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1. COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
2. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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4 IN RE: ATLANTIC SUNRISE PIPELINE PUBLIC HEARING

5 \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

1. BEFORE: MEGAN LEHMAN, Chair
2. MARCUS KOHL, Member
3. DAVID GARG, Member
4. JOSEPH BUCZYNSKI, Member
5. PAMELA DOBBINS, Member
6. MICHAEL LUCIANI, Member
7. HEARING: Tuesday, June 13, 2017
8. LOCATION: Bloomsburg High School
9. 1200 Railroad Street
10. Bloomsburg, PA 17815
11. WITNESSES: Thomas Shepstone, Dennis Wydra,
12. Kevin Lynn, Fred Gaffney, Sierra Shamer,
13. Wayne Poncheri, Robert McQuay, John Walker,
14. Dean Marshall, Ed Coker, Carl Marrara,
15. Chris McCue, Tom Jamieson, Abraham Amoros,
16. Jason Fink, Linda Dietrichson, Ed Gillet,
17. Bob Garrett, Sandy Walker, Ed Hill
18. Any reproduction of this transcript
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20. by the certifying agency

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* 1. Paul McCormick, Marion Menapace,
  2. Tammy Murphy

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4 Reporter: Lindsey Deann Richardson 5 \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

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

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1. MS. LEHMAN: Good evening, everyone.
2. Thank you for coming this evening. My name is Megan
3. Lehman. I am the community relations coordinator for
4. the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental
5. Protection's North Central Regional Office located in
6. Williamsport. And which also covers this county.
7. Tonight we're here to hold a formal public hearing on
8. Chapter 105 and Chapter 102 permits submitted to DEP
9. for the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline project. Which is
10. proposed by Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company, LLC,
11. otherwise known as Transco. These applications are
12. currently under technical review by DEP.
13. Thank you for coming tonight. And thank
14. you to the staff of Bloomsburg High School for hosting
15. us this evening. I'd like to introduce from DEP,
16. starting with my immediate left, Marcus Kohl, North
17. Central Regional Director. David Garg, environmental
18. program manager for water ways and wetlands in the
19. North Central Office. Joe Buczynski, environmental
20. program manager for waterways and wetlands in the
21. Northeast Regional Office. Pam Dobbins, permit chief
22. for waterways and wetlands in the Northeast Office.
23. And finally, Mike Luciani, senior civil engineer in the

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1. Northeast Regional Office.
2. The proposed Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline
3. project is designed to supply natural gas by connecting
4. gas producing regions in Northeastern Pennsylvania to
5. markets in the mid-Atlantic and Southeastern states.
6. The proposed project will consist of compression and
7. looping of the Transco Leidy Line in Pennsylvania,
8. along with the Greenfield pipeline segment, referred to
9. as the Central Penn Line connecting the Northeast
10. Marcellus producing region to the Transco main line
11. near station 195 in Southeastern Pennsylvania.
12. The proposed pipeline corridor will
13. traverse ten counties from Northeastern Pennsylvania to
14. South Central Pennsylvania. Existing - in existing
15. Transco facilities are being added and modified to
16. allow gas to flow bi-directionally.
17. The specific permits DEP is seeking
18. comment on tonight are the Chapter 105 water
19. obstruction and encroachment permit applications, and
20. Chapter 102 erosion and sediment control, general
21. permit for earth disturbance associated with oil and
22. gas exploration, production, processing, or treatment
23. operations, or transmission facilities known as the
24. ESCGP-2, notice of intent or NOI.
25. The Chapter 105 permits are required for

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* 1. activities that are proposed to be located in, along,
  2. across, or projecting into a watercourse, floodway, or
  3. body of water, including wetlands. The Chapter 105
  4. permits will be issued by DEP on a county by county
  5. basis.
  6. The Chapter 102 ESCGP-2 permit addresses
  7. erosion and sedimentation issues during construction of
  8. the right-of-way, compression stations, and proposed
  9. access roads. The ESCGP-2 permit also addresses post
  10. construction storm water controls, and restoration of
  11. the right-of-way, compression stations and access
  12. roads.
  13. Again, tonight we are here to hold a
  14. formal public hearing. We will take testimony in the
  15. form of comments from those who are registered to
  16. speak. You must be registered if you wish to present
  17. testimony tonight. All comments from the public,
  18. including those offered here in person, and those
  19. provided to DEP in writing, which can be sent via
  20. e-mail or postal mail by June 26th, will carry the same
  21. weight. If you wish to make a formal comment tonight
  22. and have not yet registered, please go to the table
  23. outside the auditorium and sign up with the DEP
  24. representative. We will close registration when we
  25. begin with the first for person in a few moments.

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* + 1. Because this is a formal public hearing
    2. on record, DEP personnel here tonight will not be
    3. answering any questions at this time. Instead, all
    4. comments or questions will be addressed in writing by
    5. the Department after the close of the public comment
    6. period, in what is called a comment and response
    7. document. Again, DEP will not respond to any comments
    8. or questions during this hearing tonight.
    9. And just so that you are aware, because
    10. of that, when folks are speaking, we tend to keep
    11. straight faces and look fairly stoic. And we want you
    12. to understand, we are listening. That's why all of us
    13. are here tonight, including technical staff that are
    14. working directly on the permits. So because DEP is a
    15. neutral party, we do not, you know, visually respond to
    16. what's being said. But just rest assured it is being
    17. heard and understood.
    18. The public comments and the Department's
    19. response will be made part of the administrative
    20. record, which will be available for review at DEP's
    21. North Central Regional Office in Williamsport, and also
    22. the Northeast Regional Office in Wilkes-Barre.
    23. Arrangements can be made to review the
    24. administrative record by calling either of those
    25. offices, phone numbers are available outside on the

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1. table, during regular business hours. The record can
2. also by viewed online by going to DEP's website, by
3. clicking on the pipeline portal, and then clicking the
4. Atlantic Sunrise tab.
5. So for tonight's hearing, we have set
6. some ground rules. These ground rules are meant to
7. allow the hearing to be managed effectively. And also,
8. respectfully for all parties. And allow for your
9. testimony, and that of your fellow citizens to be
10. heard.
11. First of all, please turn off cell
12. phones or put them on vibrate. And if you have to take
13. a call, please step outside of the auditorium
14. immediately. No signs may be held up or displayed
15. inside the auditorium. The hearing tonight is for
16. testimony only, not questions or presentations,
17. although you can submit additional material for the
18. record.
19. I will call on people to speak in the
20. order in which they signed up. When your name is
21. called, please approach the microphone in the center of
22. the aisle, say and spell your name for the record, and
23. give your testimony. Please speak loudly and clearly
24. into the microphone so that everyone can hear you.
25. Unless your name is called, please do not approach the

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1. microphone or speak out of turn. Please be respectful
2. of everyone's opportunity to be heard. Don't interrupt
3. while others are speaking. And that does include
4. clapping, booing, or other forms of sound.
5. Each person will be allowed three
6. minutes to offer testimony. We will keep the time and
7. hold a warning sign as the speaker approaches the end
8. of their time. When your time is up, I will say time.
9. And if the speaker does not stop when asked at the end
10. of three minutes, the microphone may be turned off.
11. Once you finish your testimony, please
12. hand your written comments, if you have them if you'd
13. like. You don't have to do that. And then return to
14. your seat. One opportunity will be given to offer
15. testimony per person. And you cannot donate or offer
16. unused time to another speaker.
17. We reserve the right to deny anyone the
18. opportunity to testify if they don't follow these
19. rules, or if they're determined to be a safety hazard
20. or disturbance to meeting decorum. We also reserve the
21. right to have people escorted from the building for the
22. same reason if they act in a manner that disturbs
23. others or interrupts this hearing.
24. Finally, we reserve the right to
25. terminate the hearing if we feel that participants are

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1. not following the rules, or acting in an unruly manner
2. that does create a safety hazard. Thank you for your
3. corporation with all of these ground rules.
4. We'll now begin the hearing.
5. Registration for this hearing is officially closed.
6. Again, we are here to receive comments on the Chapter
7. 105 and 102 permit applications. I will call you up in
8. order to speak. And also as I read each name, I'll
9. call the next couple of people so that folks can get
10. ready, and that they're aware that they're on deck.
11. Remember again, please state and spell
12. your name clearly so our stenographer can understand
13. it. Okay. And the first speaker tonight is Thomas
14. Shepstone. Thomas is followed by Dennis Wydra, and
15. Kevin Lynn.
16. MR. SHEPSTONE: Thank you. My name a
17. Thomas A. Shepstone, S-H-E-P-S-T-O-N-E. And thank you
18. for this opportunity. I'm a consulting planner with
19. over 40 years of experience consulting with businesses
20. and communities in Northeastern Pennsylvania. I also
21. publish a blog supporting natural gas because I see
22. what it's done economically for our region and our
23. nation. And I'm here tonight with what I hope will be
24. taken as constructive criticism, because I know your
25. intentions are to be fair.

