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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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IN RE: CHAPTER 105 AND CHAPTER 102 PERMIT APPLICATIONS  
FOR THE ATLANTIC SUNRISE PIPELINE PROJECT BY  
TRANSCONTINENTAL GAS PIPE LINE COMPANY, LLC

PUBLIC HEARING

\* \* \* \* \*

BEFORE: COLLEEN CONNOLLY, Chair  
KEVIN WHITE, Environmental Group Manager  
PAMELA DOBBINS, Environmental Group Manager  
EUGENE TROWBRIDGE, II, Water Pollution  
Biologist

HEARING: Monday, June 12, 2017  
6:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Tunkhannock Middle School  
200 Franklin Avenue  
Tunkhannock, PA 18657

Reporter: Lindsey Deann Richardson

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NONE OFFERED

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

2 -----

3 CHAIR: Okay. It's six o'clock. We're  
4 going to go on the record now to begin the public  
5 hearing for the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline.

6 Good evening, everyone. My name is  
7 Colleen Connolly. I'm the regional spokesperson, the  
8 community relations coordinator for the Pennsylvania  
9 Department of Environmental Protection's Northeast  
10 Regional Office in Wilkes-Barre.

11 Tonight we are here to hold a formal  
12 public hearing on the Chapter 105 and Chapter 102  
13 permits submitted to the DEP for the Atlantic Sunrise  
14 Pipeline Project. It's proposed by Transcontinental  
15 Gas Line Company (sic), otherwise known as Transco.  
16 These applications are currently under technical review  
17 by the DEP at this time.

18 I want to thank everyone for coming out  
19 tonight. Part of the process of reviewing a permit  
20 application is to hear from the public and get their  
21 input. So we appreciate you coming out tonight and I  
22 certainly want to hear what you have to say.

23 Also, I want to thank the staff here at  
24 Tunkhannock High School - Tunkhannock Middle School  
25 District for hosting us this evening.

1                   Again, I'll repeat, we're here for a  
2 formal public hearing regarding two DEP permits  
3 submitted for the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline Project,  
4 which is proposed by the Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line  
5 Company, LLC.

6                   I want to start by introducing our staff  
7 here from the Department. We have Kevin White, an  
8 environmental group manager in DEP's Waterways and  
9 Wetlands Program; Gene Trowbridge, a water pollution  
10 biologist in the Waterways and Wetlands Program at DEP.  
11 And Pam Dobbins, an environmental group manager, also  
12 from DEP's Waterways and Wetlands Program.

13                   We will be listening to your public  
14 comments tonight. I want to clarify right now what  
15 these two permits are.

16                   I said these are Chapter 105, water  
17 obstruction and encroachment permit application, and  
18 the Chapter 102, the erosion and sediment control  
19 general permit for earth disturbances associated with  
20 oil and gas exploration production, processing,  
21 treatment operations for transmission facilities,  
22 Notice of Intent. These applications, as I said, are  
23 under review by DEP's technical review staff.

24                   Again, tonight we're here to hold a  
25 formal public hearing to take testimony, and testimony

1 only, from you regarding these two permit applications.  
2 We are not going to answer any questions this evening.

3           We'll take your testimony in the form of  
4 comments from those who have registered to speak ahead  
5 of time. If you still want to register to speak, you  
6 have time at the table at the front of the door. As  
7 soon as the first public speaker begins, I have to  
8 close the registration after that.

9           If you wish to make a formal comment and  
10 have not signed up, like I said, please go right now to  
11 the front desk and we will sign you up. You must be  
12 registered and present if you wish to present testimony  
13 at the hearing tonight. Please remember the comments  
14 offered here in person or in writing hold the same  
15 weight, and postal mail also carries the same weight as  
16 any other comments. So if you want to submit a public  
17 comment, you want to do it here, they carry both the  
18 same weight.

19           Okay. I have some rather large  
20 explanations I have to give tonight on these permit  
21 applications. If you'll just bear with me a moment.  
22 It will only take a couple of minutes. Transco  
23 submitted a Chapter 105 water obstruction encroachment  
24 permit application as required by the Pennsylvania  
25 Code, the PA Dam Safety and Encroachments Act and the

1 PA Clean Streams Law, to DEP for activities associated  
2 with construction of their proposed Atlantic Sunrise  
3 Pipeline Project.

4           The permits are required for activities  
5 that are proposed to be located in, along, across or  
6 projected into a water course, floodway or body of  
7 water, including wetlands. And these Chapter 105  
8 publications are currently, as I said, under review by  
9 the Department at this time, under what we call  
10 technical review.

11           Transco submitted to the Department a  
12 Notice of Intent as required by the Pennsylvania Code  
13 and the PA Clean Streams Law to DEP for the  
14 construction and restoration of the right-of-way and  
15 access roads proposed for the Atlantic Sunrise Project.

16           The proposed Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline  
17 Project is designed to provide natural gas by  
18 connecting to existing regions in Northeast  
19 Pennsylvania, right here in our area, to markets in the  
20 Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern states. The proposed  
21 project will consist of compression and moving of the  
22 Transco pipeline in Pennsylvania, along with a  
23 greenfield pipeline referred to as the Central Penn  
24 Pipeline (sic) connecting the northeastern Marcellus  
25 existing region to the Transco mainline, near



1 Compression Station 195 in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

2 Additional existing Transco facilities  
3 are being added and will be modified to allow gas to  
4 flow bi-directionally. The proposed pipeline corridor  
5 will traverse ten counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania  
6 to the southern tier of Pennsylvania.

7 Notice of the Chapter 105 permit  
8 application and the erosion sediment control general  
9 permit Notice of Intent were published by DEP in the  
10 Pennsylvania Bulletin on Saturday, May 27th, 2017. And  
11 notice of this public hearing was published in the  
12 Pennsylvania Bulletin on Saturday, May 27th, 2017. And  
13 a notices about this public hearing were also published  
14 in newspapers, Wilkes-Barre Times Leader, The Citizens'  
15 Voice, and the Wyoming County Examiner on Saturday,  
16 May 27th, the same day.

17 DEP will accept written comments on  
18 these Transco applications through Monday, June 26th,  
19 2017. So anyone who hasn't had a chance to testify can  
20 - if you want submit a written comment, you can until  
21 Monday, June 26th. And I'll give you a little bit more  
22 information about that as we close out the hearing  
23 tonight.

24 Because this is a formal DEP hearing,  
25 personnel here tonight will not be answering any

1 questions. Instead, all of these comments or questions  
2 will be addressed in writing by the Department at the  
3 close of the public comment period, which as I said is  
4 Monday, June 26th.

5 We will prepare what is called a comment  
6 response document. Again, we will not be answering any  
7 questions tonight. We will only be accepting comments.

8 The public comment and the Department's  
9 response will be made part of the administrative  
10 record, which is available for review at DEP's  
11 Northeast Regional Office in Wilkes-Barre.  
12 Arrangements can be made to review the administrative  
13 record by calling (570) 826-2511 during regular  
14 business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday  
15 through Friday. The record can also be viewed by going  
16 online to DEP's website, clicking on the pipeline  
17 portal, and then clicking the Atlantic Sunrise tab.

18 For this hearing, though, we do have  
19 some ground rules. And I'd like to go over them a  
20 little so the hearing can be managed a little more  
21 quickly and efficiently, and so we can have your  
22 testimony heard. A couple -. I have about ten of  
23 them.

24 Please turn off your cell phone or put  
25 them on vibrate if you have them on. We want to hear

1 what everyone has to say. If you do have to take a  
2 phone call - I know I'm waiting to hear if my husband's  
3 baseball team won - if you can take it out in the  
4 lobby, that would be great. Thank you.

5 No signs in the auditorium. Thank you  
6 all for complying with that.

7 The hearing is for testimony only, no  
8 questions or presentations. Although you can  
9 submit -. If you have material with you, you can  
10 submit it up here. We'll put it as part of the public  
11 comment, public record.

