8 average or a maximum?
- 9 MS. JOHNSON: It would be a maximum.
- 10 MR. TALLEY: That's not what your brochure says.
- MS. YUAN: We don't have a brochure.
- 12 MR. TALLEY: There was a document that was
- 13 available at the front, and I believe it was from FERC.
- 14 MS. YUAN: I think he's talking about the
- 15 landowner brochure.
- MR. TALLEY: Page 21.
- MS. YUAN: The landowner brochure.
- MS. JOHNSON: Umm hmm.
- 19 MR. TALLEY: Allow me: The noise attributable to
- 20 a new compressor station, compression added to an existing
- 21 station, or any modification, upgrade, or update to an
- 22 existing station must not exceed a day-night average noise
- 23 level of 55 decibels at any preexisting noise-sensitive
- 24 areas such as schools, etcetera, etcetera. This is your
- 25 document.

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1 MS. JOHNSON: Correct.
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- 2 MR. TALLEY: It says average, 55.
- 3 MS. JOHNSON: Right.
- 4 MR. TALLEY: My question is, is that really an
- 5 average or is it the maximum?
- 6 MS. JOHNSON: So, the noise levels vary.
- 7 MR. TALLEY: Which would result in an average.
- 8 MS. JOHNSON: At night.
- 9 MR. TALLEY: So, is 200 decibels at some
- 10 particular point acceptable? Is 600 decibels? Is there a
- 11 maximum?
- 12 MS. JOHNSON: I would say if there was 200
- 13 decibels they wouldn't be in compliance with the 55 day-
- 14 night noise level. MR. TALLEY: Well, if for example
- 15 it was operating at 20 decibels most of the time, but a
- 16 couple of times, say around midnight, it hit 300, you could
- 17 achieve the 55 average. Is there a maximum allowable
- 18 decibel level in your regulations?
- 19 MS. JOHNSON: The standard noise criteria is 55
- 20 decibels day-night noise level because of the fluctuations.
- 21 MR. TALLEY: So if I understand correctly, there
- 22 appears not to be a maximum allowable decibel level which
- 23 could result in very loud noises at various times during the
- 24 day, as long as the average was 55?
- MS. JOHNSON: I suppose you can look at it that

- 1 way.
- 2 SAMUEL W. TALLEY: Well, I --
- 3 (Laughter)
- 4 MS. JOHNSON: But that is not --
- 5 MR. TALLEY: I know what average means and that's
- 6 what average means. Thank you.
- 7 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you.
- 8 MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- 9 (Applause)
- 10 AUDIENCE: [off mic] There are standard
- 11 scientific decibel averages -- RMS. You also have DVA and
- 12 DVT.
- 13 His question was valid. I'm an audio engineer.
- 14 You have peak and RMS, and you also have DVA and DVC. The
- 15 government uses DVA, which is a range of decibel frequencies
- 16 that is audible to your hearing. Then you have DVC, those
- 17 are the damaging frequencies. The government doesn't
- 18 regulate those. And those are not going to be regulated
- 19 with this station.
- 20 So they're going to be regulating DVA, which is,
- 21 that's the only thing legislative that they have to
- 22 regulate. And that is what's 55 decibels. Then you have
- 23 your lower frequencies which are the damaging frequencies,
- 24 and the higher frequencies which are damaging to animals.
- 25 Those are not regulated by the government. And those also

- 1 travel further because lower frequencies have longer
- 2 wavelengths, so they'll go through things, they'll travel
- 3 for much greater distances. Those will cause a litany of
- 4 health issues, and you guys don't really specify that
- 5 because you don't have to.
- 6 But now you know, so there you go. Thank you.
- 7 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you.
- 8 MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- 9 (Applause)
- 10 MS. YUAN: Anyone else would like to speak? Yes.
- 11 MS. WEBB: Hello. My name is Marcy Webb. M A R C
- 12 YWEBB. I am opposed to this compressor station being
- 13 built. I have a question because you mentioned earlier
- 14 there was a community in Georgia, Clarkville, Georgia I
- 15 believe, that was successful in getting the station
- 16 relocated from their community. Didn't you mention that
- 17 earlier?
- 18 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, I did mention the Hartwell
- 19 compressor station in Georgia. There are a lot of different
- 20 factors that were considered for the applicant to move their
- 21 compressor station. Their decision to move their compressor
- 22 station. Their decision to move their compressor station
- 23 wasn't solely based on public input or agency input. It was
- 24 factored into their decision to move it. They did end up
- 25 having to file an amendment to their application to propose

- 1 a new location. Public input was a concern and also a lot
- 2 of questions were generated from FERC staff for the
- 3 applicant to answer those questions about those other
- 4 alternative sites that the public provided. So I would say
- 5 it was a factor; it wasn't the only factor.
- 6 MS. WEBB: Okay, thank you. I was wanting to
- 7 know they did that they were successful. It seems like
- 8 there were some other factors that -- can you tell us what
- 9 those factors were?
- 10 MS. JOHNSON: I can't answer for the applicant
- 11 why they moved their compressor station. I can tell you
- 12 that there were -- I can't answer specifically, but there
- 13 were engineering factors. There were probably business
- 14 decisions that they made to move their compressor station to
- 15 a different location. In fact, there weren't, none of the
- 16 locations that were provided by the public were ultimately,
- 17 was the ultimate site for the compressor station, but I can
- 18 tell you that we did spend a lot of time looking at other
- 19 alternate locations. In asking the applicant about those
- 20 other sites that the public provided.
- 21 Ultimately, the applicant proposed a new location
- 22 but we did -- and when I say we do take into consideration
- 23 the public's concerns and questions, we do. We do spend a
- 24 lot of time getting input from the public and subsequently
- 25 asking the applicant follow-up questions so that we can