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* 1. However, Atlantic Sunrise permit
  2. applications under Chapters 102 and 105 should be
  3. approved by DEP for a very simple reason. And it is
  4. that any DEP decision with respect to Chapters 102 and
  5. 105 should simply be a matter of technical compliance.
  6. Period. Both chapters consist of very specific
  7. criteria and standards, which shouldn't be influenced
  8. by public opinion as to anything but compliance with
  9. those criteria and standards.
  10. Significantly in this regard, both
  11. Chapters provide only that the Department may, at it's
  12. discretion, hold a public hearing. Hearings aren't
  13. mandatory because the subject is technical, not
  14. political. The regulations moreover do not provide for
  15. multiple hearings, but rather a hearing on each
  16. application. This strongly suggests what is going on
  17. in this case is a little more - is a little more than
  18. DEP providing a public ranting opportunity for those
  19. who wish to attack the applications. Although, I have
  20. to say, I don't think that's the intent. And I think
  21. the two hearings held so far were probably more pro
  22. than negative.
  23. Still as a supporter of the project,
  24. there's very little for me to say other than to point
  25. out that the Atlantic Sunrise Project has been

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1. extensively reviewed by both FERC and DEP. And the
2. applications clearly meet the Chapter 102 and 105
3. requirements.
4. Project opponents though will probably
5. be here tonight, and they have been at previous
6. hearings, and at three more completely unnecessary
7. hearings to attack the project and everything
8. imaginable. Having nothing to do whatsoever with
9. Chapters 102 and 105. They'll talk about their
10. opposition to fossil fuels, their hatred of the oil and
11. gas industry, and their ideology. But very little
12. about Chapter 102 having to do with erosion and
13. sedimentation control, or Chapter 105 having to do with
14. dam safety and water waste management.
15. I urge DEP to simply follow its own
16. rules. If it does so, there's no basis for anything
17. but an approval of the Atlantic Sunrise Project. The
18. voluminous materials submitted to both FERC and DEP
19. document compliance to the enth-degree. I further urge
20. DEP to not enable pipeline project opponents by
21. conducting redundant public hearings in the future that
22. serve no purpose, other than to allow those opponents
23. to vent with a view toward getting media coverage of
24. their antics. The regulations are straightforward.
25. Just enforce them. Thank you.

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* 1. MS. LEHMAN: Next up is Dennis Wydra,
  2. followed by Kevin Lynn and Fred Gaffney.
  3. MR. WYDRA: Thank you. I strongly
  4. support approval of the Pennsylvania DEP's Chapter 2
  5. and Chapter 5 permits for water obstruction
  6. encroachment and erosion and sediment control for the
  7. Williams ASP project. This company has worked with DEP
  8. and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for over
  9. two years to meet all their rigorous requirements.
  10. Williams has made for than 400 modifications of the
  11. pipeline route. And now has 25 percent of that route
  12. of existing right-of-ways.
  13. FERC is now on the record that the
  14. construction of the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline will not
  15. negatively impact water quality or supply during or
  16. after construction. Full-time environmental inspectors
  17. will oversee construction to insure compliance with
  18. required regs. Williams will avoid and minimize
  19. impacts to wetland through routing adjustments, and by
  20. reducing the project limits of disturbance where
  21. possible. There will be no loss of wetland acreage and
  22. wetlands within the permit of right-of-way. They will
  23. be simply converted to forest and PSS vegetation to PEM
  24. and PSS vegetation types.
  25. PennDOT makes wetland litigation a

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* + 1. normal environmental practice while constructing new
    2. roads without any adverse impact. And Williams will do
    3. the same meeting DEP's stringent requirements. The ASP
    4. route will have no adverse impact on watershed it
    5. traverses. Their environmental construction plan will
    6. have almost no impact on the Susquehanna and Chesapeake
    7. Bay watersheds.
    8. FERC's impact statement concluded, given
    9. the impact of Williams minimization and mitigation
    10. measures proposed by Transco, as well as our
    11. recommendations, we conclude that the construction and
    12. operation of the project will not have a significant
    13. adverse affect on wildlife, including migratory birds.
    14. And U.S. Fish and Wildlife has concluded it will not
    15. have any adverse impact on bald eagles or the bog
    16. turtle. Actually, pipelines have a very positive
    17. affect on wildlife habitat, as it opens new natural
    18. food plots for deer and turkey after replanting, with
    19. up to eight different varieties of seeds depending on
    20. what the experts determine the soil conditions warrant.
    21. I have successfully geared - I led most
    22. of my life to pipeline in McKean and Delaware Counties.
    23. It's important to note that it affords a critical place
    24. to permit handicap hunters, both young and old, a
    25. better place to hunt than walking through the forest.

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1. I included a photo of my handicap stepson. And he
2. couldn't walk through the forest, but he hunted through
3. many years along pipelines up above the Mansfield
4. Wal-Mart.
5. One of the neat things about pipelines
6. is run off. Run off will have no negative impact from
7. the pipeline, as the construction route will be
8. restored to original contours and revegetated like
9. never before. When you look closer at the photo in my
10. testimony, you'll find that it actually provides better
11. run off protection than the forested floor. And I'm
12. going to say this. It's not in here, but pipelines
13. have better run off protection than 50 percent of our
14. state forest and our state game land.
15. MS. LEHMAN: Your time is up, sir.
16. MR. WYDRA: Thank you. Appreciate it.
17. MS. LEHMAN: Okay. Next up is Kevin
18. Lynn, followed by Fred Gaffney, Sierra Shamer, and
19. Wayne Poncheri.
20. MR. LYNN: Hi. Thanks for letting me
21. speak. My name is Kevin Lynn, K-E-V-I-N, L-Y-N-N. I
22. live not too far from here at Harvey's Lake. And I
23. work for the Lindy Corporation. We do lots of work for
24. Williams. I'm also a greenie. I also would like the
25. PA DEP to approve Chapter 102 and Chapter 105 permits

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1. for the Atlantic Sunrise project.
2. Tonight you're going to hear lots of
3. people talk about the stringent standards that Williams
4. sets for projects, they do. They're tough. They're
5. just like greenies would expect. And there are lots of
6. well-meaning people here who are worried about the
7. environment. I am here to tell you that Williams is
8. also very worried about the environment. But I want
9. talk to you tonight about the future for about two
10. minutes. The future of energy, you know, the big
11. picture.
12. I have one question. Going forward,
13. folks, five years out, will we need more energy or
14. less? I think most of agree we're going to need more
15. energy. The cloud, whatever that actually is, it's a
16. little too young for old guys like me. The cloud is
17. kept aloft by electricity. I know that much. We're
18. going to need more energy. And renewables enough are
19. not going to do it. Renewables right now comprise
20. 14 percent of our energy supply. That keeps the lights
21. on only one day a week. And folks, that's no way to
22. head toward the future. So we need more energy and we
23. need it clean. And that's where natural gas comes in.
24. Natural gas is the cleanest fossil fuel
25. in the world. It's 50 percent cleaner that the coal

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1. our President Orange loves so much. And folks, the
2. news is really good. Every day that we use natural gas
3. to power our country, we're not using coal. And every
4. time we shut down a coal plant and change it over to
5. natural gas, the air gets cleaner. Every time Williams
6. expands its capacity, it's good news for us. It's
7. happening more and more.
8. Last year natural gas overtook coal as
9. the number one fuel for electric generation in this
10. country. The air is getting cleaner every day. And
11. nowhere is that more obvious than nearby Penn State.
12. In March of 2016, Penn State celebrated their, quote,
13. last day of coal, end quote. After 150 years of
14. burning coal to power Penn State, they've switched to
15. natural gas.
16. Once last year 3,250 coal trucks a year,
17. almost ten a day, rumbled under the Penn State campus
18. with their dirty fuel. 325 ash trucks a year, almost
19. one a day, left the campus with their filth.
20. Everything is better. In 2011, the Penn State Energy -
21. campus energy system operated at 72 percent. That's
22. going to improve to 80 percent, which is twice the
23. efficiency of the electric grid. This is happening all
24. over the country. And it's all because we have more
25. natural gas.

