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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

EASTERN MARKET ACCESS PROJECT
DOCKET NO. CP17-15-000

SCOPING MEETING

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2017
HILTON GARDEN INN
10385 O'DONNELL PLACE
WALDORF, MARYLAND 20603

Reported by Mike Williams

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

2 MS. WILSON: Janice Wilson, J-a-n-i-c-e
3 W-i-l-s-o-n. And I am here today to support the proposed
4 project by Dominion Power. I feel that this project will be
5 good for the Charles County region. Charles County is a
6 growing community and to have this gas line, basically, in
7 Charles County I think will help and improve access for many
8 residents. It will bring clean energy to the area.

9 The project also will provide new supplies of
10 natural gas for Washington Gas and the proposed Mattawoman
11 Energy Center in Maryland and supplying relying reliable
12 energy for over 900,000 homes in the region and there is a
13 growing demand for this type of activity in Charles County.
14 As I mentioned, Charles County is growing so we need this
15 now.

16 It'll also help the region meet demands for
17 clean, affordable and reliable energy while providing
18 possibly local tax benefits during construction and once in
19 operation. And so I think everybody would agree tax
20 benefits are a good thing.

21 The other thing I wanted to mention is that
22 American energy sources costs far less to bring to the
23 market, resulting in decreased energy costs and savings that
24 are passed directly on to consumers, again, a real plus for
25 the Charles County community. And clean energy is a

1 priority for many and it's important for all of us.

2 And the last thing I'd like to say it's abundant
3 and affordable natural gas is a reliable bridge fuel that
4 allows us to meet energy demand today while advancing the
5 renewable energy technologies of tomorrow. Natural gas is a
6 cleaner source of energy generating half the carbon
7 emissions of costs. And I thank you for allowing me to
8 speak on behalf of this project.

9 MR. NEWMAN: My name is Rico Newman. That's
10 R-i-c-o N-e-w-m-a-n.

11 As in reference to the project, I'm a little
12 familiar with it because I've had a sit-down with one of the
13 -- it was a lady from the company that's doing this. They
14 spoke about this because at the initial time we had property
15 down at Strawberry Hill, which is right in where they're
16 going to do this. I have other property up near the Fort
17 Washington area that will more than likely be impacted by
18 this.

19 I guess the quick answer is I don't have any
20 issues with it. The only two questions I had were answered.
21 Fracking is not involved and there's a process in place for
22 mitigation in the event if any digging is down and anything
23 of cultural significance is pulled out of the ground they've
24 got a program in place to handle that. So there were the
25 only two issues that if they came up that were answered to

1 my satisfaction.

2 I'm a member of the Piscataway community and I've
3 passed that along to other members of the community because
4 basically that's their concern also. That area we know was
5 heavily occupied for God's know how many millennia, so
6 there's always the chance that when you put a shovel in the
7 ground there's no telling what you might come back with. I
8 understand that there's not a lot of construction, other
9 than at the -- improving the site to add pressure to deliver
10 product more economically and efficiently as the population
11 is bursting. I don't want to say increasing. It is
12 bursting. And you know nobody -- natural gas I like it a
13 lot more than coal. I like it a lot more than some of the
14 others. I guess you can't beat the sun for energy, but
15 that's something in the future.

16 But this project I'm all for it. It's positive.
17 I think it's going to work. I think it serves the needs of
18 the community and my vote again is in favor of the project.

19 MS. MOWER: My name is Scarlett Mower,
20 S-c-a-r-l-e-t-t Mower, M-o-w-e-r. I reside at 4855
21 Spaulding Drive in LaPlata, Maryland. I've lived in Charles
22 County for 50 years and for all of that time we've had oil
23 and electric and each winter month our bills sometimes
24 exceed \$800 a month just to heat our home and I believe
25 there must be a more economic and cleaner to way to heat our

1 home.

2 I also believe that other people in the community
3 that are having economic struggles desire to have the
4 ability to have an option and this access would allow them
5 the option rather than the way most of us now are heating
6 our homes in the southern end of the county. Thank you for
7 the opportunity.