- 1 respond to the public's concerns; and in that case,
- 2 including the public's concerns and comments and our
- 3 questions, they decided to propose a new location.
- 4 MS. WEBB: Will there be a time that you have
- 5 another public meeting, like after you've taken all of this
- 6 into account, will there be another response in another
- 7 public meeting?
- 8 MS. JOHNSON: As Julia mentioned, and on the flow
- 9 diagram there are a couple public opportunities. Once we
- 10 take all the information that Columbia Gulf has provided,
- 11 considered all the public and agencies cooperating and not
- 12 cooperating agencies' concerns, we generate an environmental
- 13 impact statement, the EIS Julia was talking about, and mail
- 14 it out. There's that 45 day comment period where folks can
- 15 mail in, or electronically file comments and we will have
- 16 comment meetings to get the public's input and feedback on
- 17 our environmental impact statement.
- 18 MS. WEBB: My last question is, have you ever
- 19 denied applications for a process like this before? Just
- 20 flat out denied the gas company to build their compressor
- 21 stations?
- MS. JOHNSON: At first I will say that there are
- 23 a lot of applications that are filed at FERC that go through
- 24 an extensive pre-filing process. They eventually file their
- 25 application, as Columbia has, and for whatever reason

- 1 whether it's markets or other economic reasons, they
- 2 withdraw their application. All of the applications that
- 3 are filed with FERC have their own life of their own; they
- 4 die, they withdraw, or we eventually analyze the
- 5 environmental impacts, issue a document and the Commission
- 6 makes a decision. There are a few instances where for
- 7 different reasons the Commission has denied applications or
- 8 denied approval of those projects for various reasons.
- 9 MS. WEBB: A few? Okay, thank you.
- 10 (Applause)
- 11 MS. YUAN: Okay. Anybody else like to speak?
- 12 Yes, please.
- MS. COLE: I'll be quick, I just have one
- 14 question. My name is Fran Cole, F R A N C O L E. And I
- 15 just wondered why the Nashville area has two going in when
- 16 that's not happening anywhere else?
- 17 MS. YUAN: So these projects are not being
- 18 proposed by FERC. They're being proposed by the applicant
- 19 and from my understanding of the other compressor station,
- 20 it's another company, it's another applicant. We don't make
- 21 decisions as to why two companies are proposing compressor
- 22 stations in a general area. So, we just review their
- 23 application.
- 24 They may have an existing pipeline in the area
- 25 that they want to upgrade, add compression, so just to ask

- 1 us why two are being proposed in this area, FERC can't
- 2 answer that question. That is a decision made by the
- 3 applicant, by the private companies, and we review their
- 4 applications.
- 5 MS. COLE: But it still needs to be considered,
- 6 the side effects of the overlap and.
- 7 MS. YUAN: And we do. When we analyze the
- 8 environmental impacts we also analyze the cumulative impacts
- 9 of a project and other projects in what we call a region of
- 10 influence, the general area in which a project is going in.
- 11 We analyze basically the incremental impact of a project
- 12 when considering all the other projects that are going on in
- 13 the area. So we will consider that.
- MS. COLE: Yes, please don't forget that when it
- 15 comes down to the bottom line.
- MS. YUAN: Oh, no, we won't. Thank you.
- 17 (Applause)
- 18 MS. YUAN: I think we have someone else here
- 19 wanting to speak?
- 20 AUDIENCE: (Inaudible)
- MS. YUAN: Did she leave? Anyone else?
- MR. SULFRIDGE: All right. My name is Aren
- 23 Sulfridge. AREN SULFRIDGE. Thanks for coming
- 24 out and holding this meeting. I was not disappointed with
- 25 the number of people that showed up, because this is a good

- 1 number and a lot of different ages and everything.
- I was thinking, by Mill Creek there is a
- 3 protected wooded area, I don't know if anybody knows what
- 4 exactly that's called but something you can look into as I
- 5 understand. You'll be looking into that sort of thing for
- 6 the environmental impact statement. There was a question
- 7 earlier about what other kinds of things you guys look at
- 8 like journals and everything. I wanted to kind of revisit
- 9 that. So, in the report, what kind of sources do you
- 10 generally take?
- 11 MS. JOHNSON: So we utilize a lot of expertise
- 12 from other federal agencies; like I mentioned before here
- 13 for this project we have the Environmental Protection Agency
- 14 as a cooperating agency. We utilize a lot of knowledge from
- 15 state and local agencies. Your Tennessee Department of
- 16 Natural Resources. We reach out to them. Considering the
- 17 issues and comments they have, and if there is a specific
- 18 issue local to the area, we look to them to help us get
- 19 information about that.
- 20 We look to our own research. We look at, when we
- 21 do our, when we prepare our environmental impact statement
- 22 we look at peer-reviewed research documents. Basically
- 23 those are the kinds of things. We look to people with real
- 24 expertise in this, in whatever field, or whatever concern.
- 25 Is that the question?

- 1 MR. SULFRIDGE: Sure. Okay. Yeah, I just, thank
- 2 you. I wanted to express my opposition to this. It just
- 3 really seems like a bad decision on the part of this company
- 4 to even think about putting it in such a highly populated
- 5 area; and then we mentioned the other project, too, by
- 6 another company and so you guys are kind of in the gap
- 7 there. You'll consider both I'm sure.
- I think I can speak for everybody to say that we
- 9 appreciate your involvement in this and your rememberbering
- 10 to weigh the effects of both of the projects and just all
- 11 the things that we mentioned as well as the dense population
- 12 of the area in your recommendation and the EIS paper. Thank
- 13 you.
- MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- 15 (Applause)
- MS. WILLIAMS: Hello, my name is Sabrina. S A B R
- 17 I N A, Williams, W I L L I A M S. I had maybe two or three
- 18 questions. At the beginning of the meeting, if I understood
- 19 correctly, you said that there was a third-party contractor
- 20 or some entity that was helping you with the scoping. Could
- 21 you repeat that?
- 22 MS. YUAN: Yeah. So we have, FERC employees a
- 23 third-party contractor who works directly for us basically
- 24 as an extension of our staff to help us prepare
- 25 environmental documents, particularly large documents like