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* 1. Natural gas is the cleanest fossil fuel.
  2. I said that. Natural gas is also cheap, abundant, and
  3. domestic, which means we're not enriching a single tin
  4. horn dictatorship. More than that, this gas is
  5. Marcellus gas. It's from under our feet just north of
  6. here in Northeastern Pennsylvania. We are literally
  7. fuelling our own growth with a domestic supply that
  8. could last 100 years.
  9. The future is cleaner, cheaper, and
  10. safer because of natural gas. Let's embrace that
  11. further and pass the Chapter 102 and 105 permits.
  12. Let's get to the future sooner rather than later.
  13. Thank you.
  14. MS. LEHMAN: Frank Gaffney.
  15. MR. GAFFNEY: Good evening. My name is
  16. Fred Gaffney. That's G-A-F-F-N-E-Y. I'm the President
  17. of the Columbia-Montour Chamber of Commerce, which
  18. represents approximately 500 organizations throughout
  19. Columbia and Montour Counties and beyond. The
  20. Columbia-Montour Chamber of Commerce works to
  21. strengthen the region's economy by supporting existing
  22. employers, as well as encouraging new business
  23. development.
  24. As such, our organization has researched
  25. the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline project. We've met with

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1. representatives of the project and conducted
2. independent research of natural gas pipeline
3. construction and safety in general. This research
4. indicates that modern pipeline technology provides
5. among the safest methods of transporting natural gas.
6. Specific to this project, Williams has
7. demonstrated its concern property owners and the
8. environment with the adoption of more than 400 route
9. modifications affecting over 60 percent of its original
10. route. Following a comment period from our membership,
11. the Chamber's Board of Directors adopted the following
12. resolution. Whereas Pennsylvania's natural gas
13. industry is a major economic driver in the Commonwealth
14. through job creation, directly related to gas
15. extraction and transportation, lower utility costs and
16. revenues.
17. And whereas Pennsylvania's natural gas
18. reserves are projected to be able to serve current and
19. future demands within the Commonwealth with significant
20. surplus or export for decades.
21. And whereas the current infrastructure
22. within Pennsylvania is insufficient for the safe and
23. economical transportation and distribution of
24. Pennsylvania's natural gas supply to all markets,
25. including residences and businesses within the

1 Commonwealth.

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And whereas state and federal regulatory

1. agencies proclaim the modern pipelines to be the safest
2. method of transporting natural gas.
3. Now therefore be it resolved that the
4. Board of Directors of the Columbia-Montour Chamber of
5. Commerce supports the expansion of Pennsylvania's
6. natural gas transportation and distribution pipeline
7. infrastructure through a responsible collaboration with
8. property owners for the benefit of the citizenry, and
9. Commonwealth - and the economy of the Commonwealth.
10. Williams has supported dozens of
11. community organizations and conservations projects in
12. our area. If approved, the Atlantic Sunrise project is
13. expected to support 2,300 jobs, and generate $1.6
14. billion in economic activity during the construction
15. stage. We believe this project would be beneficial to
16. our region and the Commonwealth as a whole. Thank you
17. for the opportunity to provide comment.
18. MS. LEHMAN: Okay. Next is Sierra
19. Shamer, followed by Wayne Poncheri and Robert McQuay.
20. And just to remind everyone, please spell your name, as
21. well.
22. MS. SHAMER: Hi. My name is Sierra
23. Shamer, S-H-A-M-E-R. First name S-I-E-R-R-A. I'm a

23

1. community organizer and environmental scientist.
2. There are glaring issues with the
3. construction plans as proposed by Transco. They failed
4. to discuss the watershed impact in detail and ignore
5. the cumulative impacts of constructing a natural gas -
6. a large natural gas transmission line through Central
7. Pennsylvania.
8. The Atlantic Sunrise will require
9. hundreds of new unconventional wells, which will impact
10. air-water quality for thousands of residents throughout
11. Pennsylvania, as evidenced by DEP's oil and gas
12. complaint records. The numerous wetlands, wetland
13. streams, and rivers crossings, will cause erosion and
14. sedimentation issues. Especially because the majority
15. of these crossings will impact the surface. They will
16. not be constructed via horizontal directional drilling.
17. This project will result in only harm
18. for Central Pennsylvania, its environment, and its
19. residents. DEP should re-evaluate and deny these
20. permits. And re-evaluate also the 401 water quality
21. certificate.
22. New York State has denied the water
23. quality certificate for similar natural gas pipelines
24. due to impacts to water quality, particularly of high
25. quality streams. Similar high quality streams and

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1. watershed exist in Pennsylvania. Please consider these
2. facts when assessing the 102, 105 permits, and 401
3. water quality certificate. Thank you.
4. MS. LEHMAN: Next is Wayne Poncheri,
5. followed by Robert McQuay and John Walker.
6. MR. PONCHERI: Hi. My name is Wayne
7. Poncheri, W-A-Y-N-E, P-O-N-C-H-E-R-I. I am the chief
8. executive officer of Abbey Road Control in Drums,
9. Pennsylvania. I am for the approval of the pipeline.
10. And while the Atlantic Sunrise pipeline project will
11. bring many good jobs to our area, it also will be a
12. tremendous boost for the entire economy along the path
13. and for our nation as a whole.
14. James Ricard, who is an economy advisor
15. for the Pentagon and the intelligence communities of
16. the United States has said the benefits of interstate
17. pipeline will be transformed and hundreds of thousands
18. of jobs are created in the actually pipeline
19. construction. And more jobs can come from connecting
20. to large natural gas from keynotes, allowing natural
21. gas organizations to be placed at existing facilities.
22. The economic boost would be immediate
23. and transformative. Many more jobs are created through
24. the conversion of vehicles from gasoline to natural
25. gas. Dependence on foreign oil would end. And U.S.

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1. trades deficit would evaporate to zero. The
2. environmental benefits are obvious, as natural gas
3. burns cleaner than diesel or gasoline.
4. According to the Chamber of Commerce,
5. who just spoke, more pipelines need to be built in the
6. Northeastern United States. And if we ignore this
7. need, 78,000 jobs will be lost in our quarter of the
8. country. Another 7.6 billion in GEP will be lost.
9. A lot of the opponents to the pipeline
10. speak of safety. But I don't think they give enough to
11. what the alternatives would be, which would also be
12. pulling the gas and having to shove them by truck or
13. rail. And of the ways to ship gas, the only truly safe
14. way is by ship on the ocean. Second is pipeline, which
15. is much safer than trucks or rail. And I think this
16. needs to be considered. Thank you.
17. MS. LEHMAN: Robert McQuay. Mr. McQuay,
18. followed by John Walker, Dean Marshall and then Ed
19. Coker.
20. MR. MCQUAY: Robert McQuay, M-C-Q-U-A-Y.
21. Thank you for this opportunity to share my support for
22. the Williams Transco Atlantic Sunrise project. Often
23. those who support a project will respond to the
24. environmental concerns with information about economic
25. impact and jobs. I understand this doesn't really

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1. address the concern. And I will focus on why I support
2. this project from an environmental and safety
3. viewpoint, along with other benefits. The dramatic
4. resurgence of the United States as an energy superpower
5. has provided tremendous economic and environmental
6. benefits. Even as America is leading the world in oil
7. and natural gas production, methane emissions have
8. fallen thanks to industry leadership investing in new
9. technologies. U.S. carbon emissions from
10. power-generation are now at nearly 30-year lows due to
11. increase use of natural gas.
12. Methane emissions from 1990 to 2015
13. associated with the natural gas industry declined by
14. 18.6 percent, while U.S. natural gas production
15. increased by more than 50 percent, according to EPA and
16. EIA data. This shows U.S. emissions of methane from
17. the natural gas sector decreased noticeably during one
18. of the largest increases in natural gas production in
19. the nation's history.
20. Furthermore, America's oil and natural
21. gas industry continues to lead all other industries in
22. zero and low carbon investments. Between 2000 and
23. 2014, the oil and natural gas industry invested $89.9
24. billion in such environments. More than double that of
25. the next largest private sectors.