8 MS. SCHARLES: My name is Sonja Scharles,
9 S-o-n-j-a S-c-h-a-r-l-e-s.

10 I'm actually kind of ambivalent about this. I am
11 concerned about the fracking aspect and the damage to the
12 environment, but I'm also concerned about Charles County and
13 the cost of living and how much power costs here. I have
14 friends that have power bills 700, \$800 and that's just not
15 something that is doable. People can't afford to live here.
16 Real estate's too high, power's too high. So basically, I'm
17 concerned both ways, but I'd like to hear more about this.

18 I follow Mac Middleton and I know that he's for
19 this and I know that he studies things, so I will probably
20 agree with him, but I would like to put more work into it.

21 MR. WILLIAMS: My name is Donny Williams,
22 D-o-n-n-y W-i-l-l-i-a-m-s. I live in Lusby, Maryland.

23 And so the first comments for the Eastern Market
24 Access Project for an environmental assessment, so much of
25 this right now is shrouded in secrecy. We can't get a

1 straight answer from Dominion. It's not included in the
2 information that's provided publicly about exactly who are
3 the customers, how much gas is slated to go to WTLs, slated
4 to go Mattawoman, slated to go to Kills Point, different
5 places like along the line that this would happen.

6 And in the meantime, we're not able to see the
7 full impacts of what that would be. Right now the
8 Mattawoman Project is a proposed. It's not approved. It
9 doesn't exist. It's just a thing that might happen. And
10 so if this is something that is being slated to be filled
11 along hypothetical lines, you know, to fill a hypothetical
12 need and we're talking about real impacts, especially with
13 the compressor station that doesn't exist right now also to
14 be built -- Charles station, then people are being asked to
15 have real impacts on their health and well being in exchange
16 for hypothetical benefits to hypothetical customers and
17 that's not enough for the public to be able to actually
18 comment on you know how an environment assessment should
19 look for a project, so that's a huge thing right there.

20 Also, just in general, I just want to register
21 that I'm 100 percent against expanding the compressor
22 capacity along the Cove Point Pipeline. Again, Dominion is
23 not being upfront with us at all about what this for and why
24 they want to expand this compressor capacity and that is
25 even on the Cove Point Pipeline, which it obviously is. But

1 expanding compressor capacity in Loudon County right near a
2 neighborhood there is going to have massive negative impacts
3 on that neighborhood.

4 With Pleasant Valley, there's a neighborhood
5 being built right next to that compressor station and people
6 there I'm sure have no idea what's right next to this house
7 that I'm sure a new family is going to want to move in and
8 raise a family right there next to a compressor station.
9 And then especially in Accokeek or near Accokeek here at the
10 Charles Station people there -- I know I have close friends
11 there who you know have grown up there, who've lived there
12 for decades. It's a really tight knit community and the
13 forest there and to have a compressor station you know
14 really like inhibits like the ways of life there. It's a
15 massive travesty and so I don't want to see any of that.

16 Also, I live in Lusby and so I'm seeing this go
17 as the way to bring a lot more gas down to Cove Point and I
18 see that as a real goal for this and that's something that
19 directly impacts me and my neighbors and my community and I
20 definitely don't like that as well where already we've had
21 this massive gamut of a project shoved down our throats in a
22 way that at best case scenario really doesn't allow us to
23 have the healthy lives that we've always had like living
24 there in Lusby in southern Calvert County.

25 And worst case scenario is catastrophic explosion

1 for a place that's already has had an explosion and it's
2 killed somebody. And so together, this whole thing I'm
3 absolutely against it and I also, again, want to see more
4 information from Dominion before any talk about an
5 environmental assessment is actually done. Thanks.

6 MS. BRECK: Hi, my name is Darlene Breck and
7 that's D-a-r-l-e-n-e B-r-e-c-k.

8 I am a past president of the Charles County
9 Chambers of Commerce and a current member of the Chamber's
10 Economic Development Committee. We are pleased to support
11 Dominion's Eastern Market Access Project.

