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MR. BRAKEALL: So as Carl mentioned, we'll use the sign-in sheet as a way to allow you all to speak. If you do want to speak, that's fine, I'll probably read your name, but if you don't want to, you can simply say no.

First on the list is Nathan Haverford.

MR. HAVERFORD: I'm good.

MR. BRAKEALL: Okay.

Next is Ellen Gerhart.

MS. GERHART: I would respectfully like to be placed last in the speaking line.

MR. BRAKEALL: Okay.

Jamie Bells?

MR. BELLS: I'm good.

MR. BRAKEALL: John Waffenschmidt? John Waffenschmidt?

MR. WAFFENSCHMIDT: Just listening.

MR. BRAKEALL: Ezra Birch?

MR. BIRCH: Just listening.

MR. BRAKEALL: I also apologize if I butcher your name. My last name is pretty tough, so I don't mean to do that.

Tina Hayes?
MS. HAYES: No, I'm just listening.

MR. BRAKEALL: Renee Weaver?

MS. WEAVER: No comment.

MR. BRAKEALL: No comment? Okay.

Carla Johns?

MS. JOHNS: No comment.

MR. BRAKEALL: No? Okay.

Yvonne Werzinsky?

MS. WERZINSKY: No comment.

MR. BRAKEALL: Reggie Parrish?

MR. PARRISH: I'm just listening.

MR. BRAKEALL: Okay.

Jim Edward?

MR. EDWARD: No, thank you.

MR. BRAKEALL: Darnis Stanton?

MR. STANTON: I'm fine.

MR. BRAKEALL: Heather Bedi?

MS. BEDI: Just listening.

MR. BRAKEALL: Kirk?

And lastly, on this list is Patty Kim.

MS. KIM: I'm right here.

MR. BRAKEALL: Would you like to speak?

MS. KIM: Yeah. I would love to.

MR. BRAKEALL: Okay, absolutely.

MS. KIM: Do I have to go to a mic?
MR. BRAKEALL: Yeah.

MS. KIM: Secretary, I just want to thank you for having this and I actually wanted to listen and hear people's concerns and - as the state representative for Harrisburg.

But I was just looking at these questions and I think these are really good questions. I personally have a problem trying to get word out in my more impoverished areas. A lot of people don't have internet accessibility except for their phone, and so I have like a - let's say, a children's health fair this Saturday and it's very difficult to get the word out. And if I do have an event they're like, well, why didn't you tell me? Facebook, you could have five hundred likes and people won't show up, not --- social media is not reliable.

But I think you need to have people who are trusted in the community, which takes some time and energy, but if you talk to the, I guess, local and state representatives, you can kind of pinpoint folks who can be the ambassador for the community.

Churches tend to congregate more in the cities which can be more of a communication tool or a place of sharing information.

Yeah. I wanted to hear if anyone had
some ideas, but again, just trusted local folks. They
don't have to be elected officials, but people who get
the word out and are trusted is probably the best way
to get feedback.

Yeah. If I think of other comments, I
will come back, but that's all I have for now. Thank
you.

MR. BRAKEALL: Thank you.

Well, that was everybody on the sign-in
sheet. Is there anyone else at this time who would
like to speak?

Yeah. Sure, Kirk.

MR. JALFERR: My name is Kirk Jalpherr
and I'm on the Environmental Justice Advisory Board
for the State of Pennsylvania. This isn't so much
testimony as it is a comment. I want to thank the
Secretary and Carl Jones for being here today.

It took a surprising amount of work to
actually get these sessions into place, and I know
that one of the complaints that I hear from people is
that the DEP doesn't do enough to listen to its
constituents. We have 20 people in this room, and I
know that you all came here for a reason. I know you
all have some kind of a concern that's related to one
of these seven questions, and I encourage you to
please come up and give some sort of testimony if you
could. Any tiny bit is great. And I think that it
will help us kind of contextualize as a Board what we
should be thinking about in terms of reevaluating
environmental justice, and I think that it would help
the agency as well, so if you have anything, please
come up.

MS. HAYES: I'd like to come up and
speak.

MR. BRAKEALL: Sure.

MS. HAYES: My name is Tina Hayes. New
to the state, I do have family here, and I'm
originally from New York. I'm serving in the
Americorp Vista Program with the OSMRE, and I'm here
to learn about the area and also what is being done to
help the impoverished areas.

I actually live in Duncannon and we have
- and I'm brand new there. I've only been there maybe
eight weeks and found out about the lead in the water.

So that would be the concern in our
area, that they detected lead in the water and how -
and it seems difficult to get information about that.
And I got my information initially from the
municipality there, so I don't know if that's a common
way that you reach out to the local communities, that
you go to the local municipalities and where people
pay bills so that they can pick up some information
from there, especially if you're in a low-income area
where they don't have access.