- 1 an environmental impact statement. Just because of the
- 2 staff, just to help our staff because we just don't have
- 3 enough people to do that. We, FERC reviews everything, we
- 4 work in concert, so basically just an extension of our
- 5 staff. Just contracted.
- 6 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. The next question is now
- 7 that we've had this particular meeting. From the time that
- 8 the gas company makes the application until the time that
- 9 the decision is made, whether or not the permit will be
- 10 granted, normally, what's the time frame on that?
- MS. YUAN: So the application was filed, it was
- 12 filed at the end of April. April 29th. So generally it
- 13 takes, what, about ten months to do an EIS?
- 14 Approximately. Give or take.
- MS. JOHNSON: Ten or twelve months.
- 16 MS. YUAN: Yeah. So, about a year, we'll say.
- 17 Then it will take the Commission a couple, three months, to
- 18 make a decision to whether to approve or deny the project.
- 19 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay, so after this meeting
- 20 tonight, does the Commission meet only a few times a year or
- 21 do they meet on a case-by-case basis?
- MS. YUAN: The Commission is continuously
- 23 reviewing like environmental impact statements and the
- 24 application. As the environmental impact statement is
- 25 completed, they're reviewing these. They're not, we have

- 1 monthly Commission meetings but they are continuously
- 2 reviewing these applications to make a decision, they're not
- 3 going to -- as the environmental impact statement is
- 4 finished, they will put it into their hopper and continue
- 5 reviewing it. I don't know if that's the best way of saying
- 6 it. MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. Once you do your study and
- 7 you submit your findings, then the Commission will meet,
- 8 review the findings and then render a decision?
- 9 MS. YUAN: Correct.
- 10 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. So from this meeting is
- 11 there an estimate on how long that will possibly take?
- 12 MS. YUAN: So, I think we, so we are in June. So
- 13 let's say they filed their application two months ago, give
- 14 or take. So we're looking probably at a decision next
- 15 summer? Next summer. 2017.
- 16 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay, so the people who are in
- 17 opposition to this have a few, you mentioned the 45 day
- 18 period to make some comments or whatever, so, is there like
- 19 a point where the public has no more input?
- 20 MS. YUAN: Generally, according to -- and this
- 21 gets into regulations and things like that -- according to
- 22 the Council of Environmental Regulations, which are
- 23 basically the regulations that implement the National
- 24 Environmental Policy Act, we have set public comment
- 25 periods. The public scoping period is 30 days and the

- 1 public comment period is 45 days.
- 2 However, FERC keeps our docket open and
- 3 continuously will accept comments. We will continuously
- 4 accept comments even after the 45 day comment period, but we
- 5 do like I said, I mentioned earlier, we do encourage you to
- 6 file your comments during the set comment period so that we
- 7 can, you know, start looking at them and start analyzing
- 8 them, making any changes to the draft environmental impact
- 9 statement as needed so we can issue a final environmental
- 10 impact statement.
- 11 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. Those are all the questions
- 12 I had. Thank you.
- MS. YUAN: Okay. Thank you.
- 14 (Applause)
- 15 MS. ELLIS: My name is Kelly Ellis. K E L L E Y,
- 16 Ellis, E L L I S. You mentioned you considered the
- 17 incremental impact, and so that reminded me of something
- 18 that I wanted to make sure you all considered. Along with
- 19 my neighbor, Tom Hoffman, I've lived in the Mill Run
- 20 subdivision, down hill from the proposed site. I can also
- 21 hear the cows moo. And it's nice.
- 22 And so I don't know where you go to do your noise
- 23 impact, or when you go do it, but in the evenings and in the
- 24 early mornings it's blissful out there. So I invite you to
- 25 come and sit on my back porch during those times and listen.

- 1 But we have a neighbor that mentioned that we are in the
- 2 flight path. That is an incredible noise at times. We also
- 3 are near a railroad, so we have trains that go by and blow
- 4 their horns and whistles. So we hear that.
- 5 We are also really close to Interstate 24. So
- 6 especially during the day, we have that interstate noise
- 7 just bleeding through all the time. I do not invite you to
- 8 come to my house in the middle of the day because it is
- 9 noisy. And I would like you to consider those when you talk
- 10 about your incremental impact. Thank you.
- MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- 12 (Applause)
- 13 MS. PETERSON: Hi, I'm Jennifer Peterson. J E N
- 14 NIFER PETERSON. All my concerns have already
- 15 been spoken tonight and I echo all of those, but I do have a
- 16 question of clarification about wording so that I can make
- 17 sure I understand something. I've read some of the
- 18 documents, the FERC documents for other proposed stations
- 19 including the one in Joelton that you've already done your
- 20 impact statement about.
- 21 The phrase region of influence is used quite a
- 22 lot. I want to make sure I understand because it was
- 23 confusing to me when I was reading those documents whether
- 24 that meant the area that you decided to study to determine
- 25 the level of impact, or your conclusion about what region

- 1 was actually going to be impacted. Sometimes you would use
- 2 that phrase and then talk about negligible impact. This is
- 3 especially important obviously when it comes to the air
- 4 quality question. We've seen a lot of maps about this
- 5 region of influence and especially the overlap.
- 6 So, can you answer that question for me? What
- 7 exactly does that phrase mean?
- 8 MS. YUAN: So I can answer because I think
- 9 generally the region of influence, or maybe Gertrude can
- 10 answer a little bit about the region of influence for say,
- 11 air quality. So a region of influence is something that, a
- 12 term that you probably saw on the cumulative effects
- 13 analysis. Basically, a cumulative effects analysis is
- 14 looking at an area in which, a region of influence can be
- 15 different for each resource. So for example, the cumulative
- 16 impact region of influence for wildlife could be a
- 17 watershed, but for a say, air quality, I think we use an
- 18 airshed. Or AQR, is the air quality control region.
- 19 Generally, it's the area in which we look at
- 20 projects that are past projects, present projects, future
- 21 projects that are being proposed to which our project could
- 22 potentially have incremental impacts to that specific
- 23 resource.
- 24 MS. PETERSON: So it's a potential area of
- 25 influence? MS. YUAN: No, it is an actual --