12 Dominion's investment of \$145 million into
13 infrastructure will benefit both Charles County and the
14 southern Maryland region through the provision of clearer
15 energy by supporting regional demand for such energy and by
16 generating economic development through job creation.
17 Dominion has been a good environmental steward as well as a
18 good community steward, thus, we are proud to support and
19 partner with Dominion in this effort. Thank you.

20 MR. KANTER: My name is David Kanter. That's
21 D-a-v-i-d K-a-n-t-as in Tango-e-r.

22 I'm a parent, a spouse, and a 15-year resident of
23 Charles County. I'm also an aerospace engineer, so I
24 understand technical issues regarding the environment and
25 energy. This testimony concerns the proposed liquid natural

1 gas, LNG compressor station on New Marshal Hall, Bryan's
2 Hill Road in Charles County, Maryland, Docket Number
3 CP-17-15-00.

4 As an environmentalist and co-chair of the Sierra
5 Club's Southern Maryland Group, my reason for being here is
6 obvious. We need to prevent Dominion's LNG compressor
7 station from being built in Bryan's Road or anywhere in
8 southern Maryland.

9 As a scout leader, I am bound to certain ideals
10 that prompt me to strongly object to this compressor
11 station. Please note, I am not representing scouting, but I
12 have convictions derived from scouting that should be
13 verbalized. Scouting has an oath, a law, and an outdoor
14 code. The oath requires us to help other people at all
15 times. The law states a scout is, among other things,
16 loyal, helpful, clean, and reverent. The outdoor code
17 requires scouts to be considerate in the outdoors and
18 conservation minded.

19 With the testimony below, I'm being loyal and
20 helpful to my local and extended American neighbors by
21 helping to ensure their environment is safe. Similarly, I'm
22 satisfying the outdoor code. I'm promoting environmental
23 cleanliness as well.

24 The proposed LNG compressor station would
25 threaten the health of the people, flora and fauna in this

1 area, which is environmentally sensitive due to potential
2 emissions of dangerous air and water pollutants from exhaust
3 stacks and wastewater treatment ponds.

4 This compressor station will not benefit local
5 residents. It will, however, have a detrimental affect on
6 them. It will fuel the proposed LNG power plants in Charles
7 and Prince George's Counties as well as other parts of the
8 state. What must be considered when an Environmental Impact
9 Statement is written is the whole picture, not just the
10 actual item being built.

11 So in addition to immediate construction
12 considerations, infrastructure, geographic and time
13 chronological impacts must be considered. Geographically,
14 this station will support the LNG export at Cove Point in
15 Calvert County, other proposed power plants, and it will
16 require more piping, resulting in more disruption to the
17 environment. Who know, it may even create a future need for
18 yet another LNG compressor station.

19 In terms of time, it slaves us to fossil fuel for
20 another 30 to 40 years. This happens every time we build
21 infrastructure for fossil fuel. Certainly, we could be
22 doing more to avoid this compressor station by using
23 renewable energy, as SMECO has done in Hughesville and
24 Waldorf. One argument for LNG is that it helps curb global
25 warming. Yes, it displaces coal and oil, but what is never

1 discussed is gas leakage. In order to be in par with coal,
2 LNG must maintain a leakage rate of 2 percent or less.

3 Unfortunately, LNG leakage is rampant in the
4 industry. Some reports peg that value as high as 12
5 percent. This is not good for our environment or climate
6 change either. Ironically, it's worse than the coal it's
7 replacing. This must also be considered.

8 Finally, we have to consider where the LNG comes
9 from. The proposed compressor station will ultimately
10 require and enable the use of more LNG. The LNG will come
11 from the ground, from pumping it out in a manner known as
12 hydraulic fracturing or fracking. Unfortunately, fracking
13 has been determined by the EPA to cause earthquakes, pollute
14 waterways, and disrupt groundwater. This has been
15 determined in Oklahoma and more recently Ohio and now we are
16 learning that fracking in Maryland is a possibility. Is
17 this what we want to be a party of? If you paid attention,
18 you're asking if I'm satisfying the scouting requirement to
19 be reverent. Yes, reverence is adherence to God's laws.
20 The Bible requires us to be stewards of the earth. We find
21 this in Genesis, Psalms, Romans and more. Being a steward
22 requires not destroying the planet. This LNG compressor
23 station will certainly be another step in the ruining of
24 God's creation.