12 If you would like to offer testimony  
13 when your name is called, please approach the  
14 microphone. There's one in each aisle. They do work.  
15 Earlier we tested them. Say and spell your name and  
16 give your testimony. Please speak loudly and clearly  
17 into the microphone so everyone can hear you.

18 We do have a stenographer who's taking  
19 notes, a transcript of the hearing. So if you could  
20 speak loudly enough, we would appreciate that.

21 Please don't interrupt when someone else  
22 is talking, speaking out, calling out, you know,  
23 hissing, booing or personal attacks. Please be  
24 respectful. We look like a good group here tonight. I  
25 don't think we'll have that problem. I know everybody

1 wants to hear what everyone else has to say, so we  
2 would appreciate that.

3           Each person will be offered three  
4 minutes to offer their testimony. I'm keeping time.  
5 I'll give you one minute, I'll put up my finger,  
6 pointer finger. Don't worry, you'll have one -. I'll  
7 give you one minute, and then 30 seconds I will ask you  
8 to wrap up your testimony.

9           Only one opportunity will be given for  
10 you to offer testimony. So you have that one chance.  
11 Please make it count. You cannot donate or give your  
12 time to someone else. You have that three minutes to  
13 say what you have to say.

14           Once you have finished the comment or  
15 your testimony, please return to your seat. Please, if  
16 you can, keep the comments focused on what we are here  
17 for tonight, the Chapter 102, 105 permit applications.  
18 I'm not going to warn you if you're getting off topic.  
19 These are your three minutes, so use them as wisely as  
20 you possibly can.

21           I reserve the right to deny anyone the  
22 opportunity to offer testimony if I feel you're not  
23 following the rules I just mentioned or you're  
24 determined to be a threat at all to meeting decorum or  
25 to participants' safety.

1                   I also reserve the right to have people  
2 escorted from the session, if they don't follow the  
3 rules or if they act in a threatening manner. We do  
4 have three security guards here tonight. Again, you  
5 look like a good group, I don't think we'll have a  
6 problem. When - I'll give you time queues. Please  
7 remember to stay on focus.

8                   I will go by whoever signed up first. I  
9 have a list of who signed up by e-mailing, calling or  
10 sending me a postcard. I got a postcard in the mail.  
11 And then I'll follow up with the people who registered  
12 at the hearing.

13                   So as soon as the first speaker speaks,  
14 we've got to close registration. If you do think you  
15 want to speak, you have about a minute or so to go  
16 register.

17                   Okay. Unfortunately I cannot ask you if  
18 you have any questions. We're just going to get right  
19 into the public hearing, the testimony portion. And  
20 I'll start off with the first person that registered,  
21 Diane Ward of Bradford County. Diane. And please, if  
22 you do have a copy of your testimony, you can leave it  
23 on the stage up here.

24                   Go ahead, Diane. Thank you.

25                   MS. WARD: My name is Diane Ward,

1 D-I-A-N-E, W-A-R-D. I live at 902 Grove School Road,  
2 Wysox, PA. And I am a Bradford County resident. And I  
3 am also a property owner in Wyoming Township,  
4 Tunkhannock Township and Braintrim Township. My  
5 properties are at Lake Carey and along the Susquehanna  
6 River. As a result of this, a lot of my focus is on  
7 the preservation of water resources in Wyoming County  
8 and beyond.

9                    Attachment E-2 of the Wyoming County  
10 permit documents details the current plan for 295  
11 impacts on Wyoming County water resources via pipeline  
12 crossings. The preponderance of these are open cut or  
13 dam and pump, with 12 crossing by conventional bore,  
14 two by flume and none by the HDD. The plan calls for  
15 the Susquehanna River to be crossed at Eaton Township  
16 by Coffe Dam.

17                    These appalling facts speak for  
18 themselves. No use of HDD? Coffe Dam crossing of the  
19 Susquehanna River? Should the DEP permit the crossing  
20 techniques as currently planned, this belies our  
21 state's commitment to the Chesapeake Bay cleanup.

22                    The use of long-range peak to peak HDD  
23 crossing at selected sites, at whatever expense, would  
24 save thousands of trees, prevent erosion, maintain  
25 water quality, retain viewscape and preserve continuous

1 forest lands. HDD crossings, when properly engineered  
2 and installed, do not blow out. An HDD crossing of the  
3 Susquehanna River would prevent sedimentation of the  
4 river during coffer construction, and put the Atlantic  
5 Sunrise Pipeline safely and very deeply below the river  
6 bottom, likely much deeper than planned with the coffer  
7 dam construction technique.

8           The alternatives document prepared by  
9 Williams did nothing to convince me that open cut, dam  
10 and pump, flumes and coffer dams are the way to go. In  
11 the absence of HDD, I would propose the do nothing  
12 option; scrap the project and avoid all environmental  
13 impacts.

14           Since that is not likely to happen, I  
15 strongly suggest HDD where there are forests to save,  
16 erosion to prevent, or sensitive locations where a  
17 deeper pipeline is safer. You pick the sites. But  
18 clearly the Susquehanna River is one of the crossings  
19 that deserves this treatment.

20           One of the inconsistencies that appalls  
21 me the most is that in the siting of this pipeline in  
22 the original packages, one of the basic siting  
23 principles stated by Williams for the project group,  
24 was to select a route where the Susquehanna River  
25 crossing was consistent with HDD. Look up their

1 original principles. The use of HDD for the river was  
2 implied to the public at that time. If HDD is not to  
3 be used, then the routing could potentially have been  
4 very different.

5 As far as I am concerned, Williams made  
6 a commitment to HDD when they included this factor in  
7 their routing principle and rationale and I am holding  
8 them to that commitment.

9 CHAIR: One minute.

10 MS. WARD: I have three additional  
11 concern areas, which I will just summarize. The first  
12 is the alternate Route 12A, which places the pipeline  
13 in the vicinity of Leonard Creek near State Route 309,  
14 with a blast building encompassing the Beaumont Inn,  
15 where weddings and other large events are conducted.

16 I am also opposed to any plans, stated  
17 or unstated, which may or may not exist to increase the  
18 use of the Chapin dehydrator as a result of this  
19 project.

20 CHAIR: Thirty (30) seconds.

21 MS. WARD: The Atlantic Sunrise Project  
22 is an unnecessary money-making project for the gas  
23 industry. It will sell gas, which is, in many cases  
24 being stolen from royalty owners who are not being  
25 afforded the protections of minimum royalty guarantees



1 of 12-and-a-half percent due them. HP557, the current  
2 Bill, has not yet passed.

3 CHAIR: Time's up, ma'am. Thank you for  
4 coming today.

5 MS. WARD: I have additional information  
6 I'd like to submit.

7 CHAIR: You can put it on the stage.  
8 Thank you.

9 Okay. We have Jerry George.

10 MR. GEORGE: Thank you. Jerry George,  
11 J-E-R-R-Y, G-E-O-R-G-E. I'm a resident of Ross  
12 Township, where pipeline is scheduled to go through it.

13 As a resident of Pennsylvania, I  
14 recognize the Commonwealth is in dire need of this  
15 project like the Atlantic Sunrise. The economic growth  
16 Pennsylvanians have enjoyed for the development of this  
17 Marcellus shale is exceptional, supporting thousands of  
18 jobs and investing millions into the state economy.  
19 Countless businesses have benefitted from the natural  
20 gas industry. And with products like the Atlantic  
21 Sunrise, more opportunities and benefits are on the  
22 horizon.