- 1 MS. PETERSON: It is actual?
- 2 MS. YUAN: -- actual geographic area. For
- 3 instance, like a socioeconomic impact, cumulative impact,
- 4 will look at maybe like at an accounting level. The impacts
- 5 of the proposed project added to all the other past,
- 6 present, and foreseeable future projects in the county, and
- 7 the ultimate aggregated impacts of all the projects.
- 8 MS. PETERSON: So, for air quality, for example.
- 9 How do you determine that region of influence?
- 10 MS. JOHNSON: Typically, and what we've been
- 11 using recently, is a 50 kilometer radius for operation. But
- 12 a lot of it is dependent on the air dispersion modeling
- 13 analysis that we'll request that the applicant provide us.
- 14 It depends on the type of facility and the kind of permit
- 15 that the state or the federal agency would issue for the
- 16 project and the levels of pollutants that would be emitted
- 17 from the facility would determine the modeling analysis
- 18 that we would request from the applicant.
- 19 MS. PETERSON: So, for somebody who doesn't know
- 20 what any of that means, you've already determined from past
- 21 experience in projects that a certain radius is going to be
- 22 affected by a gas compressor station, right? And that's the
- 23 region of influence? Is that from past experience, this is
- 24 the radius that's definitely going to be impacted? Or is
- 25 that what you'll be studying in your review?

- 1 MS. JOHNSON: So region of influence is really
- 2 looking at the cumulative impacts of that project, the
- 3 contribution of that project on the other past, present, and
- 4 reasonably foreseeable future projects. That's when the
- 5 region of influence, that's when we use that term in those
- 6 different areas for cumulative impacts.
- 7 JENNIFER PETERSON: Okay. Thank you. I'm not sure
- 8 that -- I'm probably the only one confused, so, that's okay.
- 9 (Simultaneous discussion) ["No, you're not."]
- 10 MS. YUAN: You're asking if there would
- 11 definitely be an impact within the region of influence.
- 12 MS. PETERSON: Okay, so I've seen all the little
- 13 maps, you know, all those circles and stuff, and it's a
- 14 foregone conclusion based on what you know about gas
- 15 compressor stations that, within that region you will be
- 16 effected by pollutants; or are you going in and you're going
- 17 to be studying the level of pollutants in that region, and
- 18 we don't know yet --
- 19 MS. YUAN: Right.
- 20 MS. PETERSON: -- what that impact is going to
- 21 be.
- MS. YUAN: Right. The latter.
- 23 MS. PETERSON: Okay. So we don't know for sure
- 24 that the gas from that pressure station will affect that
- 25 whole area. That's what you're going to be reviewing?

- 1 MS. YUAN: Correct. We're going to review for
- 2 any resources the incremental impacts that this project or
- 3 any proposed project that we're actually reviewing is going
- 4 to have on the resources within the region of influence. A
- 5 region of influence is determined; it's not like an area
- 6 where we know there's going to be impacts. It's an area we
- 7 look at where there could be impacts and there could be an
- 8 addition from our project, or not.
- 9 MS. PETERSON: Okay, so that -- so it is not your
- 10 conclusion, you're basically defining your area of study.
- 11 MS. YUAN: Correct. Correct. It's like your
- 12 study area.
- MS. PETERSON: Okay, so that radius, that region
- 14 of influence, is not necessarily how far the pollution is
- 15 going to spread. It's the radius you're going to be looking
- 16 at to see whether that pollution will be there. But in
- 17 fact, the impact might be less than that?
- MS. YUAN: Correct.
- 19 MS. PETERSON: Okay. That does answer my
- 20 question. Thank you.
- 21 (Applause)
- MS. YUAN: Sorry. Anyone else?
- 23 BRANT MILLER: I just have a question?
- 24 MS. YUAN: Sure. Can you come up to the
- 25 microphone though so we can make sure it's recorded?

- 1 MR. MILLER: Very briefly. Can you tell us when
- 2 the transcripts of this meeting will be available online?
- 3 MS. YUAN: Can you just state your name quickly?
- 4 MR. MILLER: Oh, Brant Miller, M I L L E R.
- 5 MS. YUAN: The transcripts generally come out I
- 6 believe in a couple weeks. They will be posted to the FERC
- 7 docket.
- 8 MR. MILLER: Okay. Thank you very much.
- 9 MS. YUAN: Thank you for your comments.
- 10 CATHERINE BYRD: I'm Catherine Byrd. C A T H E R
- 11 I N E B Y R D. Just curious: Are you guys the lead to
- 12 the project or are you all just part of the agency that's
- 13 come down here to represent FERC? Or are you guys the leads
- 14 to the project?
- MS. YUAN: Are we the what? I'm sorry.
- 16 MS. BYRD: The project leads to the people who
- 17 will be analyzing our particular data?
- MS. YUAN: Yes, I am the project manager.
- 19 MS. BYRD: Got ya. Thank you very much for
- 20 coming. We don't know about all this stuff. Have you'all,
- 21 I mean this is probably; you're probably like, yes for sure,
- 22 since y'all are here in town are y'all going to drive around
- 23 the proposed site? Have y'all already done that?
- 24 MS. YUAN: We've actually done that already.
- 25 MS. BYRD: Good. I imagined you did. If not I

- 1 would like to take you around, if not. I just didn't know
- 2 if that was part of it, so you can see the community that we
- 3 do have here. And it is densely populated. It does have
- 4 schools and churches and streams and recreational areas.
- 5 It's not an industrial area and we all have families, we
- 6 want to grow old here. And that's just important, so I just
- 7 wanted to make sure. But thank you guys for coming and
- 8 taking that all into consideration.
- 9 MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- MS. JOHNSON: Thank you.
- 11 MS. YUAN: Okay. Anyone else? Okay.
- 12 So without any more -- I'm sorry,
- 13 MS. HARRIS: Amy Harris. A M Y H A R R I S. I
- 14 was just wondering, the information that you're going to be
- 15 gathering, is it going to be independent by you? Or is it
- 16 going to be only being provided by the applicant?
- 17 MS. YUAN: No. So the applicant has provided
- 18 resource reports as I mentioned earlier that provides
- 19 information about the different resources, the different
- 20 resources. FERC also does our own independent analysis. We
- 21 look to, like I mentioned before, cooperating agencies,
- 22 other local, state, federal agencies that are maybe not
- 23 cooperating agencies, but we do our own independent
- 24 research, too.
- MS. HARRIS: Okay.