27

* 1. In a dynamic, innovation-driven industry
  2. like energy, we should be careful not to adopt
  3. regulations that prevent technological improvements or
  4. shrink opportunities for investments that could deliver
  5. environmental benefits, and consumer savings for years
  6. to come.
  7. Some of the technologies that have been
  8. improved and adopted over the past several years
  9. directly benefit the pipeline industry and the
  10. environment. Engineers and environmental scientists
  11. work to define routes and methods with the least amount
  12. of impact. And then follow best practices for
  13. installation restoration. Safety for people working on
  14. the projects, people who will living nearby, and the
  15. general population is always foremost in the minds of
  16. those who operate the pipelines.
  17. I've had direct experience working with
  18. Williams. And they take extra precautions to protect
  19. and preserve the environment, assure safety for all,
  20. and support and respect communities where they are
  21. operating.
  22. Although zero impact is always the goal,
  23. with any project there will be some impact. As our
  24. would works to become less dependent on fossil fuels,
  25. renewable energy options also have environmental

28

1. impacts. Electric cars are powered by the very
2. electric that is created in a large percentage by
3. natural gas. Wind turbines and solar panels are made
4. with products created with natural gas. The harness
5. and ropes that safely hold and support the rock climber
6. who's enjoying the beauty of our great outdoors are
7. made with products that include natural gas.
8. In closing, I'm happy to offer my
9. support for this project. I appreciate the many
10. opportunities and benefit it brings to my community,
11. including economic benefits, increase in jobs,
12. increased business, and lower energy costs, while
13. knowing Williams will do it right. I'm convinced they
14. care. Thank you.
15. MS. LEHMAN: Okay. Next up is John
16. Walker, followed by Dean Marshall.
17. MR. WALKER: I sincerely hope that you
18. won't count my time to get up here as part of my three
19. minutes.
20. MS. LEHMAN: Of course we will not. We
21. don't start the time until after you spell your name.
22. MR. WALKER: This looks like a lot and
23. it is a lot. You've given me three minutes to speak
24. about what I have spent three years researching. My
25. name is John Walker. And I don't think there's any way

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1. you can misspell that.
2. Now, these documents are reflective of
3. what I found out, a few things about Williams and
4. Transco. Transco in 1991, was fined by FERC $11
5. million as a result of a violation of FERC rules. And
6. that was the largest fine ever levied at that time. In
7. 1996, Williams bought Transco. And in 2002, Williams
8. was fined $20 million which was the largest fine ever
9. levied at that time by FERC.
10. Now, I tell you those things because
11. there is a long list of violations. And the reason I'm
12. telling you this, rather than addressing it directly
13. what you have called us here tonight to do, is because
14. there's a lot, either that you don't know, or that you
15. don't care about. Because there are 40 incidents -
16. well, let me start back at the beginning. There are 88
17. incidents that Williams found it necessary to report
18. from 1986 to the early part of the - to the 1990s.
19. They have acted to obfuscate their poor practice.
20. Now, you've heard wonderful things about
21. them tonight. I didn't find that out. I found out
22. lots of things that were not wonderful. And I will be
23. sending to you, the documents that I've found. I've
24. got a list of questions that haven't been answered.
25. I've got the Atlantic Sunrise project by Key-Log

30

1. Industries, who have found a lot of costs that FERC has
2. not even considered. And you, as the keeper of our
3. environmental protection, have responsibilities in all
4. of these areas. You are not here to talk about that
5. tonight.
6. But let me tell you, this is a report of
7. the accident at Unityville. They have reported that it
8. was stress cracking was the accident. They also
9. reported that they reversed the bi-directional
10. pipeline, that they had been warned about immediately
11. before the explosion. By immediately, I mean in 2014.
12. The explosion happened in 2015. And in 2015, they
13. reversed the direction of the pipeline. And in
14. 12 hours and 6 minutes, it exploded. And they said it
15. had been increasing the pressure throughout the day.
16. MS. LEHMAN: Your at time, sir.
17. MR. WALKER: And said nothing about what
18. they had done. Nobody was watching. There's lots
19. more. I'll send it to you.
20. MS. LEHMAN: Next is Dean Marshall,
21. followed by Ed Coker, Carl Marrara, and Chris McCue.
22. MR. MARSHALL: Is the mic on? My name
23. is Dean Marshall, D-E-A-N, M-A-R-S-H-A-L-L. My home is
24. along Fishing Creek just down the stream from the
25. triple Williams Transco pipeline Leidy loop crossing.

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1. On the evening on June 9th, 2015, one of three parallel
2. Transco pipelines ruptured along a 30-foot longitudinal
3. seam near Unityville, PA and spewed high pressure gas
4. for over an hour after the nearest values were closed.
5. Thankfully there was no explosion and evacuated
6. residents were allowed to return home after a few
7. hours.
8. As Williams proceeded to investigate the
9. cause, which they later reported as corrosion and
10. stress cracking, and hydrotest the repairs, other leaks
11. occurred in nearby locations. These were not promptly
12. reported, if at all, until inquiries were made to the
13. Press Enterprise by myself and other concerned area
14. residents.
15. The lines in question are 40 to 50 years
16. plus old. And cross several wetlands and high volume
17. streams in the Fishing Creek watershed. One must
18. wonder if, aside from the risk of accidents during
19. construction, this much larger and higher pressure
20. line, will there be ongoing risk of watershed damage
21. for its service life? Will those risks increase as the
22. line ages? Will storms, erosion, settling, and
23. shifting earth increase the risks? Are these factors
24. taken seriously in the permitting process?
25. I also think about to Labor Day weekend

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* 1. in 2012 when my partner and I were alerted about a flow
  2. of green drilling or cutting mud flowing down Loyalsock
  3. Creek from the Marc one pipeline construction site,
  4. upstream from Worlds End State Park. We drove there,
  5. took still photos and video of the creek bed chocked
  6. with green slime, and called DEP to report it. Several
  7. others made calls as well. The releases continued
  8. sporadically over the long holiday weekend.
  9. DEP assured us in a callback that it
  10. was, quote, merely sediment from the stream that
  11. stirred up by an open cut crossing near Ringdale, about
  12. ten miles upstream. I would like to know today that if
  13. DEP grants Williams Atlantic Sunrise LNG export
  14. project, water and wetland crossing permits, and there
  15. are, quote, accidents, end quote, in the construction
  16. phase or any time during service, will DEP simply
  17. downplay or cover up the impacts?
  18. I ask you today to think carefully and
  19. take into consideration that you, along with this
  20. company, which by the way has an abysmal safety record,
  21. will be held accountable. This project has no benefit
  22. to Columbia County, yet contains generations of ongoing
  23. risks. Our watershed is a true source of property
  24. value, economic benefit, and scenic beauty enjoyed by
  25. residents and visitors. Thank you.

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* + 1. MS. LEHMAN: Ed Coker.
    2. MR. COKER: Hi. My name is Ed Coker,
    3. C-O-K-E-R. I'm here to tonight as a member of the
    4. Pipeliners Local Union 798 to urge the DEP to issue the
    5. Chapter 102 and 105 permits necessary for Williams to
    6. construct the Atlantic Sunrise pipeline.
    7. I'd like to point out at this time, that
    8. Williams has awaited patiently the issuance of these
    9. permits since 2015, when the applications were first
    10. submitted. Williams does have a proven record, again
    11. and again of being a responsibile operator of
    12. pipelines, friends of the communities they go through,
    13. and a champion of the environment.
    14. They have worked with the DEP, FERC, and
    15. the Foresty and Wildlife Services to ensure they meet
    16. all criteria necessary for the construction of this
    17. project. In addition to that, they have voluntarily
    18. donated over two and a half million dollars to local
    19. conservation projects. And I've got a whole written
    20. statement. I kind of want to get off it a second.
    21. This is what I do for a living, as is
    22. some other people in here, other labor unions that are
    23. here. And we've worked for Williams. We know their
    24. high quality standards. We have to adhere to them or
    25. we're not employed. So I just want to point that out.

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* + - 1. Natural gas is here. It is what's going
      2. to make our country independent of nations that don't
      3. like us. They just don't like us. And we need natural
      4. gas. Everybody in this room is affected by natural gas
      5. whether you realize it. From the chairs you're sitting
      6. in right now, to the air-conditioning you're enjoying.
      7. In the wintertime, the heat, the cars
      8. you drive in, the umbrellas you cover your head with in
      9. the rain, every bit of that is touched by natural gas.
      10. And if we're ever going to build our energy
      11. independence, we've got to build these pipelines now.
      12. Yes, there are older pipelines in existence, that's
      13. probably time they be replaced. And I'm all for that.
      14. These pipelines are being built with the
      15. latest technology, the highest grade pipe, to the
      16. highest standards. And being held to more regulations
      17. than ever before. So I'm going to skip for rest of
      18. this. And I'm just going to say, I urge you to please
      19. without any further hesitation approve these permits,
      20. so we can make Pennsylvania and the United States
      21. energy independent. Thank you.
      22. MS. LEHMAN: Next is Carl Marrara,
      23. followed by Chris McCue, Tom Jamieson, and Abraham
      24. Amoros.
      25. MR. MARRARA: Thank you very much. My

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* + - * 1. name is Carl Marrara, C-A-R-L, M-A-R-R-A-R-A. And I'm
        2. with the Pennsylvania Manufacturer's Association based
        3. in Harrisburg, but actually grew up in Danville. The
        4. last time I was actually in this building, I took my
        5. SATs. And I'm hoping today goes a lot better than that
        6. day went.
        7. We are a state-wide not-for-profit
        8. organization that represents the people who make things
        9. here in our Commonwealth, representing 560,000 hard
        10. working Pennsylvanians on plant floors. And supporting
        11. millions more through supply chains, and distribution
        12. networks, and vendors of industrial services. I'm
        13. honored to be here today. Respectfully asking the
        14. Pennsylvania DEP to approve Chapter 102 and 105 permits
        15. for the Atlantic Sunrise project without delay.
        16. Manufacturers depend on affordable
        17. natural gas and gas byproducts to remain globally
        18. competitive. Natural gas demand is poised to increase
        19. by 40 percent over the next decade. And the
        20. researchers of the National Association of
        21. Manufacturers found that the key drivers will be in
        22. manufacturing and power generation.
        23. Therefore, it's projects such as the
        24. Atlantic Sunrise project that are so vitally important
        25. to the productive sector of our Commonwealth's economy.