23 The Atlantic Sunrise would help create  
24 more opportunities in the region and beyond. I urge  
25 you to approve the Chapter 102 and 105 permits for the

1 Atlantic Sunrise Project without delay, which will  
2 drive new investment in Pennsylvania's future. By  
3 doing so, we will increase our national security while  
4 ensuring our own energy independence through advanced  
5 technology using local workers to develop a  
6 Pennsylvania resource. And pipelines like the Atlantic  
7 Sunrise are critical components to achieve American and  
8 Pennsylvania growth.

9           Thanks in large part to the growing  
10 natural gas industry, regional unemployment has dropped  
11 and future job growth over for next decade is expected  
12 to climb almost 40 percent. This is not even  
13 mentioning the thousands of dollars Williams has  
14 awarded in the area of non-profit organizations and  
15 first responders through grant programming.

16           Considering - considering the impact  
17 Atlantic Sunrise would have, it seems irresponsible to  
18 turn our back on this opportunity.

19           Williams has been working with the  
20 Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, PA  
21 DEP, for more than two years, providing the data and  
22 information needed for this permit.

23           CHAIR: One minute, sir.

24           MR. GEORGE: The Chapter 102 and 105  
25 permit applications reflect the cooperation and

1 collaboration Williams has demonstrated with  
2 Pennsylvania DEP, as well as federal and state  
3 permitting agencies, to avoid and minimize impacts to  
4 wetlands, waterbodies, and other sensitive  
5 environmental areas.

6 I'm going to say this is the time to  
7 build. Let's move this country forward and build  
8 Pennsylvania's infrastructure. Thank you.

9 CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

10 I apologize for how hot it is in here.  
11 I'm going to see if I can track down someone in the  
12 school to see what we can do about that.

13 Thank you, sir.

14 Next, we have Kevin Lynn.

15 MR. LYNN: Thanks. I thought it was a  
16 case of flop sweat. My name is Kevin Lynn, K-E-V-I-N,  
17 L-Y-N-N. I live at Harvey's Lake. I work for Linde  
18 Corporation. We do work for Williams and the other big  
19 energy suppliers.

20 But I'd also like to say that I'm a  
21 greenie. Okay? I would like the PA DEP to approve  
22 Chapter 102 and 105 permits.

23 And at the risk of incurring the wrath  
24 up there on the stage, I know this hearing is all about  
25 the Atlantic Sunrise and the specifics of these two

1 permits. But really this whole thing, folks, is about  
2 our future. Okay? And there's one question we have to  
3 ask. And that's, are we in five years going to need  
4 more energy or less? Okay. We're going to need more.  
5 I think we can all agree on that. The cloud, whatever  
6 that is, is kept aloft by electricity. And renewables  
7 aren't going to do it alone.

8                   Right now 14 percent of our energy  
9 supply, that keeps the lights on one day a week. But  
10 greener days are coming and better days are coming.

11                   Last year natural gas overtook coal  
12 nationally on the energy grid for electric generation.  
13 We all need -. We're using more natural gas now than  
14 we use coal, no matter what the grand orange guy in the  
15 White House would like us to do.

16                   Nowhere is that impact bigger than  
17 nearby at Penn State. In March of 2016, Penn State  
18 celebrated what they called their last day of coal.  
19 That's the day when 3,250 coal trucks a year, ten a  
20 day, stopped rolling onto the Penn State campus in  
21 order to power the campus. And 3,325 trucks of coal  
22 ash, about one a day, rolled off the campus with all  
23 that pollution.

24                   Now, it's not just coal. Nuclear power  
25 is also losing out to natural gas. And all over the

1 east, gas and electric prices are falling. And folks,  
2 so is pollution. Natural gas is the cleanest fossil  
3 fuel to work with. It's cheap. It's abundant. It's  
4 domestic. Marcellus shale gas -. And Marcellus shale  
5 gas is right under our feet here in Wyoming County.  
6 That's the big play for the future. It is forecast.  
7 Marcellus shale gas is forecast to supply more than  
8 50 percent of our natural gas needs by 2020, if we get  
9 out of the way and let them harvest it.

10 Let's approve this and head for the  
11 future. Thank you.

12 CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

13 Next, we have Tom Barnard.

14 MR. BARNARD: My name is Tom Barnard.

15 I'm from Hardy, Pennsylvania. I'm a registered  
16 professional engineer with over 25 years of experience  
17 in water resources and water quality. Most of my work  
18 is focused on identifying environmental impacts to  
19 surface waters and developing measures to mitigate  
20 these impacts.

21 I'm neither in favor nor opposed to the  
22 Atlantic Sunrise Project. My interests are ensuring  
23 that the pipeline is constructed and resulting in  
24 environmental impacts that are minimized to the maximum  
25 extent possible.

1                   Over the last five years, as a  
2 professional and local resident, I have been witness to  
3 the construction of four pipeline projects in Luzerne  
4 County. I have visited more than a dozen active  
5 construction sites and talked with many local residents  
6 in Williams. Published research as well as personal  
7 observation has shown that the greatest impact of  
8 surface water occurs during construction of stream  
9 crossings.

10                   I have never visited a pipeline  
11 construction site without noticing a violation of a  
12 regulation or permit condition. Examples include  
13 tracking of sediments from designated work areas,  
14 failed encroaching control structures, slopes of  
15 sediment-laden water from work areas, sweeping of  
16 substance from the surface waters and failed slopes.

17                   I have filed numerous complaints with  
18 DEP and have yet to see evidence of a single sanction  
19 of a contractor, the shutdown of a project or  
20 resolution of any situation in a timely manner. The  
21 most I ever got from DEP was a note saying that they  
22 talked to the contractor and he promised to stop doing  
23 what he was not supposed to do.

24                   I've reached the conclusion that DEP is  
25 either unwilling or unable to enforce its own

1 regulations. I served on Governor Wolf's pipeline  
2 infrastructure task force as a member of the  
3 conservation and natural resources work group. And I  
4 offered two recommendations. I'm going to skip those  
5 for the time, but they were recommendation numbers  
6 seven and eight. They had to do with monitoring and  
7 inspections, and the authority to shut down sites that  
8 are in violation.

9 CHAIR: One minute.

10 MR. BARNARD: Note, I believe that  
11 implementation of these two recommendations is  
12 necessary to ensure the minimization of adverse impacts  
13 of the surface water of Pennsylvania.

14 If DEP is unwilling to follow the advice  
15 of the task force, the Department should provide  
16 assurances that it can protect the environment.  
17 Organizations such as Trout Unlimited and other  
18 nongovernmental agencies and private citizens have  
19 taken over the responsibility of monitoring the  
20 construction projects.

21 I'm asking DEP to publish up-to-date  
22 schedules to allow citizens to visit, to monitor the  
23 sites as they see fit.

24 CHAIR: Thirty (30) seconds.

25 MR. BARNARD: And also that they keep

1 the public informed of any planned deviations from  
2 submitted and approved work plans published in a  
3 publicly-available format, including stream cross  
4 exemption, sediment control measures, pipeline  
5 alignment and construction and temporary work layouts.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

8 Again, I will remind mind you if you  
9 have written testimony, you can leave it up here now or  
10 after the hearing.

11 Robyn Kochan.

12 MRS. KOCHAN: I actually gave it to my  
13 husband.

14 CHAIR: Okay.

15 Walter Kochan, okay.

16 MR. KOCHAN: Walt Kochan, W-A-L-T,  
17 K-O-C-H-A-N, 11 Lake Catalpa Road, Dallas Township.  
18 I'm praying that the DEP denies the permits for 102 and  
19 105 for multiple reasons. And I thank this gentleman  
20 for what he just shared.

21 It's all fun and games until someone  
22 gets hurt. We hear from guys like Kevin Lynn and Jerry  
23 George, you know, let's make a buck, what the hell.  
24 That's what this is really about. This gas - like he  
25 said, this gas is going down to Louisiana for the feed



1 stocks of the Chinese, Taiwanese and the Japanese  
2 plastics industry.

3 All their talk about the benefit to  
4 Pennsylvanians is just that. It's just talk. It's  
5 just not - it's just not true.