- 1 MS. YUAN: Okay. Is there anyone else?
- I apologize, it's a little dark out there.
- 3 Oh. Someone.
- 4 MS. HAWKINS: I have one nagging question.
- 5 Lillian Hawkins. Do I have to spell it again? Okay. I'm
- 6 dying to know, because I cannot wrap my head around this:
- 7 What, if any, definition of Public Convenience and Necessity
- 8 are applied to these applications? I mean, is it carte
- 9 blanche whenever they send one in? Or do we actually have a
- 10 definition? I was just curious.
- 11 MS. JOHNSON: Typically in all of our, the
- 12 Commission orders there's a certificate policy statement
- 13 that goes in, and it's in the actual order, that goes,
- 14 briefly talks about our, the Commission's policy statement
- 15 and what's considered when granting an authorization or
- 16 certificate for public convenience and necessity.
- 17 MS. HAWKINS: Does it define what is meant by
- 18 public convenience or necessity?
- 19 MS. JOHNSON: In that policy statement they do
- 20 talk about what it means to grant a certificate to a
- 21 project.
- 22 MS. HAWKINS: Where would we find that?
- 23 MS. JOHNSON: You can go into any docket. If you
- 24 go into that brochure that's out there, eLibrary, you can
- 25 search any date range, and there will probably be lots of

- 1 filing by other people. On several different dockets you
- 2 can search Commission orders. All of the Commission's
- 3 authorizations are posted on our eLibrary site for public
- 4 viewing, and you can see in there, the Commission's
- 5 certificate policies.
- 6 MS. HAWKINS: I was just trying to fathom how
- 7 they even qualify, to be honest with you, to apply for that
- 8 since it didn't appear to be anything of benefit to the
- 9 United States at all, that I could tell. But anyway.
- 10 Would you like a copy of that letter?
- MS. YUAN: Yes. Yes, please.
- 12 MS. HAWKINS: I'll be happy to hook you up.
- 13 MS. YUAN: Sir. Would you like to come up again?
- 14 MR. SASKOWSKI: I will be brief. Rick, first
- 15 name, RICK. Saskowski, SASKOWSKI. I'd like a
- 16 clarification on something that's been stated earlier about
- 17 the zoning. I believe it was stated on the record that the
- 18 zoning is subject to the local municipality, is that
- 19 correct?
- 20 MS. YUAN: I believe the question was how the
- 21 zoning, like if the property would be rezoned?
- MR. SASKOWSKI: Correct.
- MS. YUAN: That I can't answer.
- 24 RICK SASKOWSKI: What I'm asking is, is that
- 25 zoning subject to the local municipality in this case, Metro

- 1 Nashville. Would they dictate whether this would be
- 2 industrial, rural, residential, agricultural? Is that based
- 3 on the municipalities that determine that?
- 4 MS. YUAN: I would believe yes. It is up to the
- 5 municipality to determine that.
- 6 RICK SASKOWSKI: So, let me give you a very brief
- 7 scenario. If, for some reason, that FERC does decide to
- 8 pass this and says regardless of the population density, we
- 9 will put this compressor station in the Cane Ridge area, but
- 10 the local government says this is not industrial, it's
- 11 rural-residential, isn't that a conflict? Because you have
- 12 industry in a residential area? Where I'm going with this
- is, there are laws in place that says you can't build
- 14 industry in a particular areas, i.e. residential,
- 15 agricultural-residential.
- 16 So, doesn't that by logic, and I'm sorry I don't
- 17 have access to Spock, but I'm sure he would say that if this
- 18 is industry and you buy a piece of land and it's zoned
- 19 rural-residential and there's 80,100, maybe even more people
- 20 than that and it's growing, it shouldn't be allowed to be
- 21 there in the first place.
- 22 MS. YUAN: Possibly. I think that's a, that's
- 23 not something that we've, you know, we haven't crossed that
- 24 bridge yet.
- 25 MR. SASKOWSKI: I'm trying to wrap my head around

- 1 the fact that there's been a lot of discussion over the past
- 2 several months and for that matter, since the land was
- 3 purchased last year about how FERC being a federal agency
- 4 can override local laws, state laws, because it's federal;
- 5 but when I heard what you said, that it comes down to
- 6 zoning, than in fact, it sounds like there is some
- 7 authority, in fact, with the local municipalities that can
- 8 say if you don't abide by our rules and you don't follow our
- 9 laws and ordinances, you should not be allowed to petition
- 10 in the first place.
- 11 Is that taken into effect? I know that's not
- 12 environmental. I know it doesn't effect deer. I know it
- 13 doesn't effect a lot of other things, but it's a law. I
- 14 guess where I'm going with this, and I apologize for being a
- 15 little longer-winded than I wanted to be, but we have laws
- 16 so that we can follow things. And I'm sorry, but I'm an
- 17 accountant and accountants follow laws. That's what we do.
- 18 So, if we have a law and we pass this law to say
- 19 this isn't allowed in a particular area, but then someone
- 20 comes along and says "You know what? I think this is great.
- 21 I think I can put something right here, " and we break that
- 22 law, aren't we doing something that we shouldn't be doing in
- 23 the first place? That's kind of like somebody speeding down
- 24 and saying "You know what? You said it was 40 but I'm doing
- 25 50, okay, we'll cut you a break." You're breaking the law.

