BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

IN RE: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LISTENING SESSION

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BEFORE: PATRICK MCDONNELL, DEP Secretary
CARL JONES, Member
PATRICK PATTERTON, Member
JOHN BRAKEALL, Member

HEARING: Thursday, May 25, 2017
4:20 p.m.

LOCATION: Fairmount Water Works
640 Water Works Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19130

WITNESSES: Rep. Donna Bullock, Bryan Ratcliffe,
Joseph Minott, Jasper Jones Bey, John Waffenschmidt,
Fred Stine, Marilyn Holworth, Alison Carnish, Peter
Winslow, Karen Meltoni, Adam Cutler, Lese Baxter,
Jerome Shiabazz, Walter Tseu, Coryn Wolk, Linda
Rosenwein, Jo Corninghill, Reinel Rabble, Lee
Robinson, Laureen Boles, Pat Libby

Reporter: Jamie Ann Morris

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INDEX

DISCUSSION AMONG PARTIES 4 - 61
CERTIFICATE 62
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Offered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NONE OFFERED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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MR. JONES: I apologize for starting a little bit late. Thank you for bearing with us for that little bit of extra time. I'd like to welcome you to our Ninth Environmental Justice Listening Session. I want to give you a brief overview. I will give you a brief overview of why we're here today. Hopefully you guys can hear me in the back, if I can get a thumbs up from somebody back there. Great. I'll give you a brief overview on why we're here, followed by introductory remarks from Secretary McDonnell. Then I will do a brief PowerPoint Presentation, in which we'll lay out some of the history of the Office of Environmental Justice, the reason that we're here to hear from you, and then turn it over to you, the audience, which is the main reason we're doing this listening session, which is to hear from people across the Commonwealth about the way we do environmental justice, and how we should do it moving forward.

So without further adieu, I will have Secretary McDonnell come up, who will give us brief introductory remarks. Thank you.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: We always joke
about whether or not Carl gets applause. So thank you for giving him applause.

I’m Patrick McDonnell, the Secretary of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Really just a couple messages from me. The point of this is to hear from you all.

One is, of course, thank you. Thank you in advance for your attendance, your participation, your comments that we’re about hear. The second piece for me is one of – it’s been over ten years since we really looked at our Environmental Justice policies in the state. And this is, you know, really the starting point for us at re-examining those policies, re-examining how we do public participation, particularly in low-income communities, in minority communities, in unprepared communities.

But it's also for me a start of conversation. One of the things we're not going to do is let this go by another ten years. So you can expect that this will be an integrated process. We're taking in comments here. We're going to reflect that back out through some policy updates and grant documents, and then meet back out in some other forms and other ways to interact with
communities, and make sure are we on the right
track, are there other ideas out there in terms of
ways we can and should be interacting.

So I will leave it there. I'll turn
it over to Carl to give you some sense of the Office
of Environmental Justice, and some of the history
that brought us to this point. But again, thank you
very much for your attendance here today and
participation. And I should point out, I'm a Philly
boy. So in particular, I'm really thrilled to be
here today.

MR. JONES: Thank you, Secretary
McDonnell. So we'll start with a brief history of
what is environmental justice. At its core,
environmental justice isn't a new concept. It's a
concept that is sort of the off-shoot of the Civil
Rights Movement of the 1960s, and a continuation of
the environmental movement throughout the '70s to
today.

In 1991, we had the creation of the
principles that sort of outline the core behind what
defines environmental justice. Those principles can
be found on our website along with several
documents. So you all, I hope, have a copy of this
brochure, which has our contact information, as well
as our web address. I hope you will frequent our page. It has some material. We hope to keep adding more material there for you.

Here in Pennsylvania, the history of environmental justice really began through the institution of lawsuits in the late 1990s, and the creation in 2001 of the Office of Environmental Advocate. From the creation of the Office of Environmental Advocate, we've had the creation of our public participation policy in 2004, which really guides the way we have operate with respect to environmental justice in the Commonwealth.

That policy that was created in 2004 and sort of lays out a set number of trigger permits and community definitions. So in Pennsylvania, we look to race and income in order to determine whether or not a community meets the criteria of being an environmental justice community. That is the current way we define it.

As it stands, there are approximately 851 communities that will meet that definition today.

Our office was renamed the Office of Environmental Justice in 2015. The sort of core mission behind our office and our main goals are to
minimize efforts and impacts, to empower
communities, and to foster economic opportunities.
On our website and inside of our brochure, again,
you'll see a more details and the breakdown of what
each of those mean for our department.

Why we're here. What we realize is
that we have to have a conversation in order to
determine if the things that we have been doing in
the past were correct for the Commonwealth, and what
things we should be doing going forward. With that
thought of having a listening session involved, we
created seven framing questions to sort of outline
the conversation for today. Those questions are
merely a guide. We're here to receive feedback from
you.

A little housekeeping as to how we
anticipate the rest of the program to go. If you
need to use the restroom, they are straight behind
you and around the corner and to your right. The
exit signs are marked, and clearly you all came in.
The format of the meeting, there will be -
individuals will be allowed three minutes for
testimony. John Brakeall will be calling out the
names. There will be signs that will sort of tell
you three minutes, two minutes, one minute, and
stop.