6 My own interest in this is I live on  
7 approximately 16 acres in Dallas Township. And I'm  
8 surrounded on three sides with 45-degree side slopes.  
9 The only flat area is it front of my property. And in  
10 heavy rainfalls, right now, for many years where I've  
11 lived on the property 28 years to be exact, two state  
12 highways flood out.

13 When I had Williams come out there and  
14 look at this property, and we asked their engineer  
15 straight up, what are we going to do with all this  
16 water -? We already have two state highways flooded.  
17 Dallas Township has already written this - along with  
18 our hundreds of posting to Federal Regulatory  
19 Commission between my wife and myself.

20 Williams' response amazingly was, it's  
21 not our problem, it's yours. I can hardly imagine DEP,  
22 which is impossible to get a hold of to get a response  
23 from -. I mean, it's like a Third World country I'm  
24 dealing with.

25 It's hard for me to imagine you have any

1 faith in the ability of DEP to watch these guys go up  
2 on a mountain with three streams, which they told me  
3 are insignificant, and they really don't care much  
4 about, having any influence of making sure that this  
5 property isn't totally destroyed. I have three springs  
6 feeding into one feeding a pond underground to a second  
7 pond. And under a highway is a feeder stream to  
8 Leonards Creek and then into Bowman's Creek I've caught  
9 one of these surveyors on our property three times.

10 CHAIR: One minute.

11 MR. KOCHAN: Dead animals on our  
12 property. So they're so sneaky about it. After being  
13 caught twice, these people will go onto my land without  
14 their arms gear on so they can slip into the woods  
15 unseen.

16 I only pray -. I mean, I could take DEP  
17 to a dozen sites in Luzerne and Wyoming County -

18 CHAIR: Thirty (30) seconds.

19 MR. KOCHAN: - where property is  
20 decimating. Pastures that were once fertile and used  
21 for cattle grazing, no longer usable. Places where  
22 there was water, the cattle watering dried up. And  
23 landowners begging for relief for the last three years.

24 It took me -. It took me a year and  
25 thousands of dollars to merely get a map before I was

1 finally able to have Williams -

2 CHAIR: Time's up.

3 MR. KOCHAN: - remove this pipeline  
4 twice.

5 CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

6 Mr. Pete Butler.

7 MR. BUTLER: Hi, I'm Pete Butler,  
8 P-E-T-E, Butler, B-U-T-L-E-R. Tunkhannock resident for  
9 about 40 years. Just have a few comments tonight.

10 And I spent most of my career locally at  
11 Proctor & Gamble. And we worked with massive amounts  
12 of natural gas. And I've seen firsthand what a  
13 tremendous economic shot in the arm it is to have  
14 economic natural gas available for business.

15 This local plant in place well over  
16 2,000 people. And it wouldn't be there if we didn't  
17 have natural gas to use for a resource.

18 On the national picture, before joining  
19 P & G, I spent four years overseas as a combat  
20 engineer. Tens of thousands of other people served our  
21 country in that similar way. But my point is, many,  
22 many, many of the young folks that are overseas  
23 protecting our country are there largely to secure  
24 energy - affordable energy for us.

25 So now we have affordable energy under

1 our feet. And I feel very strongly we need to develop  
2 that resource for that reason, and economic benefits as  
3 well. But I also want it done responsibly. And I know  
4 Williams has worked with DEP to try to do that.

5 I have a pretty high opinion of  
6 Williams. They're locally headquartered here in  
7 Tunkhannock. I've had a lot of interactions with them.  
8 I found them to be professional and helpful and  
9 community-minded.

10 I have a compressor station about a  
11 quarter mile from my home. It doesn't cause any  
12 problems. It's not overly noisy or overly polluting,  
13 with lights or issues like that.

14 So I've seen Williams operate. I'm  
15 confident. I know safety is key to them, whether it be  
16 methods, inspections, ongoing monitoring. They have a  
17 good safety record.

18 I believe they use best available  
19 technology practices, as required by DEP. So I've  
20 spent my career working with natural gas. I respect  
21 it. And I know a lot of people are concerned about  
22 safety and so on.

23 CHAIR: One minute.

24 MR. BUTLER: But like any resource, if  
25 it's done properly with the right technology and

1 management. And I believe Williams is up for the task.

2 So just to summarize, I believe this  
3 project is good for the country. It's good for the  
4 region. It's good for our communities. I urge you to  
5 support moving forward to completion. And I want to  
6 thank you for letting me comment.

7 CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

8 William Emick. Mr. Emick, are you here?

9 Okay. William Burke? William Burke?

10 You back there?

11 Okay. Mr. Ed Burke? Ed Burke?

12 Grant Adams? Grant Adams?

13 Ed Coker? There you are.

14 MR. COKER: Hi, I'm Ed Coker, E-D,

15 C-O-K-E-R. I come here this evening as a member of  
16 Pipeliner's Local Union 798, to ask the Pennsylvania  
17 Department of Environmental Protection to approve the  
18 Chapter 102 and 105 permits for the Atlantic Sunrise  
19 Pipeline without any further delay.

20 Williams has proved that it has a record  
21 for safely operating the pipelines in our nation, as  
22 they touch more than 30 percent of our nation's gas  
23 supply. To continue to put this project off is costing  
24 the State of Pennsylvania jobs and increased tax  
25 revenue.

1                   As far as the environmental impact is  
2 concerned, Williams is going to spearhead communities  
3 by investing over two-and-a-half million dollars in  
4 local conservation projects. They have continued to  
5 work closely with this department, as well as the  
6 Forestry and Wildlife Services and have received a  
7 Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from  
8 FERC.

9                   Ad libbing a little bit to my written  
10 statement. It's proven, you can look it up, pipelines  
11 are the safest, most environmentally friendly way to  
12 transport natural gas. And it's going to be  
13 transported and it's going to be used because our  
14 country needs it.

15                   This project represents a nearly \$3  
16 billion investment, which will put Pennsylvania energy  
17 and people to work. Using our nation's natural  
18 resources reduces our dependence on foreign oil bought  
19 from countries which, quite frankly, don't like us.

20                   In closing, I am asking this department  
21 to make an investment as well by issuing these permits  
22 and put Americans workers first. Thank you.

23                   CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

24                   Rebecca Peterson.

25                   MS. PETERSON: I'm Rebecca Peterson,

1 R-E-B-E-C-C-A, P-E-T-E-R-S-O-N. I'm the director of  
2 operations for Tioga Environmental Consulting in  
3 Tunkhannock. We are a group of engineers and  
4 environmental scientists that design and permit well  
5 pads and pipelines. We also provide environmental  
6 inspections for well pads and pipelines during  
7 construction and post-construction.

8 We permit Chapter 102 and 105 permits  
9 for Williams. And we know that they are dedicated to  
10 routing pipelines and utilizing best management  
11 practices to minimize environmental impacts during the  
12 construction.

13 We know that the engineers and  
14 biologists at the Pennsylvania Department of  
15 Environmental Protection provide a careful technical  
16 review for all Chapter 102 and Chapter 105 permit  
17 applications to ensure that they meet applicable  
18 environmental requirements.

19 Williams has been working with the DEP  
20 for more than two years on the Chapter 102 and 105  
21 permit for the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline. And the  
22 current applications reflect the cooperation and  
23 collaboration Williams has demonstrated with DEP, as  
24 well as federal and state permitting agencies, to avoid  
25 impacts to wetlands, waterbodies and other sensitive

1 environmental areas.

2 We also provide environmental  
3 inspections for Williams. And we know firsthand how  
4 important the proper implementation -

5 CHAIR: One minute.

6 MS. PETERSON: - of permit requirements  
7 is to the country.

8 Tioga also knows firsthand how abundant  
9 and affordable natural gas has highly impacted the  
10 region.

11 My coworkers and I love this area. We  
12 want the best for the community and the environment.  
13 We are hunters and outdoor enthusiasts. And we know  
14 from professional and personal experience that  
15 pipelines provide safe gas transportation without  
16 negatively impacting resources or wildlife.