25 Prior to any permits being granted for this

1 project, a complete Environment Impact Statement must
2 certainly be performed. Incidentally, affects of gas
3 infrastructure, such as this, should've been included in the
4 Cove Point LNG Export Terminal Proposal. Thank you for your
5 time.

6 MR. BOWLING: My name is Gilbert Bowling,
7 G-i-l-b-e-r-t, Bowling, B-o-w-l-i-n-g. I currently reside
8 in Dentsville in Charles County, Maryland.

9 Today I'm here to basically testify on behalf of
10 myself and speak on how I believe the Dominion Project is
11 going to help Charles County and how that the current
12 infrastructure in place already throughout the region will
13 have minimum impact on the environment, so this project will
14 have minimum impact, I believe. I believe Charles County is
15 in desperate need of jobs and I believe this will bring jobs
16 to Charles County.

17 I believe that the current project with Dominion
18 will also provide a clean source of energy to the people in
19 the region where the demand is increasing due to the
20 increasing population of the area. It will also provide a
21 segue to moving away from dependency on fossil fuel as far
22 as coal and I think it'll help our community start using
23 more local energy opposed to dependency on overseas oil.

24 I also believe the Dominion Company has taken
25 steps in the community to provide information about the

1 project and what it's going to do and how it's going to
2 impact the community. And you know, in general, I just
3 believe you know as far as energy's concerned we're moving
4 more towards renewable energy and I think this is a good
5 step stone to get closer to that because between now and
6 where we need to be with renewable energy there's going to
7 be a gap as far as what we need to do to get to that point.
8 And I think that the community needs to be able to rely on
9 good, safe, environmentally friendly source of energy, so I
10 believe this project will give us that opportunity. That's
11 pretty much what I got.

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1 CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL REPORTER

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3 This is to certify that the attached proceeding
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14 Docket No.: CP17-15-000

15 Place: WALDORF, MARYLAND

16 Date: MARCH 2, 2017

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

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23 Mike Williams

24 Official Reporter

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

EASTERN MARKET ACCESS PROJECT
DOCKET NO. CP17-15-000

SCOPING MEETING

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2017
HILTON GARDEN INN
10385 O'DONNELL PLACE
WALDORF, MARYLAND 20603

Reported by Jim Seeley

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MS. HAYES: Lisa Hayes, L-i-s-a, Hayes,

H-a-y-e-s. I'm the president and CEO of the Accokeek

Foundation.

So 60 years ago the Accokeek Foundation was

created to help lead the effort to preserve the view from

George Washington's Mount Vernon. While preservation of the

view shed remains a primary interest, our preservation work

and focus goes beyond the view.

As our founding document state, we seek to

preserve, protect, and foster for scientific, educational or

charitable use and study for the benefit of the people of

the nation the historic sites and relics, trees, plants, and

wildlife rapidly disappearing from an area of great natural

beauty along the Maryland shore of the historic Potomac

River.

Location of this project falls within that area

of great natural beauty. I think it is important that a

full environmental assessment be done regarding the impact

of the proposed work. Questions to be answered include what

impact will the proposed work, both in design and

implementation, have on the wetlands in this area? What

particulate matter, gases, and air pollutants will be added

to the environment and what will be the affects on humans,

wildlife, and vegetation? What will be the impact on the

1 populations of whatever species currently make their home in
2 this area? How much noise will be involved and what impact
3 will the noise have on local species? Thank you.

4 MS. ALLEN-LEVENTHAL: I'm Judith Allen-Leventhal.
5 That's A-l-l-e-n hyphen L-e-v-e-n-t-h-a-l.

6 So I'm just going to read my concerns. Need for
7 the proposed gas compression station in rural Charles County
8 has not been established. One reason increased demand for
9 natural gas in southern Maryland is unclear. That's for
10 residents.