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Affordable gas is simply not getting to

network with approximately 25 to 30 percent of

Marcellus wells drill to date still not having pipeline

take away capacity. Projects such as the Atlantic

Sunrise Project open and expand these markets,

stabilizing the energy industry that is so vitally

important to manufacturers throughout our Commonwealth.

The economic impact will have lasting

results far for beyond the construction of the pipeline

and the manufacturing sector. According to a recent

study completed by IHS Economics, increase supply of

natural gas, especially at lower delivering prices

enhances competitiveness of economy by making them more

attractive to manufacturing that are intensive users of

natural gas, such as chemicals, paper and metals. The

close proximity of existing consumers of manufacturing

establishments to increase natural gas supplies can

generate new pipeline-related economic development.

In a nutshell, the combination of

increased access to shale gas and transmission lines

that move affordable energy to manufacturers across

America meant 1.9 million jobs in 2015 alone. The

United States federal government recognizes that

pipelines are the safest method for transporting

energy. Modern pipelines use cutting edge technologies

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1. such as the Atlantic Sunrise Project are the safest of
2. all.
3. While public safety and welfare are
4. paramount, it seems like this project has been vetted
5. time and time again. It's time to move forward. As a
6. Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic
7. Development commissioned a study recommending that
8. Pennsylvania take aggressive action to address
9. potential development in infrastructure constraints
10. proactively. This includes investing in suitable sites
11. to accelerate development, and support MGL pipeline
12. infrastructure and storage capacity.
13. These actions are critical to insuring
14. Pennsylvania is in a position to development long-term
15. job creating manufacturing opportunities.
16. Pennsylvania's natural gas revolution is giving our
17. manufacturers new momentum with abundant,
18. cost-competitive energy. But to fully realize the
19. potential of shale gas, Pennsylvania needs to robust
20. infrastructure transmission, which is why we urge you
21. to approve today. Thank you.
22. MS. LEHMAN: Okay. Next up is Chris
23. McCue, followed by Tom Jamieson, Abraham Amoros, and
24. Jillian Lashmett.
25. MR. MCCUE: Chris McCue, C-H-R-I-S,

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* 1. M-C-C-U-E. Good evening. I'm Chris McCue. I'm vice
  2. president of Borton Lawson Engineering. Borton Lawson
  3. is a 160-person engineering firm with offices in
  4. Wilkes-Barre, Bethlehem, and Pittsburgh. For the past
  5. nine years, we have been providing engineering and
  6. environmental consulting services for natural gas
  7. lines, including Williams.
  8. During that time we have worked with
  9. numerous facets of Williams organization and found the
  10. performance and standards related to design practices,
  11. environmental compliance, and safety to be exemplary.
  12. On behalf of Borton Lawson, we respectfully request the
  13. Department to work to expedite the review and approval
  14. of the Chapter 102 and Chapter 105 permit applications
  15. for the Atlantic Sunrise Project for the following
  16. reasons.
  17. First, FERC issued the final EIS for the
  18. project concluding that environmental impacts would be
  19. reduced to less than significant levels with
  20. implementation mitigation measures proposed for the
  21. project. Williams has made numerous adjustments to
  22. more than half of the route to address concerns
  23. identified by landowners, public officials, and the
  24. permitting agencies. This collaborative approach
  25. demonstrates their desire to balance the needs of the

1 environment.

2

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Williams has demonstrated it's

1. commitment to environmental stewardship by voluntarily
2. funding more than two and half million dollars in local
3. conservation projects, beyond the requirements of the
4. Chapter 102 and Chapter 105 permits. Williams has
5. diligently been working with the department for the
6. last two years providing data needed to review and
7. approve the Chapter 102 and 105 permits, including
8. water quality analysis, wetland studies, cultural and
9. archeological studies, best management practices,
10. wildlife protection measures, minimization of impacts
11. to agricultural land, and plans for full-time
12. environmental monitoring during construction. Williams
13. desires to construct this projectin full compliance
14. with all regulatory requirements.
15. The Atlantic Sunrise product is critical
16. to the successful development of Marcellus area due to
17. the fact that we have limited take away capacity
18. available to transport gas out of Pennsylvania to the
19. United States, and in the area in general, to provide
20. affordable, clean energy. Further delays in pipeline
21. infrastructure will only risk further migration of
22. economic investments to other areas of the country,
23. such as the Permian Basin in Texas, where existing

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1. infrastructures are already in place.
2. Williams Atlantic Sunrise is a privately
3. funded project, which will directly benefit ten
4. Pennsylvania counties. And according to Penn State
5. University, the project will provide approximately
6. 2,300 local jobs and generate $1.6 billion of economic
7. activity to the project area.
8. And finally, Borton Lawson is an example
9. of a local company successfully supporting the natural
10. gas industry. Which in turn provides family sustaining
11. jobs and careers. Presently, we employ approximately
12. 40 professionals working directly for the natural gas
13. industry. These positions translate to approximately
14. two and half to three million dollars in local salaries
15. and benefits.
16. MS. LEHMAN: Time.
17. MR. MCCUE: These employees live in
18. numerous --- thank you.
19. MS. LEHMAN: Sorry. Okay. Next is Tom
20. Jamieson, followed by Abraham Amoros, Jillian Lashmett,
21. Chris McCallum.
22. MR. JAMIESON: Good evening. My name's
23. Tom Jamieson, J-A-M-I-E-S-O-N. I'm with Cleveland
24. Brothers Equipment Company. I'm here to speak in
25. support of the Atlantic Sunrise pipeline project.

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* 1. This project is designed to supply
  2. enough natural gas to meet the daily needs of more than
  3. 7 million American homes by connecting producing
  4. regions of Northeast Pennsylvania to markets in the
  5. Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern states. Cleveland
  6. Brothers is a caterpillar dealership with 27 locations
  7. throughout Pennsylvania and West Virginia. We are a
  8. family-owned company established in 1948. We employ
  9. over 1,200 employees, both union and non-union.
  10. Since 2010, we've invested over a half a
  11. billion dollars in machinery to support the oil and gas
  12. industry here in Pennsylvania. Our company has had a
  13. longstanding supply relationship with pipeline
  14. contractors operating throughout Pennsylvania,
  15. including many of those that will be involved in this
  16. project. The pipeline companies that will be doing the
  17. work on this project are known for employing best
  18. practices and construction, including earth moving,
  19. material handling, and land restoration.
  20. This project will support hundred of
  21. jobs at Cleveland Brothers. Delays created like in the
  22. Mariner East Two project causes us to increase our
  23. employee level by over 200 people. Also at stake in
  24. this project's approval, the jobs of the thousands of
  25. workers to support production and natural gas from the

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1. shale formations across Pennsylvania. They cannot
2. produce or transport to market because of the lack of
3. pipeline capacity.
4. Because of all the construction and
5. energy production activities, the pipeline will enable
6. communities throughout Pennsylvania - throughout
7. Pennsylvania will benefit from workers' income, much of
8. it spent locally. The resulting state and local taxes
9. paid by them and our employers will support public
10. education, environmental programs, infrastructure,
11. public safety, and other state and local government
12. operations.
13. Much of the opposition to this project
14. will point to alternative energy sources or dangers of
15. carbon, gas leaks associated with pipelines, dangers to
16. our waterways. Please keep this in mind. This project
17. will be built by some of the best pipeline contractors
18. in the country, who, like all Americans, care about the
19. environment. And who have proven over decades, that
20. these pipelines are in fact constructed safely.
21. There's not one alternative energy
22. project in Pennsylvania the opposition can point to
23. that will supply seven million homes 24 hours a day
24. with clean and affordable energy sources like this
25. project. Nor can the opposition create the thousands