17 We call on the PA DEP to approve the  
18 Chapter 102 and 105 permits for the Atlantic Sunrise  
19 Project without delay.

20 CHAIR: Thirty (30) seconds.

21 MS. PETERSON: We believe it's critical  
22 that the Atlantic Sunrise Project be in service to  
23 ensure the economic stability and growth of the area  
24 and meet our energy needs. Thank you.

25 CHAIR: Thank you.



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Thomas Schachner.

MR. SCHACHNER: Good evening. Tom, T-O-M, Schachner, S-C-H-A-C-H-N-E-R. I'm here to speak in support of the Atlantic Sunrise Project.

The Atlantic Sunrise Project is designed to supply enough natural gas to meet the daily needs of more than 7,000,000 American homes by connecting producing regions in Northeastern Pennsylvania to the markets in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern regions.

I am an employee of Cleveland Brothers Equipment Company. Currently we have 27 locations throughout Pennsylvania and Northern Western Virginia. We are a family-owned and operated company founded in 1948. We employ over 1,200 people, both union and nonunion. And have invested in over a half a billion dollars in Caterpillar equipment and engines since 2010, supporting the oil and gas industry here in Pennsylvania.

Our company has close and long-standing supply relationships with pipeline contractors operating throughout Pennsylvania, including many of those who would be involved in this project. We provide them with the best available equipment with respect to productivity, reliability, safety and emissions control.

1                   The pipeline companies that will be  
2 doing the work on this project are known for employing  
3 best practices in the construction industry, including  
4 earth moving, material handling and land restoration.  
5 We provide 24 hours a day, seven days a week equipment  
6 support to ensure that the projects are not delayed due  
7 to equipment downtime.

8                   At stake in this project's approval are  
9 the jobs of many thousands of workers that support the  
10 production of natural gas and natural gas liquids in  
11 the shale formations across Pennsylvania. They cannot  
12 produce what cannot be transported to market because of  
13 lack of pipeline capacity. The Atlantic Sunrise will  
14 go a long way to help alleviate that constraint.

15                   CHAIR: One minute, sir.

16                   MR. SCHACHNER: Because of all the  
17 construction and energy production activities this  
18 pipeline will enable - communities throughout  
19 Pennsylvania will benefit from worker incomes earned,  
20 much of it spent locally. The resulting state and  
21 local taxes paid by workers and their employees will  
22 support public education, environmental programs,  
23 infrastructure, public safety and other state and local  
24 government operations.

25                   CHAIR: Thirty (30) seconds.

1                   MR. SCHACHNER: From an energy  
2 independence standpoint, projects like the Atlantic  
3 Sunrise will enable abundant, clean, affordable and  
4 domestic fuel to be provided across our state in a safe  
5 manner, while reducing our dependance on OPEC and other  
6 foreign governments for energy.

7                   This should be about safe and clean  
8 energy production and jobs, jobs for our children and  
9 our children's children.

10                   Thank you for this opportunity for me to  
11 support the pipeline project and the citizens of  
12 Pennsylvania.

13                   CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

14                   Subash Chandra. Mr. Chandra?

15                   Sandy Spencer.

16                   MS. SPENCER: Sandy Spencer, S-A-N-D-Y,  
17 S-P-E-N-C-E-R. Thank you for this opportunity to share  
18 my support of the Williams Transco Atlantic Sunrise  
19 Project.

20                   Often those who support a project  
21 respond to the environmental concerns with information  
22 about economic impact and jobs. I understand this  
23 really doesn't address the concern and I will focus on  
24 why I support this project from an environmental and  
25 safety viewpoint, along with other benefits.

1                   The dramatic resurgence of the United  
2 States as an energy superpower has provided tremendous  
3 economic and environmental benefits. Even as America  
4 is leading the world in oil and natural gas production,  
5 methane emissions have fallen, thanks to industry  
6 leadership and investment in new technologies. U.S.  
7 carbon emissions from power generation are now at  
8 nearly 30-year lows due to increased use of natural  
9 gas.

10                   Methane emissions from 1990 to 2015  
11 associated with the nature gas industry declined by  
12 18.6 percent, while U.S. natural gas production  
13 increased by more than 50 percent, according EPA and  
14 EIA data. This shows U.S. emissions of methane from  
15 the natural gas sector decreased noticeably during one  
16 of the largest increases in natural gas production in  
17 the nation's history.

18                   Furthermore, America's oil and natural  
19 gas industry continues to lead all other industries in  
20 zero and low-carbon investments. Between 2000 and  
21 2014, the oil and natural gas industry invested \$89.9  
22 billion in such investments, more than double that of  
23 the next largest private sectors.

24                   In a dynamic, innovation-driven industry  
25 like energy, we should be careful not to adopt

1 regulations that prevent technological improvements or  
2 stray from opportunities for investments that could  
3 deliver environmental benefits and consumer savings for  
4 years to come.

5                   Some of the technologies that have been  
6 improved and adopted over the past several years  
7 directly benefit the pipeline industry and environment.  
8 Engineers and environmental scientists work to define  
9 routes and methods with the least amount of impact, and  
10 then follow best practices for installation and  
11 restoration.

12                   CHAIR: One minute.

13                   MS. SPENCER: Safety for people working  
14 on the project, people who will be living nearby, and  
15 the general population is always foremost in the minds  
16 of those who operate the pipelines. I've had direct  
17 experience working with Williams and they take extra  
18 precautions to protect and preserve the environment,  
19 assure safety for all and support and respect  
20 communities where they are operating.

21                   Although zero impact is always the goal,  
22 with any project there will be some impact. As our  
23 world works to become less dependent on fossil fuels, -

24                   CHAIR: Thirty (30) seconds.

25                   MS. SPENCER: - renewable energy options

1 also have environmental impacts. Electric cars are  
2 powered by the very electric that is created in large  
3 percentage by natural gas. Wind turbines and solar  
4 panels are made with products created with natural gas.  
5 The harnesses and ropes that safely hold and support  
6 the rock climber who is enjoying the beauty of the  
7 great outdoors are made with products that include  
8 natural gas.

9 In closing, I'm happy to offer my  
10 support for this project. And I encourage DEP without  
11 delay to approve it.

12 CHAIR: Thank you, ma'am.

13 Jim Spak. If you want to raise that up,  
14 you can. There you go.

15 MR. SPAK: Believe it or not, when I was  
16 in ninth grade I was only five feet tall. Then all of  
17 a sudden I started growing. But that was 50 years ago.

18 My name is Jim Spak. I'm from Ashley,  
19 Pennsylvania and I want to make my comments right now.

20 Since the Pennsylvania Department of  
21 Environmental Protection has set this hearing for  
22 public comment on the proposed Atlantic Sunrise  
23 pipeline, I feel compelled to offer my observations on  
24 this project.

25 This pipeline is part of a major

1 national network for continued promotion and use of  
2 fossil fuels which are dramatically increasing our  
3 manmade contributions to climate change. Many people  
4 don't realize the immense political and economic power  
5 that's concentrated in the hands of the people who  
6 control and run the fossil fuel industries.

7                   And despite the significant attempts at  
8 public relations and green-washing, the fact remains  
9 that natural gas is a significant contributor to  
10 potential catastrophic effects of unchecked climate  
11 change. If this multibillion dollar fossil fuel  
12 infrastructure is successfully completed, it's going to  
13 mean more nails in the coffin of Mother Earth.

14                   Unfortunately our new President and  
15 leadership in Congress have their heads in the sand  
16 foolishly cheerleading as the United States pulled out  
17 of the Paris Climate Accords.