11 Two, the proposed compressor station would serve
12 Calvert County's Cove Point. It seems like where it would
13 go where the gas would then be sent to Asia rather than to
14 local residents regardless of their needs or for home
15 heating.

16 The third thing is that the Mattawoman Power
17 Plant has not yet been fully permitted, which is one of the
18 places that they would send the gas.

19 Risk of environmental degradation by constructing
20 the gas compressor station in the sensitive wetlands where
21 it is to be built is clear. The potential or negative
22 impact on air, water, flora and fauna need more evaluation.

23 A rhetorical question, why do 14 acres need to be
24 cleared at the site if the project proposed is something
25 like 6.7 acres in size? Documents show 36-feet high

1 buildings, but the exhaust stacks or towers are proposed to
2 be 50 feet. Why that discrepancy?

3 There's concern that the height would not only be
4 an eyesore in this rural setting, but also a source of air
5 quality contamination. And I'm somewhat skeptical about the
6 balloon for Mount Vernon with the gas going up higher than
7 the towers. Light pollution would also very lightly occur
8 and intrusion onto Mount Vernon again would seem possible,
9 regardless of the stack itself.

10 Noise pollution, given the additional mechanical
11 systems on site and other mechanical things going on there
12 would likely affect both the neighbors and wildlife in the
13 area. Devaluation of area property values is also an
14 inevitable impact once the site would be developed and the
15 gas compressor station is in place on this once very
16 pristine, rural area.

17 Safety is a great concern to the local residents,
18 such as flaring, blow downs, or whatever, just a fire.
19 We've had a rather devastating fires within just a few miles
20 of the area there and neither the Accokeek nor the Bryan's
21 Road Fire Departments were able to contain just regular
22 residences. So it seems to me that a compressor station
23 would be a far greater risk of a large-scale fire. That's
24 probably three minutes. I don't know. That's all I have.

25 MR. WILSON: My name is Barry Wilson, B-a-r-r-y

1 W-i-l-s-o-n.

2 My comments is I think this is a pretty good
3 thing to have because it's not going to present a lot of
4 jobs because this is, you know, a small project. But the
5 jobs that they will create, the -- it's going to be
6 higher-paying jobs. It's going to be decent-paying jobs,
7 jobs that you could buy a house. It's not like McDonald's.
8 Everybody promise, you know, we're going to bring jobs.
9 Well, you bring McDonald's. Ain't nobody at McDonald's
10 could buy a house, okay, so I support it for that reason.

11 Also, I support it because I live in a
12 development that has no gas, okay. So if we push more out,
13 give more opportunities for people like me living in a
14 development to say, okay, I have an option of using gas for
15 heating or for whatever. Right now, it's just totally
16 electricity, okay. So that would give me another option to
17 have. That's my comments. Thank you.

18 MR. GIUFFRIDA: My name is Mark Giuffrida,
19 G-i-u-f-f-r-i-d-a.

20 My comments are I'm concerned about having this
21 -- about permitting this project. It is in a proposed area
22 where lower-income residents live and they're not able to
23 move out of the area. I also feel that an increase in noise
24 and vibration may cause harm to the birds, the insects, and
25 the woodland animals. I'm also concerned about the human

1 neighbors of Bryant's Road, Accokeek, and Marshal Hall.

2 There are also concerns about the narrow pipeline
3 that's coming in to this spot may also break due to added
4 pressure. Please do not approve this project. Thank you.

5 MS. ALEXANDER: Hi, my name is Jacqueline
6 Alexander, J-a-c-q-u-e-l-i-n-e, Alexander,
7 A-l-e-x-a-n-d-e-r.

8 And I'm calling -- I mean not calling. I'm here
9 on behalf -- just to share my thoughts that I am in support
10 of the Eastern Market Access Project and Dominion's plans
11 for moving forward.

12 I live here in southern Maryland. I do not have
13 access to natural gas. I've grown up having access to
14 natural gas, but when we moved down here we didn't have it.
15 I find it to be clean. I find it to be warmer for heat, so
16 I'm kind of excited at the fact that they will be at least
17 close enough -- close to me. It may not be as far south
18 enough right at this point, but at least I have some hopes
19 of getting it at some point in the future.