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1. of jobs and incomes for state's oil and gas workers,
2. who simply want to support their families through
3. honest and hard work. This should be about safe and
4. clean energy production and jobs. Jobs for citizens.
5. Jobs for our children. And jobs for our children's
6. children.
7. Thank you for the opportunity for me to
8. offer my view about why this is important to our
9. company and to Pennsylvania. Thank you.
10. MS. LEHMAN: Okay. Abraham Amoros,
11. followed by Jillian Lashmett, Chris McCallum and Jason
12. Fink.
13. MR. AMOROS: Good evening. My name is
14. Abe Amoros, A-M-O-R-O-S. And I'm the Pennsylvania
15. Legislative Director for the Laborer's International
16. Union of North America.
17. I'm here to testify in favor of the
18. Atlantic Sunrise project. And urge the approval of
19. Chapters 102 and 105 permits. Pipelines are proven to
20. be the safest and most efficient method to get natural
21. gas to consumers. Currently, Williams touches more
22. than 30 percent of the nation's natural gas,
23. transporting it to markets across the country.
24. Williams has also secured all necessary permits and has
25. commenced construction on Atlantic Sunrise facilities

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1. in all other states.
2. Federal and state regulators play in
3. important role in protecting the health and safety of
4. citizens they dutifully serve, as well as the
5. environment and wildlife. Williams wants tough
6. regulations and they want those regulations enforced.
7. The challenges that exist in the current
8. regulatory environment stem from jurisdictional
9. overlap. This overlap has unfortunately stunted
10. growth. And undoubtedly cost the state jobs and
11. economic investment. The outstanding Chapter 102 and
12. 105 permits, for which applications were first
13. submitted in 2015, are among the final approvals needed
14. to move this project forward.
15. Williams has committed to implementing
16. the best management practices during construction and
17. restoration to mitigate the potential impacts
18. associated with the installation of the project. It
19. has dedicated full-time environmental inspectors that
20. this will be employed during construction to oversee
21. and ensure that Williams' best management practices are
22. implemented. And that the project complies with all
23. applicable regulatory permit and approval emissions.
24. Working with stakeholders and permitting
25. agencies, Williams has demonstrated a collaborative

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1. approach, which has resulted in the adoption of more
2. than 400 route modifications, affecting more than
3. 60 percent of its original route.
4. Per DEP's request, environmental culture
5. resources surveys on 100 percent of the preferred
6. routes have been completed. Atlantic Sunrise will not
7. negatively impact the water quality or supply during or
8. after construction, as full-time environmental
9. inspectors will oversee construction activities to
10. ensure full compliance of the required environmental
11. mitigation measures.
12. As has been mentioned before, this is a
13. $3 billion privately-funded energy infrastructure
14. project that is ready to put Pennsylvania energy and
15. thousands of people to work. Pennsylvania will benefit
16. from Atlantic Sunrise's approval, which will span ten
17. counties from Susquehanna down to Lancaster.
18. And as has also been mentioned in
19. economic impact analysis conducted by researchers of
20. Penn State, estimates that 2,300 people will be
21. employed in those counties during the one year
22. construction phase. Which will increase economic
23. activity by $1.6 billion in the project area.
24. Quite simply, natural gas is essential
25. to the quality of life that many of us take for

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1. granted. Pennsylvania has an opportunity now to
2. strengthen and build on its strong energy
3. infrastructure.
4. The Atlantic Sunrise project will create
5. important jobs, foster and continue growth into the
6. future. And on behalf of the men and women of my
7. union, I urge DEP to approve the Chapter 102 and 105
8. permit applications. Thank you.
9. MS. LEHMAN: Next up is Jillian
10. Lashmett. Then Chris McCallum, Jason Fink, and Tammy
11. Murphy. Is Jillian here? Jillian is not here, okay.
12. How about Chris McCallum? Okay, Chris is not here.
13. Jason Fink?
14. MR. FINK: Good evening. My name is
15. Jason Fink, J-A-S-O-N, F-I-N-K. And I'm the executive
16. vice president of the Williamsport-Lycoming Chamber of
17. Commerce. And I live at 551 Harding Avenue in
18. Williamsport.
19. I come forward to request the DEP move
20. quickly to approve the Chapter 102 and 105 permits for
21. the Atlantic Sunrise project. This project has been
22. thoroughly vetted by various entities. It has received
23. a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from
24. FERC in February of this year.
25. Williams has been working with DEP for

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* 1. more than two years providing the data and information
  2. needed for the permit applications to be processed in a
  3. timely and efficient manner. It is now time, after
  4. these two plus years, for this project to receive DEP
  5. approval that it has demonstrated it has earned.
  6. During this time spent in working with
  7. DEP, Williams has demonstrated a collaborative
  8. approach, which has resulted in the adoption of more
  9. than 400 route modifications affecting more than
  10. 60 percent of its original route.
  11. They have performed environmental and
  12. cultural resource surveys on 100 percent of the
  13. preferred route. One-quarter of the project will be
  14. done collocating the pipeline with existing
  15. right-of-way. FERC environmental impact statement
  16. determined that no long-term effects on surface waters
  17. are anticipated as a result of construction and
  18. operation of the projects.
  19. It has also stated that given the impact
  20. of Williams minimization and mitigation measures
  21. proposed by Transco, as well as their recommendations,
  22. they conclude the construction and operation of the
  23. project would not have a significant adverse effect on
  24. wildlife, including migratory birds.
  25. Atlantic Sunrise has been through an

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* + 1. unprecedented amount of regulatory and public review at
    2. federal and state levels from the various agencies with
    3. oversight of it. This overlap has stunted growth and
    4. undoubtedly cost the state jobs and economic
    5. investment. This nearly $3 billion project will be a
    6. major drive of Pennsylvania's economy by transporting
    7. Pennsylvania's Marcellus gas to markets far beyond the
    8. binding area of the gas. It will help to drive down
    9. the cost of both residents industries that rely upon it
    10. for home heating, air conditioning and manufacturing
    11. processes.
    12. It is time now for DEP to step forward
    13. to end this bureaucratic nightmare for Williams and its
    14. Atlantic Sunrise project. Williams has already shown
    15. the federal branches of the government that it can and
    16. will construct this pipeline with the safety and
    17. environmental concerns and oversight that we all expect
    18. from any industry conducting operations in the
    19. Commonwealth.
    20. DEP should approve the Atlantic Sunrise
    21. project given all that Williams has demonstrated to
    22. receive the approvals from various federal agencies,
    23. including FERC. Thank you for your consideration of my
    24. comments in favor of the Atlantic Sunrise and Williams.
    25. MS. LEHMAN: Next up, Tammy Murphy. Is

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* + - 1. Tammy here? Okay. Linda Dietrichson is next? Linda
      2. will be followed by Ed Gillet, Bob Garrett, and Sandy
      3. Walker.
      4. MS. DIETRICHSON: Good evening. I'm a
      5. member of the Fishing Creek Watershed Association and
      6. the Coalition, the Columbia-Montour Coalition for
      7. Source Water Protection. But my comments tonight are
      8. my own. My name is Linda Dietrichson. Dietrichson is
      9. spelled D-I-E-T-R-I-C-H-S-O-N.
      10. DEP, protecting our water resources has
      11. been your job for nearly five decades. You know what's
      12. involved with a project the size of the Atlantic
      13. Sunrise. The final EIS report released by FERC defines
      14. the challenge for the rest of us. Quote, the project
      15. would cross source water protection areas associated
      16. with the Susquehanna River, Swatara Creek, and four
      17. water bodies with potable water intake within three
      18. miles downstream of the proposed water body crossing.
      19. Excuse me. That includes water that
      20. people here in Bloomsburg need to drink. By FERC's
      21. count, the project is proposed to cross 388 water
      22. bodies. Five considered major. There are 105 wetlands
      23. to be crossed. Each one presenting distinct
      24. challenges. Each one posing risks of irreparable harm
      25. to local water supplies. Those risks are far too great

1 to take.