18                   The technology is here for green energy,  
19 clean and sustainable, with a zero-carbon footprint.  
20 The decisions we make now will determine whether or not  
21 our children and grandchildren will bless us for making  
22 prudent, courageous and wise decisions to preserve the  
23 future of our planet, or will they curse us for letting  
24 the last great chance we had slip through our hands?

25                   The people who are profiting from a

1 continued use of fossil fuels, their children and  
2 grandchildren are going to suffer the same as the rest  
3 of us. I just hope they can open our eyes to make a  
4 wise decision to make clean, sustainable transfer to  
5 zero emissions -

6 CHAIR: One minute.

7 MR. SPAK: - zero human carbon footprint  
8 and clean sustainable life that can save the planet for  
9 further generations. Thank you.

10 CHAIR: Thank you. Mr. Spak, if you  
11 want to leave your comments up on the stage, you can or  
12 you can wait until after the hearing. It's up to you.

13 Barbara Clifford? Barbara Clifford?

14 Doug McLinko. Thank you.

15 MR. MCLINKO: Doug McLinko, D-O-U-G,  
16 M-C-L-I-N-K-O. I'm the Commissioner in Bradford  
17 County. I'd like to go over some of the pipeline  
18 installed in Bradford County. Natural gas has been  
19 processed straight from God himself there.

20 Transportation-wise, we see 41 miles of  
21 Tennessee pipeline, 24 inch. We have 30 - 23 miles of  
22 30 inch Tennessee pipeline. We have two miles of 30  
23 inch Tennessee loop.

24 Gathering lines we have -. This is  
25 what's built, 148 miles of six-inch line, 62 inch (sic)



1 of eight inch line - 62 miles of eight-inch lines.  
2 Eighty-three (83) miles of ten-inch lines. 286 miles  
3 of 12-inch lines. 152 miles of 16-inch lines. And  
4 then 45 miles of 20-inch lines, 47 miles of 24-inch  
5 line.

6                   And you folks have done a nice job  
7 overseeing it and ensuring it's responsibly installed.  
8 So built lines is 823 miles, plus a Tennessee proposed  
9 gathering line, I'm sorry. We have 200 - just over 200  
10 miles.

11                   Bottom line is, if we laid all the  
12 pipelines together, we would reach Florida. We have no  
13 problems, they've been installed -. We don't have  
14 eminent domain, so people have worked with their  
15 neighbors to install them. And again, you guys at DEP  
16 have done a good job making sure they're put in safely.

17                   With billions of cubic feet of gas  
18 flowing through Bradford County a year and with over a  
19 thousand miles installed and proposed gas lines in  
20 Bradford County constructed and being built with  
21 virtually no problems. In fact, the gas lines were  
22 installed with the help of neighbors helping neighbors  
23 and citizens helping their community, state and nation.  
24 It is very important to note that natural gas pipelines  
25 can be installed with little or no issues.

1                   The Tennessee pipeline has been in  
2 Bradford County for 50 years. There's billions - tens  
3 of billions of cubic feet of gas a year that goes  
4 through that gas line. In fact, it goes across my  
5 uncle's farm and recently has been looped, as I have  
6 said, again installed with no opposition and no  
7 problems to increase the flow of natural gas. It was  
8 done quickly, safely and has billions of cubic feet of  
9 gas that goes through.

10                   My home has a gas line across the front  
11 of it, with no problems. I do not own the mineral  
12 rights to that and we are happy to have that there.  
13 Wildlife flourishes. We cut hay. And it's just no  
14 problem whatsoever.

15                   CHAIR: One minute.

16                   MR. MCLINKO: We are very happy to help  
17 our community. Pennsylvania needs to be able to move  
18 gas, create jobs to have low energy prices for home use  
19 and for a very healthy tax revenue.

20                   I will conclude with the patriotic part  
21 of our God-given resource. Energy is a geopolitical  
22 weapon. As we see terrorism across the globe and right  
23 here in our country, we must understand that these  
24 people, terrorists, are funded through middle eastern  
25 energy. Through energy independence, we can stand

1 alone in America.

2 We will have alternative energy some  
3 day, but today we have this at our feet. Let's use it.  
4 I encourage Chapter 102 and 105 permits. Let's get  
5 this Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline going.

6 Thank you, folks, very much for the work  
7 that you do.

8 CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

9 Again, ladies and gentlemen, it is a  
10 little hot in here, I'm going to try to move this  
11 along.

12 We tried contacting the School District,  
13 I don't know if that worked, if we got in touch with  
14 anybody, but apparently not. I apologize.

15 Is it Ed Smith? Mr. Smith? First on  
16 the list, there you are.

17 MR. SMITH: Good evening, everyone. My  
18 name is Ed Smith, S-M-I-T-H. I reside in the Town of  
19 Springfield, outside of the Town of Springfield,  
20 Pennsylvania for the past 26 years full time.

21 I came here when I was nine years old.  
22 My family before me - 1957. But the last 25 years I  
23 lived here full time. My wife and I are retired. We  
24 run a small cattle ranch. We are owners of three  
25 properties in Susquehanna County.

1                   We are presently engaged with a pipeline  
2 that was installed six years ago and it runs across our  
3 land. We have no complaints. We are very satisfied.  
4 The wildlife as well as the cattle, love the new grass,  
5 they did an excellent job. Everything was clean,  
6 professional and well done, according to schedule.

7                   We, if anything, need to thank them more  
8 rather than complain. They did an excellent job.

9                   I would like just like to say a few  
10 words about natural gas and the Atlantic Sunrise  
11 Pipeline Project. I would greatly support and am here  
12 to support the permits to be approved by the Department  
13 of Environmental Conservation for the permits number  
14 102 and 105. If that is possible, we would love to  
15 have that happen.

16                   I think by now we are all aware of what  
17 natural gas is and its advantages. There's no reason  
18 to waste more time on that. I believe the time has  
19 come for us all to agree to share this abundant natural  
20 resource with other states and other countries.

21                   The Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline can make  
22 this all possible, providing both a useable resource  
23 and prosperity, not only to this wonderful state of  
24 Pennsylvania that we live in - and our future children  
25 will grow here as well -

1                    CHAIR: One minute.

2                    MR. SMITH: - other states and other  
3 countries as well, by all the jobs it will create.  
4 Please support this well-needed project and help bring  
5 natural gas to the front line of energy.

6                    Thank you very much for your time.

7                    CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

8                    Josh Brucher, B-R-U-C-H-E-R, Brucher.  
9 You submitted, sir?

10                   MR. BRUCHER: Yes.

11                   CHAIR: You don't wish to testify?  
12 Okay. Thank you.

13                   Dave Horn.

14                   MR. HORN: Good evening. My name is  
15 Dave Horn, D-A-V-E, H-O-R-N. And I'm here as a member  
16 of the Laborers' International Union of North America.  
17 Some of my members are here now, but it's hot in here  
18 and they have been working 10 to 12-hour days, so they  
19 may be out catching a little bit of air.

20                   But I'm here to testify in favor of the  
21 Sunrise Project and urge the approval of the 102 and  
22 105 permits. Pipelines have already been proven the  
23 safest and most effective method of moving natural gas  
24 for consumers.

25                   Currently, Williams pipe has more than

1 30 percent of the nation's natural gas, transporting  
2 to new markets across the country. We had to secure  
3 all necessary permits and have begun production of  
4 Atlantic Sunrise in other states. So we understand the  
5 role that federal and state regulators play in  
6 protecting the health and safety of the citizens, as  
7 well as the environment, including our wildlife.

8           After receiving the Certificate of  
9 Public Convenience and Necessity from FERC in February  
10 of 2017, Williams is on the verge of the last remaining  
11 permit to begin construction in Pennsylvania. The  
12 outstanding Chapter 102 and 105 permits, for which  
13 applications were first submitted in 2015, were among  
14 the final approvals needed to move this project  
15 forward.