- 1 So I'm trying to get clarification on the zoning.
- 2 When is it appropriate to just completely disregard the
- 3 zoning? And when can you start bending it and maybe it's
- 4 okay. And maybe it's okay more than it's not okay.
- 5 MS. JOHNSON: So, we expect all applicants,
- 6 Columbia Gulf included, to file their permanent applications
- 7 if they are requesting that the zoning be changed from
- 8 whatever it is currently to industrial if it has to be
- 9 changed. And in this case we're expecting that Columbia
- 10 Gulf is going to file for that zoning change if..
- 11 MR. SASKOWSKI: Okay. Have you driven down
- 12 Barnes Road.
- MS. JOHNSON: We did, yes.
- 14 MR. SASKOWSKI: I think you said you had. It's a
- 15 two lane road. It's 40 miles an hour. Five years ago it
- 16 used to be 30 and I'm sure there's a lot of residents here
- 17 who are probably upset that it's 40 now.
- 18 If you have an industry and if, for some chance,
- 19 this change is to industrial, that two lane road could be
- 20 four lanes, couldn't it? Very easily. So, again, if you
- 21 have a municipality that says, "we don't want to change that
- 22 but you have chemicals, you have other things you need to
- 23 dispose of, " now we have issues because there's safety
- 24 issues. You have Delvin Downs which is one subdivision
- 25 which has one road that exits their subdivision. It's

- 1 connected to Stanford Village which is where I've been
- 2 living for the past 15 years. There was one road.
- 3 So you have two exit points. Those two exit
- 4 points are on each side of that compressor station. There's
- 5 no place else to go. So if you have a blowdown, if you have
- 6 a safety issue, where do we go? We don't have a horse, we
- 7 can't run to the other side, we're trapped. So, does that
- 8 become part of the environmental impact study? As far as
- 9 exit routes?
- 10 MS. JOHNSON: We do evaluate the safety of these
- 11 natural gas facilities and the impacts on the neighboring
- 12 areas. So that is taken into consideration.
- 13 MR. SASKOWSKI: And when you consider the socio-
- 14 economical impacts, how far back do you go when you look at
- 15 that as far as a trend line? Fifteen years ago we were,
- 16 other than Mill Run, we were the only subdivision in the
- 17 area. Every two years probably, there's been an additional
- 18 subdivision. There's, along Barnes Road now there's about
- 19 six, seven additional subdivisions. Some in excess of 500
- 20 homes.
- 21 And you can do the math as simply
- 22 as I. That's quite a few people. And that's just along
- 23 Barnes Road. Not to mention when you start bringing in
- 24 other communities like Lennox Village that has between 500
- 25 and 1000 homes. And you start taking into consideration Oak

- 1 Highlands that has over 500 homes that was already in
- 2 existence. Mill Run is a developing community. Not to
- 3 mention Indian Creek and a lot of other communities and
- 4 subdivisions that we're completely forgetting.
- 5 So, again, as far as zoning, to me, it seems very
- 6 simple. If the city decides they don't want to zone an
- 7 industrial facility, that land as industrial, that should
- 8 null and void everything. Is my thinking incorrect on this?
- 9 If you tell me that the zoning is at the municipal level,
- 10 where, who trumps who then?
- MS. JOHNSON: Well, the zoning is at the
- 12 municipal level. We would expect that Columbia would work
- 13 with that municipality initially whether to decide to change
- 14 the zoning of that property. Ultimately there is federal
- 15 preemption over local and in some cases --
- 16 MR. SASKOWSKI: So does that mean that if I'm in
- 17 charge of the zoning and I say no, we don't change the
- 18 zoning and somebody doesn't like that decision, will say
- 19 'you know what, Rick, we're just changing it anyway, we
- 20 don't care what you think, ' is that what you're saying?
- 21 That you would just -- so in fact, the power does not exist
- 22 at the local level, it exists at the federal level, and we
- 23 just need to be consistent all the way around. We need to
- 24 play nice?
- 25 MS. JOHNSON: So for these projects under the

- 1 Natural Gas Act they are given federal preemption.
- 2 RICK SASKOWSKI: For zoning? So, in fact, it
- 3 isn't at the local level because we're already --
- 4 MS. JOHNSON: It's still at the local level.
- 5 We'll expect that Columbia Gulf will work with --
- 6 MR. SASKOWSKI: No, but you're strong-arming
- 7 then, and saying "Well, we're giving you this, this project
- 8 has been approved and as a federal government they've been
- 9 given exemption which means you don't have a choice. You
- 10 have to pass it." That's kind of like my boss telling me
- 11 you can do A or you can do B, but if you do A you keep your
- 12 job and if you do B you lose your job. I say well, you know
- 13 what, I like this job as long as it's not unethical or
- 14 anything else, I'm going to do A because I want to keep my
- 15 job, and keep paying the bills and that's basically what it
- 16 comes down to as far as our local government. We can,
- 17 we can cooperate with the federal government as far as your
- 18 decision, but if we disagree, it doesn't matter, you just
- 19 come in and say your decision is null and void, is that
- 20 correct?
- 21 MS. JOHNSON: For the most part, that is correct.
- 22 MR. SASKOWSKI: So the power isn't with the local
- 23 municipality, then?
- 24 MS. JOHNSON: I'm not saying that we're telling
- 25 any applicant that they don't have to file for their --

- 1 MR. SASKOWSKI: That's the clarification I've
- 2 been getting at. So why say the power is with the
- 3 municipality? It's not.
- 4 AUDIENCE: That's not what she is saying. She
- 5 just meant that zoning is with -- the federal government
- 6 does not have anything to do with zoning. Both of the
- 7 municipalities have everything to do with zoning. Federal
- 8 preemption allows them to override zoning for federal
- 9 projects. This is an interstate project; it's a federal
- 10 project and that's why the local zoning ultimately will have
- 11 nothing, no local laws will have an impact.
- 12 MR. SASKOWSKI: Exactly. So, telling somebody
- 13 they have the power to do something when in fact you --
- 14 AUDIENCE: [off mic] She didn't say they had the
- 15 power -- She was just saying zoning comes from the local
- 16 municipality.
- 17 RICK SASKOWSKI: Zoning comes from the local
- 18 municipality.
- 19 AUDIENCE: And the federal government can
- 20 override that zoning.
- MR. SASKOWSKI: Correct.
- 22 AUDIENCE; That's it.
- 23 RICK SASKOWSKI: Then we have a difference of
- 24 opinion in how authority is derived.
- 25 AUDIENCE: You don't have the authority. They