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DEP, you know from experience that

1. FERC's assurance that, quote, impacts on wetland
2. resources would be effectively minimized or mitigated,
3. end quote, is not true. Even with best practices and
4. no major accidents, mistakes will be made. Harm to the
5. environment will occur. And Williams Transco has an
6. appalling safety record. Their assurances are
7. worthless.
8. As effective as you can be as our
9. protector, you do not have the resources to monitor the
10. project as closely as will be required. The dangers
11. and costs from the project should not be born by the
12. citizens or the land. But there's a sure way to
13. prevent disaster. Deny the permits. Fossil fuels
14. extraction is dirty, dangerous, old technology.
15. The ASP is obsolete and unnecessary.
16. Merely a shortcut for Williams Transco to extract and
17. export. They have so much invested in this project
18. that they won't back out. That is why we need you to
19. stop them.
20. I feel like Princess Leia as I appeal to
21. you to be stalwart in your resistance to the pressures
22. to approve the permits for this pipeline project. You
23. must be Obi-Wan Kenobi, using your force for the good

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1. of all Pennsylvania. Not allowing our waters to be
2. destroyed for corporate profit.
3. DEP, you must deny the permits that
4. would allow the Atlantic Sunrise to gouge it's way
5. through our water body and wetlands. Stop the project
6. from destroying millions of gallons of water per day
7. from our rivers and streams. Water that will be
8. polluted or lost by the industry. That's water that
9. rightfully belongs to the people, animals, and habitat
10. of our area.
11. DEP, be the force for good. Thank you.
12. MS. LEHMAN: Next up is Ed Gillet,
13. followed by Bob Garrett, Sandy Walker and Ed Hill.
14. MR. GILLET: My name is Ed Gillet. I
15. represent the operating engineers Local 542. We are
16. the equipment operators that build these pipelines. We
17. have approximately 6,500 members. We live here in
18. Pennsylvania, pay taxes here, and raise our families
19. here. I worked on several pipeline projects over the
20. last four years. I've seen great changes in the way
21. environmental issues are addressed.
22. Environmental practices are second to
23. none on current pipeline projects. Pipeline
24. infrastructure is as important as our roads and
25. railways. It's not possibly to meet our country's

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1. energy needs without natural gas. Pennsylvania must
2. continue to upgrade and build the necessary
3. infrastructure to safely and efficiently transport our
4. energy resources.
5. Large scale infrastructure projects,
6. such as the Atlantic Sunrise, play an increasing role
7. in the strength of our economy, both now and future
8. decades. As Pennsylvania takes its place as a global
9. energy hub, Local 542 will continue to provide
10. qualified, hard working members with the training and
11. support they need to develop a safe and efficient
12. energy transportation network.
13. Not only me, but the entire membership
14. of Local 542 operating engineers respectfully ask for
15. your consideration in letting this project move
16. forward. Thank you.
17. MS. LEHMAN: Next is Bob Garrett. Bob
18. will be followed by Sandy Walker, Ed Hill, Jr., and
19. Paul McCormick.
20. MR. GARRETT: Hello. My name is Bob
21. Garrett, G-A-R-R-E-T-T. I'm the President CEO of the
22. Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce. We had
23. 700 members representing 55,000 employees in the union
24. of Montour County areas. I would like thank the DEP
25. for conducting tonight's hearing.

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* 1. I would like to draw on our recent
  2. experience that we had with the Sunbury pipelines. And
  3. we know a little bit of what we speak related to
  4. Chapters 102 and 105. What I would say for the record,
  5. is that this company, Williams, is well-vetted,
  6. well-known and responsive. We have found them through
  7. our research to be exemplary self-reporters. We also
  8. know that the construction companies that are likely or
  9. have been selected to work on this, and their
  10. employees, such as the pipeliners and the other unions
  11. that you will hear from tonight, tend to - that we
  12. found, they followed the law, guidelines, and
  13. conditions. In fact, it was our experience that during
  14. construction of the Sunbury pipeline, that they
  15. exceeded the conditions that were set for them. And we
  16. were able to use that construction project as a best
  17. management practice with some of our local university
  18. statements, et cetera.
  19. So I would just say tonight to invite
  20. anyone here to come lest over to the Greater
  21. Susquehanna Valley. View the pipeline alignment.
  22. There's a lot to see as it's greening up. The gas is
  23. flowing through the pipeline. And I thank you for the
  24. opportunity to be here the tonight.
  25. MS. LEHMAN: Sandy Walker is next.

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* + 1. Again, Sandy is followed Ed Hill, Jr. And Paul
    2. McCormick.
    3. MS. WALKER: Sandy Walker is my name.
    4. W-A-L-K-E-R. I have a question for you. How many of
    5. you live close to or along the pipeline? So you can
    6. live within let's say, 1,200 feet of the pipeline. How
    7. many? How many of you are concerned about jobs as DEP?
    8. I would assume that Department of Environmental
    9. Protection is protecting the environment. The jobs
    10. that all these people are talking about is not
    11. something that has to be your concern. That's my
    12. assumption. And I hope it's correct.
    13. FERC over-estimated the value of jobs
    14. for this project. And, in fact, it's going to cost the
    15. public somewhere between $21.3 and $91.6 billion over
    16. the life of the pipeline. It's going to cost us that.
    17. So I grew up in Pittsburgh. And this
    18. could be us talking about coal 70 years ago. And
    19. everybody would have thought it was wonderful. And
    20. then later emphysema. And they had to finally turn on
    21. all the street lights in the Pittsburgh because they
    22. couldn't see during the day from burning coal.
    23. Now, it's methane. We don't see it, but
    24. in the four corners down in Southwest, there's a
    25. methane cloud over that place. And people are

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1. suffering there from the health - their heath for that.
2. The market for this Atlantic Sunrise
3. pipeline isn't going to affect or heat any homes in
4. Pennsylvania. It's going to go to market to be
5. exported. Some of it may go south. But Pennsylvania
6. gets nothing from that. Just so that you're aware of
7. that.
8. So methane is a concern because we want
9. clean air in DEP. And methane isn't the only thing.
10. It's Benzine, which causes cancer. The other concern
11. is a great concern of mine is how many trees will be
12. cut down. Trees, as you know from DEP, regulate the
13. aquifers. They regulate the water systems. And they
14. regulate the temperatures. Water consumption for
15. fracking, which as Linda said will never be used again
16. by us for drinking, or by fish for swimming.
17. So those are areas that are your
18. concern. And I would assume that that's what you would
19. address. I'm also concerned about the number of
20. inspectors you have for this project. Thank you.
21. MS. LEHMAN: Next up is Ed Hill, Junior,
22. followed by Paul McCormick.
23. MR. HILL: Good evening. My name is Ed
24. Hill, Junior. It's E-D, H-I-L-L. I'm a representative
25. of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

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1. And approximately 20,000 construction members in
2. Pennsylvania. I'm here tonight in support of the
3. Atlantic Sunrise project. And encourage the PA DEP to
4. approve the Chapter 102 and 105 permits for this
5. project.
6. I'd like to begin by thanking the PA DEP
7. for holding the public hearing tonight. And giving us
8. an opportunity to voice our opinions on the matter at
9. hand.
10. Williams has been working with the
11. Pennsylvania DEP for more than two years providing data
12. and information needed to it and other agencies for
13. approval of the Atlantic Sunrise project. Williams is
14. committed to implementing best management practices
15. during the construction and restoration to mitigate
16. potential impacts associated with the installation of
17. this project. Many practices have been well above and
18. will be well above requirements. Transco has also
19. demonstrated their commitment.
20. By utilizing professionally trained
21. construction workers, including those from the IBW, by
22. which who attend at least 900-hours of new class
23. training, and 8,000 hours of on the job training over a
24. five-year period before they reach journeyman status.
25. In addition to the IBW, Transco

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* 1. committed to using other highly training construction
  2. workers, including the pipeliners, laborers, and
  3. operating engineers. Which again, demonstrates a
  4. commitment following best possible safety involving
  5. practices by utilizing the best trained construction
  6. workers in America.
  7. Williams has developed and worked with
  8. agencies on a timeline that allows the Department's
  9. thorough and complete review of the application. As
  10. well as comprehensive construction schedule that would
  11. replace the projects service in the safest and most
  12. environmentally responsibile manner.
  13. The proposed construction schedule would
  14. enable the company to fully consider all environmental
  15. factors, maximize favorable construction in weather
  16. conditions, while minimizing adverse impacts, which
  17. would result in a longer construction period.
  18. Again, Williams Transco is committed to
  19. ensuring safety and environmental protection during
  20. construction and operation of the Atlantic Sunrise
  21. project. The IBW encourages a timely approval of the
  22. 102 and 105 permits. Thank you.
  23. MS. LEHMAN: The next speaker is Paul
  24. McCormick. And then after that the final speaker who
  25. is registered, I believe, is this is Marion Menapace.