16           The 102 and 105 permit applications  
17 reflect the collaboration and cooperation Williams  
18 and - Williams has demonstrated with DEP, as well as  
19 the federal and state regulations to avoid or minimize  
20 the impact to wetlands, waterbodies and other sensitive  
21 environmental areas.

22           Williams has committed to implementing  
23 the best standards and practices during construction  
24 and restoration to mitigate potential impacts  
25 associated with installation of this project. It has

1 dedicated full time environmental inspectors that will  
2 be employed during construction to oversee and ensure  
3 that Williams best management practices are  
4 implemented, and the project complies with applicable  
5 regulatory permit and approval conditions.

6           According to FERC, the environmental  
7 impact statement, no long-term effects on surface  
8 waters are anticipated as a result of construction and  
9 operation of this project. The company has also  
10 avoided and minimized impacts to wetlands through  
11 infield rerouting, adjustment and reducing the project  
12 and disturbance where possible.

13           CHAIR: One minute.

14           MR. HORN: There will be no loss of  
15 wetland acreage as a result of construction.  
16 Pennsylvania will benefit from the Atlantic Sunrise  
17 approval which will span ten counties from the  
18 Susquehanna down to Lancaster.

19           Once operational, the new pipeline will  
20 remain - will be maintained and operated according to  
21 procedures outlined in the Williams Transco pipeline  
22 Integrity Management Program. These procedures, many  
23 of which exceed minimum federal industry regulations,  
24 include monitoring 24 hours a day seven days a week.

25           Quite simply, natural gas is essential

1 to the quality of life that many of us take for  
2 granted. Pennsylvania has an opportunity now to  
3 strengthen and build on a strong energy infrastructure.  
4 The Atlantic Sunrise Project will create important jobs  
5 and foster continued growth in the -.

6 CHAIR: Thirty (30) seconds.

7 MR. HORN: On behalf of the men and  
8 women of LIUNA, I urge the DEP to approve Chapter 102  
9 and 105 permits. Thank you.

10 CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

11 Bill Ellry, E-L-L-R-Y.

12 MR. KELLEY: Bill Kelley speaking.

13 CHAIR: Bill Kelley. I should have  
14 pronounced - it was Kelley. Bill Kelley, okay. Well,  
15 there is a K in it.

16 Thank you. Go ahead.

17 MR. KELLEY: Good evening. My name is  
18 Bill Kelley, Sr. That's B-I-L-L, K-E-L-L-E-Y.

19 I am the owner and founder of Taylor  
20 Rental BX3. We have been here for 11 years and we have  
21 been partnering up with the gas industry for those last  
22 eight or nine years.

23 Since they've come to the area, our  
24 business has grown from a father-son business to two  
25 locations, one in Wyoming County on Route 6 and one in



1 Montrose. We have been able to bring up to 35 families  
2 into our payroll and get benefits before ObamaCare, due  
3 to the gas industry. It has been a great blessing for  
4 us.

5 We enjoy about 60 percent of our revenue  
6 from the gas industry and related contractors. And we  
7 have found them to be very, very respectful, hard  
8 working and a lot of integrity, and good people to work  
9 with.

10 Williams has been an exceptional  
11 corporation. I consider it to be great corporate  
12 people, as far as -. I've worked in communities with  
13 them. I've worked with them on projects. I've been to  
14 seminars with them and found they always try to do the  
15 right thing. And I'm here to support them.

16 The other thing I want to share with you  
17 is when we don't have the gas leaving, recessions come  
18 very strongly. We had a wonderful growth 2013, '14,  
19 then when it started nosediving, it nosedived hard. We  
20 just couldn't seem to get out of it.

21 The Constitution up in New York, they  
22 didn't get approved due to political reasons and other  
23 things. But due to the fact it didn't get approved,  
24 there are a couple trucking companies up there putting  
25 compressor stations in and running hundreds of trucks a

1 day up into New England.

2                   If this -. I'm not suggesting this may  
3 happen, but the market's going to do what the market's  
4 going to do. And one of the things I think, it's a lot  
5 more responsible for us to send it through the pipeline  
6 to a multibillion dollar corporation that always does  
7 the right thing and always tries to. Thank you.

8                   CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

9                   Ken Landes?

10                  MR. LANDES: Hi. My name is Ken Landes,  
11 K-E-N, L-A-N-D-E-S. I'm a resident of Tunkhannock  
12 Borough and a landowner in Susquehanna County and I  
13 have some comments on Williams and natural gas  
14 activity.

15                   In the last eight years it's had a low  
16 impact. When they've gone through streams, we haven't  
17 seen any problems. The projects look good afterwards.  
18 There's follow-up. There's constant follow-up from  
19 trucks from Williams and other people making sure the  
20 projects are correct. So is monitoring on a regular  
21 basis.

22                   One of the things - comments somebody  
23 said about trees being cut down. What I see is, yes,  
24 we lose some trees from the pipeline, but many of the  
25 land owners are no longer cutting lumber, so you're

1 seeing more mature trees, more mature forests. You're  
2 also seeing better seeing better stewards of the  
3 environment. Landowners have more money, so they're  
4 doing more things for the environment, more wildlife,  
5 that will improve the community. So I see it as a good  
6 thing overall to approve 102 and 105.

7                    CHAIR: Thank you, sir.  
8                    Veto Barziloski. Sorry, I hope I  
9 pronounced that correctly.

10                   MR. BARZILOSKI: Good evening. I would  
11 like to thank you folks for coming in on this nice  
12 almost summer evening. My name is Veto Barziloski,  
13 spelled V-E-T-O, Capital B, A-R-Z-I-L-O-S-K-I. I'm the  
14 president of Bennies Nurseries, Incorporated, a local  
15 landscaping - landscaping company and environmental  
16 restoration company. Family owned and operated for  
17 85 years this year.

18                    We've had the privilege over the last -  
19 well, my lifetime, of working with DEP, soil  
20 conservation, NCRS, forestry, several other agencies on  
21 different projects. And we thank you for the efforts  
22 that you folks put into these things.

23                    We've all heard brief testimony about  
24 the Atlantic Sunrise and I'm a hundred percent for it.  
25 Our company is a hundred percent for it. So rather

1 than expound on the importance of this pipeline, which  
2 many have already done, I'd like to give testimony to  
3 the company that's actually constructing this line,  
4 that's the Williams companies.

5                   We host -. I'm going to speak with two  
6 hats, a landowner hat, and a contractor, for the  
7 company hat. As a landowner, we host over a mile of  
8 pipeline leased and operated by Williams. In fact,  
9 starting in 2011 they have been fantastic.

10                   I was skeptical to begin with. Working  
11 in the environmental industry, I was skeptical to begin  
12 with. But even as of today, they monitor. They have  
13 done everything -. They follow all permits. They've  
14 done everything great, actually.

15                   And I think we have a real good rapport  
16 with them across our properties. As a contractor, to  
17 sum it up in a nutshell, they do not allow us, as a  
18 contractor, any margin of error. You folks are  
19 enforcing that.

20                   CHAIR: One minute, sir.

21                   MR. BARZILOSKI: You folks are enforcing  
22 that. And they know that. And working with several -  
23 several engineers, environmental engineers inspectors,  
24 we sense a true respect for the environment. They want  
25 to do what is right.

1                   And we urge you folks to go ahead and  
2 get all you need together to get these permits through  
3 so construction can be started. And we thank you.