- 1 have the authority.
- 2 MR. SASKOWSKI: Then you don't tell me that you
- 3 have, that the rules are within your bounds. You have no
- 4 authority to set that ruling.
- 5 AUDIENCE: Who doesn't have the authority?
- 6 RICK SASKOWSKI: The local government?
- 7 AUDIENCE: The local government does not have the
- 8 final say on this federal project.
- 9 RICK SASKOWSKI: Exactly.
- MR. COLE: That's what he just said.
- 11 That's. Y'all know that.
- MS. YUAN: I think we've gotten to the point
- 13 that.
- MR. SASKOWSKI: But the point, but it's on the
- 15 record that you said the authority is with the local
- 16 government.
- MS. YUAN: No. I didn't say that.
- MR. COLE: But she didn't say that.
- 19 AUDIENCE: That's not what she meant. She just
- 20 meant that zoning comes from --
- 21 MR. SASKOWSKI: Okay. I won't argue about what's
- 22 been said, because it's on the record and we can look at the
- 23 transcript and you can pull that out. But, thank you.
- 24 MR. COLE: That's not really what she said,
- 25 they're going to do what they want to anyway.

- 1 MR. SASKOWSKI: They're going to do whatever they
- 2 want. That's the point.
- 3 MR. SULFRIDGE: Quick question. So earlier we
- 4 talked about if they, if a decision was made to change the
- 5 location of one of the sites, so let's say this change comes
- 6 from Columbia Gulf so then they would have to completely
- 7 reapply? Change their application, since the application is
- 8 for seven sites then to change the location of one they
- 9 would have to reapply, or if it comes from the FERC then
- 10 when that decision comes down from the Commission, can the
- 11 committee say 'yes you're approved but you have to change
- 12 the location of this one?' Can the Commission, F E R C,
- 13 dictate on an individual level as far as the location of the
- 14 sites?
- 15 MS. YUAN: I'll try to answer that first part and
- 16 maybe Gertrude can answer the second part better.
- 17 So, the first part, so it's Columbia or any
- 18 applicant chooses to propose another alternative site,
- 19 another proposed site. They would have to file an amendment
- 20 to their application and provide all the resource reports
- 21 for that new site. So that we can analyze that site. It's
- 22 not that they would have to file a whole new application for
- 23 the all the other sites if they aren't changing anything
- 24 with the other sites.
- 25 MR. SULFRIDGE: And all the reports that go along

- 1 with each site. They would have to re-apply all that. Just
- 2 for the one site.
- 3 MS. YUAN: No. It's just for the one site that
- 4 changed.
- 5 You want to answer the order part?
- 6 MS. JOHNSON: If Staff were to recommend that the
- 7 Commission were to approve another site other what an
- 8 applicant was proposing, we would have the information that
- 9 we would need to say, 'Well, yes, this other site has
- 10 significant environmental advantages over the proposed
- 11 site.' An applicant wouldn't have to provide additional
- 12 information because through our analysis and asking
- 13 questions of the applicant, we would decide on our own --
- 14 Staff would -- that some other site that we've looked at,
- 15 we've looked at all the environmental impacts of that site.
- 16 In recommending it, we would say we decided with our
- 17 analysis that we, Staff, are recommending that the
- 18 Commission require the applicant to adopt this other site.
- 19 MR. SULFRIDGE: Okay and if, let's say you make
- 20 that recommendation, then what if the company decides that
- 21 they want to build -- do they have to agree to that?
- MS. JOHNSON: So an applicant, once the
- 23 Commission issues an order authorizing any facility, the
- 24 applicant has a right, and so does anyone else who is a
- 25 party to the proceedings, a rehearing of the case. If they

- 1 disagree with what's included in the Commission order, they
- 2 can request a rehearing on whatever topic of concern it is
- 3 to them.
- 4 Whether it's an applicant or an intervenor or any
- 5 person that's an intervenor. So, yes, they could request
- 6 rehearing, say, per se, that Staff would recommend an
- 7 alternative site and the Commission approved it, they could
- 8 say 'well, we don't agree with the Commission's decision.'
- 9 And if that would take it's own course of how the Commission
- 10 would decide on the rehearing of that case.
- 11 MR. SULFRIDGE: Would they have to wait until
- 12 that process was resolved to start building the other six?
- 13 MS. JOHNSON: It would be at the applicant's
- 14 risk, I think, to construct the other facilities; but
- 15 ultimately the FERC would have to grant permission for them
- 16 to start construction. Just because a Commission order is
- 17 issued, there are, in all of our Commission orders, several
- 18 environmental conditions that an applicant would have to
- 19 comply with before FERC issues a 'go' on starting
- 20 construction.
- 21 MR. SULFRIDGE: All right. Thank you.
- MS. MILLER: Patricia Miller. He probably can
- 23 spell that. I understand that there were four sites looked
- 24 at before the particular one was determined at Cane Ridge.
- 25 Are those other sites given in the reports? And do we have