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1. Sorry if I'm mispronouncing names tonight.
2. MR. MCCORMICK: Good evening. Paul
3. McCormick. P-A-U-L, M-C-C-O-R-M-I-C-K. I'm with the
4. International Union of Operating Engineers Pipeline
5. Department as the Northeast pipeline representative.
6. Our national training fund this year
7. alone in 2017, has put on over 180 pipeline training
8. courses, with most of them lasting at least two weeks,
9. some even three and four. At a tune of over $6
10. million.
11. The International Union of Operating
12. Engineers has the most highly skilled and training
13. equipment operators in the pipeline industry bar none.
14. Our members know the importance of not only running the
15. equipment safely but know how to do it in a
16. responsibile way to protect the environment with the
17. rules and regulations set forth by, not only FERC, Army
18. Corp, local and state conversation districts, the DEP
19. with the regulations they set forth at 102 and 105
20. permits.
21. For example, not only does Williams have
22. full-time environmental inspectors on the job, the
23. contractor has environmental crews with our members on
24. them on the right-of-way, with that being their only
25. task. Making sure all environmental controls are in

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1. place and working properly. If not, they are repaired,
2. modified, or adjusted so that they will too protect the
3. environment.
4. Local operating engineers and their
5. families will benefit this project with a decent living
6. wage, health care, pensions, and something to look
7. forward to at retirement. As well as local area
8. businesses, such as stores, lodging facilities, parts
9. suppliers, et cetera. Also, local tax revenue for the
10. communities, fire departments, schools, and townships
11. will see an increase in prosperity.
12. The International Union of Operating
13. Engineers thanks you for holding these meetings. Do
14. your due diligence, just as FERC, Army Corp, and other
15. agencies have, and approve this project. We ask you to
16. do your due diligence in reviewing all pertinent
17. information, and approve these permits. Thank you.
18. MS. LEHMAN: And we have Marion
19. Menapace. Again, I'm sorry for any mispronunciations
20. tonight. I try my best.
21. MS. MENAPACE: Good evening. My name is
22. Marion, M-A-R-I-O-N, Menapace, M-E-N-A-P-A-C-E. And
23. I'm very glad you're here because perhaps our
24. Pennsylvania EPA will save us from what's happening
25. with our Federal EPA, which is the metamorphing into

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1. the Environmental Pollution Agency.
2. I'm not here to talk about all the
3. terrible things that have happened with pipelines. We
4. know this. But I recently actually towards the end of
5. last year, listened in to a telephone conference
6. between the pipeline and hazardous material
7. administration, and people representing pipelines. It
8. seems that the former administration had tightened
9. rules and regulations, especially with regard to
10. inspection and maintenance. And the pipeline people
11. did not like this. Protesting that it was much too
12. expensive.
13. These pipelines will stay in the ground
14. for decades, as long as the pipe, as long as the gas
15. flows, there will be corrosion. And accidents will
16. happen generations from now if the gas keeps flowing.
17. But it won't.
18. Conservation hasn't been mentioned.
19. Conservation is tremendously important right now.
20. There is an alliance to save energy that said, and this
21. is the latest quote I have is back in 2014. That in
22. 2014, with conservation, better equipment, better
23. utilities, even the utility companies are working on
24. this because they want to save energy. We have saved
25. 50 quadrillion BTUs with conservation in 2014 alone.

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1. And that's much more now. I can't tell you exactly how
2. much because I couldn't find the figures. But
3. quadrillion is 35 million tons of coal. It is a
4. trillion feet of natural gas. And 150 million barrels
5. of crude oil. So conservation is extremely important.
6. We should be looking towards that. There's a wonderful
7. site online --- okay. Final comments.
8. We have the cheapest way to produce
9. energy is by being energy efficient. And two of our
10. neighboring states have already been fracking and
11. that's what we have to work towards. They have been
12. enlightened. Thank you.
13. MS. LEHMAN: This will conclude
14. tonight's public hearing. We will note for the record
15. that the representatives of the Pennsylvania Department
16. of Environmental Protection were present to hold this
17. hearing. As a reminder, the public comment period will
18. close on Monday, June 26, 2017. If you wish to
19. submit - oh, yes. Yes.
20. We are going to allow anyone who
21. registered, but didn't get here by the time their name
22. was called to step forward and speak before we close.
23. And so if you would like to, please state your name and
24. spell it for the record. And you have three minutes.
25. MS. MURPHY: My name is Tammy Murphy.

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* 1. That's T-A-M-M-Y, M-U-R-P-H-Y. I'm with Physicians for
  2. Social Responsibility in Pennsylvania. And we are
  3. asking that the DEP deny the application for Transco
  4. Atlantic Sunrise pipeline project due to the
  5. irreparable harm that it would cause to the state's
  6. waterways and environment during construction, and
  7. throughout the lifespan and beyond. This project has
  8. harmful environmental impacts, safety issues, air and
  9. climate change impacts, economic ramifications,
  10. permanent impacts on scenery and rural character of
  11. this region, and drinking water sources, ground water
  12. wells, wetlands, springs, and seeps water quality and
  13. septic systems, as admitted even by Transco itself.
  14. The aquatic resources have the
  15. potentially to be impacted by many activities,
  16. including water body crossings, clearings, blasting,
  17. and water withdrawals from hydrostatic testing. Some
  18. of the resources within the project are high quality
  19. and sensitive resources, including exceptional value
  20. and trout streams.
  21. Transco fails to discuss, except for the
  22. most basic terms, the impacts that can be expected from
  23. other activity in the area. Including that Transco
  24. failed to adequately qualify impacts of other projects
  25. in the vicinity of the Atlantic Sunrise pipeline. Even

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1. when Transco acknowledges the impacts from these other
2. activities, it does not explain how these will affect
3. and contribute to adverse impacts to the water
4. resources.
5. For example, in its discussion of impact
6. to surface water resources and application, Transco
7. admits the natural gas drilling creates the potential
8. for cumulative effects on the water surfaces, affected
9. by the same watersheds crossed by the project. It does
10. not provide any more information about these potential
11. affects, because the information was readily available
12. according to the Transco application, the Luzerne
13. County application.
14. So having identified many technical
15. difficulties in the Transco application, nine
16. efficiency letters sent, you are aware that your staff
17. needs to do a thorough technical review of Transco's
18. responses to the deficiency letters to each permit
19. application.
20. A report prepared by Key-Log Economics
21. in the proposed Atlantic Sunrise pipeline shows
22. enormous ecological damage, including Key-Log Economic
23. details. The true cost of the Atlantic Sunrise
24. pipeline. Costs which include the effects of the
25. pipeline on property values, the diminished values of

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1. the ecosystem services, economic damages associated
2. with the increase of greenhouse gas emissions, the
3. public health cost due to the release of toxins, and
4. smog-forming pollutants.
5. The report estimates that the pipeline's
6. total cost to the environment to be between $21.3 and
7. $91.6 billion. The ecosystem services value lost
8. during construction are estimated to be $6.2 to $22.7
9. million. While annual cost for the diminished
10. ecosystem would approximately cost $2.9 to
11. $11.4 million per year.
12. The benefits people obtain from
13. ecosystems is perhaps the simplest and the most
14. commonly heard definition of the ecosystem services.
15. These services can be identified and quantified. Lost
16. ecosystem services the value of food production, water
17. supply, air quality, erosion control, biological
18. diversity, soil fertility and waste treatment. Due to
19. MS. LEHMAN: Your time is up, sorry.
20. MS. MURPHY: Times up?
21. MS. LEHMAN: The other two individuals
22. who had registered and were not here earlier, we'll
23. give them an opportunity as well. Jillian Lashmett.
24. Has Jillian arrived? No? Chris McCallum? Okay. That
25. is everyone who has registered.

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* 1. So now, we will conclude tonight's
  2. hearing. Again, noting for the record that DEP
  3. representatives were here to hold this hearing. And
  4. reminding you the public comment period closes on
  5. Monday, June 26th. So if you would like to submit
  6. written comments or questions, please refer to the
  7. handout at the front desk. You can e-mail or mail your
  8. comments. And again, comments made in person at these
  9. hearing and comments submitted in writing will be given
  10. equal consideration by the Department.
  11. Thank you for being here. Thank you
  12. your testimony, and your respect to all the speakers.
  13. We appreciate your interest in this project. Have a
  14. safe trip home. And good night.

15 \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

16 HEARING CONCLUDED

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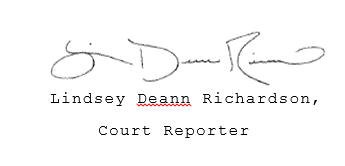
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2 CERTIFICATE

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1. I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings,
2. hearing held before Chair Lehman was reported by me on
3. 5/25/2017 and I Lindsey Deann Richardson read this
4. transcript and that I attest that this transcript is a
5. true and accurate record of the proceeding. 9

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