4                   CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

5                   Paul Rowker, Rowker (changes  
6 pronunciation).

7                   MR. ROWKER: I didn't register.

8                   CHAIR: Okay.

9                   MR. ROWKER: I don't have a comment. I  
10 signed in and I apologize.

11                   CHAIR: That's okay. That's okay. If  
12 not, that's fine, sir.

13                   Amy Jacoby? Miss Jacoby, if you're  
14 here?

15                   Okay. LeAnn Buchanan? Last name is  
16 Buchanan, I think it's LeAnn. LeAnn Buchanan.

17                   I'm sorry, Ann Buchanan? I think the  
18 name before it -. Okay.

19                   All right. Dale Shupp? There you go.

20                   MR. SHUPP: Dale Shupp, D-A-L-E,  
21 S-H-U-P-P. I come before you -. I am president of the  
22 Wyoming-Lackawanna Farm Bureau here. And we are very  
23 much in favor, because if you have seen, this gas  
24 business, has been the best thing for farmland  
25 preservation and has not cost the government one penny.

1                   You see the farmers have got money,  
2 they're upgrading their farms. They're buying new  
3 equipment and everything in that respect. So the open  
4 ground and agriculture is our number thing in the  
5 state. So it's keeping that open ground and keeping  
6 things going, so -.

7                   I do have pipeline run across me - on  
8 me, it went under the Susquehanna River. I was very  
9 skeptical when they started talking about drilling the  
10 river, man, but it was a fantastic job. Couldn't  
11 believe the guy when he drilled out there beside the  
12 river at 2,300 feet. He knocked a stake right out of  
13 the ground.

14                   As long as farmers come, this gas  
15 business has been a blessing, because they were really  
16 struggling and in bad shape.

17                   And then that's all. I'm looking  
18 forward to seeing this thing go forward. Thank you.

19                   CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

20                   Okay. Paul Casparno, Casparro? Okay.  
21 There we go.

22                   MR. CASPARRO: Thank you for allowing me  
23 to speak. My name is Paul Casparro, P-A-U-L,  
24 C-A-S-P-A-R-R-O. I'm the business manager for the  
25 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local

1 Union 81, Scranton, Pennsylvania.

2 I call on the Pennsylvania DEP to  
3 approve the Chapter 102 and 105 permits for the  
4 Atlantic Sunrise Project without delay. Creating an  
5 economic environment that encourages private investment  
6 and creates job, while balancing the health and safety  
7 of the public and the environment should be a top  
8 priority.

9 Undoubtedly, permitting and regulation  
10 play a key role in every infrastructure and economic  
11 development project, however, there must be a balance.

12 Pipelines are proven to be the safest  
13 and most efficient method to move natural gas for  
14 consumers. Williams has operated safely in the state  
15 for decades and currently touches more than 30 percent  
16 of the nation's natural gas, transporting it to markets  
17 across the country.

18 After receiving a Certificate of Public  
19 Convenience and Necessity from the Federal Energy  
20 Regulatory Commission in February 2017, Williams is on  
21 the verge of securing the last remaining state permits  
22 to begin construction in Pennsylvania. Specifically,  
23 Atlantic Sunrise has undergone an unprecedented amount  
24 of regulatory and public review.

25 The time to build is now, the time to

1 approve Atlantic Sunrise is now. Thank you.

2 CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

3 Okay, that is our last speaker who  
4 registered for the evening.

5 MS. FINAN: I'm sorry, I signed up  
6 online.

7 CHAIR: Your name? Kelly, you did.  
8 Come on down. I do remember you. Kelly Finan.

9 MS. FINAN: So as you know, my name is  
10 Kelly Finan, spelled, K-E-L-L-Y, F, as in Frank,  
11 I-N-A-N. I live in Hop Bottom, which is Susquehanna  
12 County, which is where this pipeline is going to begin.

13 As a resident of Susquehanna County, I  
14 oppose the building and operation of the Atlantic  
15 Sunrise Pipeline. The natural gas that will supply the  
16 pipeline starts its journal beneath my feet in  
17 Susquehanna County. The demand for gas that it creates  
18 will increase the number of hydraulically fractured  
19 wells, compressors, dehydrators and pipelines in our  
20 rural community that is unprotected by any zoning.

21 Several recent public health studies  
22 show correlation between natural gas extraction in  
23 Pennsylvania and significant health impacts to  
24 residents. In other words, and I can't emphasize this  
25 enough, natural gas extraction is already harming the



1 health of my neighbors, family and friends.

2                   Allow me to cite a couple of sites. A  
3 published peer reviewed paper by the University of  
4 Pittsburgh and Columbia University compared public  
5 health records for Wayne County, where there is no  
6 fracking, to my county, Susquehanna, and to Bradford  
7 County, where there is obviously fracking. They found  
8 there were significantly more hospitalizations per  
9 capita in both my county and Bradford County when  
10 compared to Wayne County since 2007, when fracking  
11 began in this region.

12                   The paper's authors attributed the new  
13 hospitalizations to the natural gas extraction,  
14 particularly cardiac issues from the increase of  
15 airborne particulate matter from diesel engines.

16                   If that doesn't chill everyone in this  
17 room to the bone, perhaps this will. A second study  
18 funded by The Pittsburgh Foundation, published in the  
19 Journal of Environmental Protection, showed that since  
20 fracking began, the number of infant deaths in the  
21 first 28 days of life rose 29 percent in ten heavily-  
22 fracked Pennsylvania counties. That includes my  
23 county, by the way. During the same time, infant  
24 deaths in the rest of the state dropped by two percent.

25                   A third study that took place in

1 Southwestern Pennsylvania agreed. It linked the low  
2 birth weights and babies that are small for their  
3 gestational age to their mother's proximity to the  
4 natural gas wells.

5 I'm not even including the data on  
6 compressor stations, which will be scattered along the  
7 length of this pipeline, where they will likely emit  
8 volatile organic compounds into the air.

9 CHAIR: One minute.

10 MS. FINAN: I want to emphasize that two  
11 of the three studies that I've cited used public health  
12 data from my county since fracking began there.

13 I'm not speculating about the future.  
14 The emissions from fracking are hurting the  
15 cardiovascular systems of my family, my neighbors and  
16 my friends right now even as I make this testimony.  
17 The babies born to some of my friends and neighbors  
18 will weigh less and are more prone to cancer and other  
19 illnesses thanks to the extraction in my county.

20 Some people support the industry because  
21 of the potential to create job.

22 CHAIR: Thirty (30) seconds.

23 MS. FINAN: But I'm choosing human  
24 health over jobs. I would like to close by reminding  
25 the DEP that one of the rights of a Pennsylvania

1 citizen, specifically detailed in Article 1,  
2 Paragraph 27 of the Commonwealth Constitution is the  
3 right to clean air, pure water and the preservation of  
4 the natural, scenic, historic and aesthetic values of  
5 the environment.

6 My township and my county have been  
7 unable or unwilling to guarantee this right, perhaps  
8 the State will. Thank you.

9 CHAIR: Thank you.

10 Okay. I'll ask this question. Is there  
11 anyone who did preregister, whether out front or by  
12 e-mail or phone call that I haven't called on yet, that  
13 you preregistered? Anyone at all?

14 Okay. Now I can safely say that will  
15 conclude our public hearing for this evening, Monday,  
16 June 12, 2017. I want to note for the record that  
17 representatives of the Pennsylvania Department of  
18 Environmental Protection were present to hold this  
19 hearing.

20 As a reminder, the public comment  
21 hearing for the permit application, Chapters 105 and  
22 102, closes Monday, June 26, 2017. If you wish to  
23 submit questions or comments between now and then,  
24 please feel free to use the resources and information  
25 out front.

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Thank you for being here. Have a good  
night. Please drive safely. Thank you.

\* \* \* \* \*

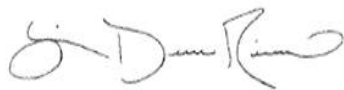
HEARING CONCLUDED

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings,  
hearing held before Chair Connolly was reported by me  
on 06/12/2017 and I Lindsey Deann Richardson read this  
transcript and that I attest that this transcript is a  
true and accurate record of the proceeding.



Lindsey Deann Richardson,  
Court Reporter