So that was one of the ways that I
received some of the information. And again, I'm here
just to hear what is going on in the community and
ways that I can help in the capacity that I'm here.

Thank you.

MR. MCDONNELL: Thank you. Welcome to
the state.

MR. BRAKEALL: Anybody else?

Oh, yeah, absolutely.

MS. GERHART: Secretary McDonnell,
Director Jones, I would like to say it's a pleasure to
be here speaking to you, but it's not. My name is
Ellen Gerhart. I'm a 62-year old retired special
education teacher living in Huntingdon County with my
86-year-old husband, Steven.

Our family is facing arrest on our own
property for opposing the Mariner East 2 pipeline
project.

Environmental justice is the fair
treatment and meaningful involvement of all people
regardless of race, color, national origin or income
with respect to the development, implementation and
enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and
policies.

Huntingdon County is a rural county in
central Pennsylvania. Lake Raystown is one of
Huntingdon County's main sources of income. The area
is serviced by small volunteer fire departments.

In Pennsylvania, there is no
environmental justice. If there were, a pipeline
company with one of the worst violation records in the
country would not be granted permits to build through
17 counties in Pennsylvania while still having
deficiencies in its applications.

If there were environmental justice, the
supposedly safe natural gas liquid pipeline would not
be rerouted from previous easements in Huntingdon
County, but yet go through ponds, wetlands and streams
that are part of the Clean Breathing program.

If there were, this same pipeline would
not again be rerouted to go through property owned by
Texas oil and gas man Roy Roberts, thus denying
longtime land owners adjacent to the easements any
voice in the process.

If there were environmental justice,
private property would not be seized by eminent domain
or writ of possession for a project that serves no public purpose, but only benefits the bottom line of the pipeline company.

If there were environmental justice, people protesting on private property would not be arrested for disorderly conduct and have bail set at $200,000 and $100,000.

If there were, pipeline and fracking companies would not be allowed to begin construction while there are active court cases and appeals in progress. If there were, these corporations would not be able to threaten lawsuits against townships trying to enforce standing regulations.

When granting permits to Sunoco Logistics, now Energy Transfer Partners, DEP stipulated to hundreds of special conditions that the company must comply with or risk having the permits revoked.

Unfortunately, DEP has also acknowledged that it is understaffed and underfunded so the role of policing this company falls to concerned citizens of Pennsylvania. Is this environmental justice?

If there were truly environmental justice in the State of Pennsylvania, you and Secretary McDonnell, as well as Governor Wolf, would
be visiting every single county in Pennsylvania impacted by fracking wells, pipelines, cracker plants, refineries, and mines.

We're facing imminent arrest for trying to protect our property. As I speak, crews are within sight of my home.

We're asking you, as a representative of Governor Wolf, to ask the Governor to put a stop to this right now while our appeals against eminent domain and the issuance of DEP permits go through the courts.

Please put the brakes on this project while we wait for Army Corps of Engineers' jurisdictional determination.

You and the Governor have the power to uphold the rights of all Pennsylvanians to clean air and clean water.

I urge you and Governor Wolf to immediately put the welfare of the people you are sworn to represent over outside corporate interests.

You have the power to uphold environmental justice in Pennsylvania.

I know you've heard what I have to say. I would ask now that you and Governor Wolf actually listen.
Thank you.

MR. BRAKEALL: Is there anybody else that would like to speak?

MR. JONES: Okay.

We want to thank everyone for coming out today. Seeing as there are no additional speakers at this time, if you know of other people who have concerns or issues that can be addressed or give us input towards the questions that we asked, those questions are on our website. Our contact information is here.

Again, we thank you again for coming out today. We look forward to working with you all as we try and address environmental justice issues in the Commonwealth.

Thank you.

MR. MCDONNELL: I just want to say thank you one last time as well. Thank you for coming out. It's been - we've done several of these now. It's been a great experience getting individual's experience that we can use to feed into how we do our planning, how we do our decision making throughout the department.

If you aren't aware of the resources available to you through the regional office here, I'd
encourage you to call on our regional director, our
assistant regional director as well as John, who
oversees our environmental justice office here in the
central part of the state.

We have representatives, as you heard,
from the Environmental Justice Advisory Board that are
available for you to interact with as well as our
Citizens Advisory Council. The new executive director
is here as well, so we're trying to encourage as many
avenues as we can for input and interaction to improve
our public participation policies across the board.

I encourage you to interact. I
encourage you to share comments if you have any, and
thank you again for coming out today. Very much
appreciate it.

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MEETING CONCLUDED AT 4:49 P.M.

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings, hearing held before Director Jones was reported by me on 5/2/2017 and that I, Seth R. Baier, read this transcript, and that I attest that this transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceeding.

Seth R. Baier
Court Reporter

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