20 It's my understanding and what I've been reading
21 our marketplace is one of the fastest growing marketplaces
22 in the country, southern Maryland, northern Virginia and
23 this whole corridor, and we need more access to clean
24 energy. It's not perfect. I mean I know we're still
25 working on renewable energy sources and things of that

1 nature, but having the natural gas access is whole lot
2 better than having coal-fired plants, which is really, you
3 know, highly pollutive (sic) to the area and to the nation,
4 so I fully support this. I understand they don't need to
5 take any more right-of-ways. They're going to put them in
6 with the existing properties that they own. They can do
7 some upgrades. I think there's an upgrade on one plant that
8 has to be done and then some modifications to existing
9 facilities.

10 With that, I pledge my support for it and I hope
11 that we're able to approve the project and move forward with
12 it.

13 MS. BICK: My name is Bonnie Bick, B-o-n-n-i-e
14 B-i-c-k. My address is 7601 Oxon Hill Road.

15 And I'm extremely concerned about this proposal.
16 Years ago I thought that gas was a transition fuel, but now
17 I'm of the opinion that it's not a transition fuel. It's
18 still fossil fuel and that we're extremely under a lot of
19 pressure to cut back our climate change supporting fossil
20 fuels.

21 So this is the infrastructure to support more
22 fracking is my concern and this area that's proposed for the
23 Charles Expansion is right next to the Piscataway National
24 Park and the noise and air quality issues will change the
25 character of the whole area because it's next to natural

1 resources, wetlands, and the very valuable Mount Vernon View
2 Shed.

3 I understand you have been in touch with Mount
4 Vernon, but I'm afraid they're possibly not looking at all
5 of the issues and that's something that I hope that they'll
6 further look at. My main point for coming tonight was to
7 say that I want FERC to conduct a full Environmental Impact
8 Statement, not an EA. I know that there's an EA beginning
9 process now, but at the end of the EA there's a choice
10 between a FONSI and an EIS. And it would be my request that
11 we jump directly as can be with NEPA into an EIS. I
12 certainly feel like what we need to do is to look at the
13 cumulative impact and just looking at the Charles Station
14 without looking at the full pipeline that it's supporting is
15 segmentation, from my perspective and I definitely don't
16 want this project to be segmented.

17 I'm concerned about what we were told last night
18 was that if fracking were to need more infrastructure that
19 the pipelines could be under another process even more
20 infrastructure in place. And I'm concerned about all of the
21 pipeline breaks that have been witnessed in the last -- I've
22 really been paying attention for a few years and every time
23 there's a gas break I'm extremely concerned and even more
24 concerned if it's related to a fire situation and if there's
25 water around. There's a lot of water around. There are

1 aquifers underneath this area, which are deep, but any kind
2 of break in this very sensitive area could be extremely
3 detrimental to the natural environment that it's located in.

4 I cannot stress enough how much I am unhappy with
5 the fact that Cove Point got a FONSI. You cannot have a
6 \$3.8 billion project and have the decision made that it's no
7 significant impact at the end of an EA, which is inadequate.

8 So I believe that this process should take that
9 into consideration because Cove Point is on the 15-mile line
10 and I believe that we need to look at the different options
11 of where the fracked gas will be coming from and the entire
12 Mattawoman Energy Plant, which this is related to is very
13 controversial. It's very much unwanted by the people who
14 live in that community and it's actually part of a sacrifice
15 zone that is being created or is created in southern Prince
16 George's and Charles County. So this proposal is definitely
17 related to that.

18 So I think that you have to look at all of the
19 issues and so that's my request, a full EIS. And I am
20 hoping that during that process there will be information
21 revealed that will allow a better decision to be made
22 regarding this proposal. Thank you.

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15 Place: WALDORF, MARYLAND

16 Date: MARCH 2, 2017

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23 Jim Seeley

24 Official Reporter

25