- 1 access to them?
- 2 MS. YUAN: Yes. You do. It's actually discussed
- 3 in Resource Report 10. The four sites that the company
- 4 looked at, and why a couple of them were dismissed, or
- 5 several of them were dismissed and how they came to their
- 6 proposed site.
- 7 MS. MILLER: Thank you.
- 8 MS. YUAN: You all know the drill now.
- 9 MR. ROZENBOOM: Just real quick. Mike Rozenboom,
- 10 R O Z E N B O O M. What my friend Rick was trying to say, I
- 11 think, Federal preemption is a big deal. You guys are given
- 12 a tremendous amount of authority and power, and that's it.
- 13 Just, we, we trust, we have to put our trust in you because
- 14 that's the only other place we can put it.
- 15 You obviously, we understand that the pipeline is
- 16 going to try to make money. We get that. Federal
- 17 preemption is going to have to be used to make this happen
- 18 because Nashville's against it. The local government is
- 19 against it. Our state senators are against it. We're all
- 20 against it.
- 21 I know that the environmental impact ultimately,
- 22 you put these gas compression stations in other places.
- 23 They pump out the same stuff, so I know that FERC allows
- 24 these things to happen. I get it. With this particular
- 25 case though, federal preemption should not be used for a

- 1 foreign company, a foreign owned company, to put more gas
- 2 for export. Period. Federal preemption should not be used.
- I would believe that if you looked through all of
- 4 the cases that you guys have used and allowed federal
- 5 preemption, this would probably be the first to allow a
- 6 foreign company to put more gas through our lines for
- 7 export. For that reason, I do not think preemption should
- 8 be used in this case. Because you're not going to get local
- 9 cooperation. Nor do I believe that you should think that
- 10 the pipeline should. Thank you.
- 11 (Applause)
- 12 MR. TANGREN: My name is Don Tangren. I live in
- 13 the Cane Ridge area. It's D O N T A N G R E N. I have a
- 14 question: Do you look at the long-range plan and
- 15 Nashville's long-range plan for this area?
- MS. YUAN: So, yes we do look at when we do our
- 17 analysis for land use.
- 18 MR. TANGREN: Thank you.
- 19 MS. YUAN: We do look at the local master plan or
- 20 long-use plans.
- 21 MR. TANGREN: Yeah. They have a master plan for
- 22 this area. And it's basically, they don't really like Cane
- 23 Ridge, there in south Nashville because it's rural. It's
- 24 not making money for them. They want as many homes in this
- 25 area as they can. A lot of people here don't like it but

- 1 they don't own enough land to do much about it. There are
- 2 several developments close by that are going to add several
- 3 thousand homes to this area and that's just a couple of
- 4 developments.
- 5 So, even what we're talking about now as far as
- 6 population density, it's no where near where it's going to
- 7 be in 10, 15, 20 years from now. That really needs to be
- 8 taken into account. There's areas where you can go where
- 9 that population is going to be fairly stable. It is not
- 10 going to be stable here; it is going to, it is just going to
- 11 max out. And it's only going to cause more trouble for more
- 12 people.
- 13 Even though it's an area where they can move in
- 14 to, and they will move into, it's still going to be an area
- 15 that that is going to have an impact on that many more
- 16 people. And I want to say something too about your average
- 17 55 decibel monitoring. That's not going to be the only
- 18 noise in that area. You're just adding 55 decibels to
- 19 what's already there. So when a train goes past, or when an
- 20 airplane goes over, you could hit 85 decibels or more. In
- 21 which case people would be required -- well, not required,
- 22 but they really need to wear hearing protection just to
- 23 prevent hearing loss. So, at 55, may sound good. But that
- 24 55 just may push people over the limit to where they're
- 25 starting to lose their hearing. It may sound 55, we're

- 1 staying safe, but that's not going to be the only noise in
- 2 the neighborhood. So, I mean, you really need to take that
- 3 into account too.
- 4 Thank you.
- 5 MS. YUAN: Thank you.
- 6 (Applause)
- 7 MS. YUAN: Do we have any more speakers?
- 8 MS. TANGREN: Carol Tangren. I just want to add
- 9 something to what my husband had said. I know you're
- 10 looking at the master plan. In addition to the developments
- 11 for homes and stuff, you probably see on the master plan
- 12 something called Southern Bypass. Which they want to
- 13 continue construction. That's going to put another major
- 14 freeway that comes through the Cane Ridge area very close to
- 15 where that plant will be. I realize that says, hey, that
- 16 looks attractive for them to get their trucks carrying the
- 17 excess off, but that also should be taken into consideration
- 18 when looking at what will the ultimate noise impact be in
- 19 that area. Because that highway is going to be there.
- 20 That's probably where you see all these big power
- 21 lines. If you go up one exit towards Hickory Hollow, that
- 22 whole area is going to be redone so they can put that bypass
- 23 through there. Okay. So please look at that as well when
- 24 you're looking for the noise impact that's going to be long-
- 25 term.

```
1
                I believe City Council may still be here or not,
 2
    but they originally had put off that plan, but they bumped
 3
     it up, they are working on construction now with
     anticipation of it being completed by 2020. They were not
 4
    going to not do it until then, but I think they're
 5
 б
     anticipating having it completed by at least 2020. So
7
    please also look at that as well when you look at noise.
8
    Thank you.
9
                MS. JOHNSON: Thank you.
                MS. YUAN: Thank you.
10
                Anyone else would like to speak?
11
12
                So without any more speakers, the formal part of
13
     this meeting will conclude. On behalf of the Federal Energy
14
     Regulatory Commission, I would like to thank you all for
15
     coming tonight. Let the record show that the Gulf Xpress
     Project scoping meeting in Antioch, Tennessee concluded at
16
     9:04 p.m. Thank you.
17
18
                (Whereupon, at 9:04 p.m., the public scoping
    meeting concluded.)
19
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21
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25
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1	CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL REPORTER
2	
3	This is to certify that the attached proceeding
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	before the FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION in the  Matter of:    Name of Proceeding:  GULF XPRESS PROJECT
12	
13	
	Docket No.: CP16-361-000
14	Docket No.: CP10-301-000
15	Place: Antioch, TN
16	Date: 6/21/2016
17	
18	were held as herein appears, and that this is the original
19	transcript thereof for the file of the Federal Energy
	Regulatory Commission, and is a full correct transcripton of
20	the proceedings.
21	
22	
23	Daniel Hawkins
24	Official Reporter
2 E	