At the conclusion of everyone who has given testimony, if we have remaining time, if you would like to give additional comments, there will be an opportunity for you to do so. The purpose behind this is for us to receive as much feedback as possible. Also, at times you may ask a question to us and not get a response. The reason we aren't giving a response today is so that we can receive as much feedback from you as possible.

With that in mind, I think - with that in mind, we'll sort of begin our testimony. And our first speaker is Representative Donna Bullock.

REP. BULLOCK: First off, I would like to welcome you all to the 195th District, and welcome the Secretary McDonnell. He has just been confirmed this week, so let's give him a round of applause.

I am very honored to have the Secretary of the District today in Philadelphia for many reasons. When I met with him - I sit on the Appropriations Committee. And when we had our budget hearings, and he was testifying before us, it was actually Doctor Seuss' birthday, I recall. And I told him my favorite character, the Lorax. And we
talked about speaking for the trees, speaking for our community, speaking for our children. And he agreed that it's part of his responsibility as the Secretary. But I think he also understands in order for him to dutifully speak for the trees and speak for our community, he needs to first listen. And so I applaud him for taking that first step. I applaud him for coming out here to Philadelphia.

Often folks don't think about the environment, environmental issues in the city. But we know that we have many issues here. We have high rates of asthma. We have children who have been tested for lead in their blood. And we have many other concerns. And we want to make sure that our issues are heard.

We have oil trains running all through all parts of our city. And there are many concerns that we want to make sure that our State Department of Environmental Protection hears us and hears us loud.

I know the community here in Philadelphia. The environmental community is very outspoken. And you guys are very much educated and aware of the issues that impact our community and impact our Commonwealth. So I'm looking forward to
hearing from you.

And I really don't have anything else
to say because I'm here for the same reason the
Secretary is here. I'm here to listen. I'm here to
listen and hear what Philadelphians expect from me
as a legislator. I know that I have a
responsibility to protect our rights to clean air,
clean water, and to preserve our natural resources.
In fact, you have a constitutional right here in
Pennsylvania to that. A constitutional right.
Pennsylvania is one of the few states to give you
that right. And so I will take all the messages
that I hear tonight back to my colleagues in
Harrisburg to make sure we protect that right.

Thank you again for coming out this
evening. I look forward to hearing from you tonight
and in the future. And if there's anything my
office can do to support you or help you, feel free
to reach out to us. We're not too far from here at
2835 West Gerrard Avenue. And you can find me on
all the social media, Facebook, Twitter, all of
that, Rep. Donna Bullock. Thanks again for coming
out. And thank you again for coming to
Philadelphia.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: The first person
we have on our list is Bryan Ratcliffe.

MR. RATCLIFFE: Yes. Should I go up here as well?

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Right here would be great just so the stenographer can hear you.

MR. RATCLIFFE: Great. So my name is Bryan Ratcliffe. I don't know how to talk to you on the side. First, I just want to say thank you guys for being here. I think this is really important. I'm glad that you are having the conversation and that you want to listen. I do want to lodge a small complaint about the timing and the location. I don't know what the sort of - I don't know why - or I don't know what decision-making went into the timing. But I know that several other people from my workstation are from Philly drive. Many of us wanted to be here, but couldn't because of work. It's 4:00 p.m. on a weekday. And this is a neighborhood that's quite far from the neighborhoods that we work in in the Southwest. So I just wanted to put that on the record that it could have been better on that account.

There's so many things, there's so many environmental justice issues that I don't quite know how to prioritize. I'm glad that the bomb
trains were already brought up, the oil trains. Every day, every single day there are highly explosive trains running on crumbling infrastructure, literally right over there. They're running by schools. They're running by parks. They're running by houses. I mean a lot of those houses and communities are low-income communities and color. A lot of them are not. But that to me just feels like a really egregious danger that we are subjecting the entire city to. I don't know why that has been allowed to continue.

The other large campaign item that my group is particularly concerned with is the oil refinery in South Philly, Philadelphia Energy Solutions is the single largest polluter in the entire county. It's one of the top one percent polluters in the nation when it comes to point source air pollutions. Absolutely, absolutely devastating impacts, especially on the communities right across the fence from it where average rates are higher than the national average where people are dealing with lung and heart conditions from the air pollution. So I just want a second to put that on your radar because that the South Philly Oil Refinery is a huge, huge problem. Especially in
their effort right now to expand their operations
and turn Philadelphia into an energy hub.

Zooming outward, and I know my time is
probably up, but zooming outward - thank you.
Climate change is the single largest threat to all
communities. Communities of color, in particular.
And I think that we cannot move forward as a
Commonwealth, or as a nation, or as a globe without
having incredibly aggressive policies in place to
deal with climate change. It's going to worsen air
pollution. It's going to worsen - the flood waters
are going to be rising. Invasive species,
destabilization of ocean currents. I mean, it's
such a huge problem. And we have to call it what it
is. And we have to identify its cause, which is
fossil fuels. And we have to be moving as quickly
as possible to get off of fossil fuels.

I know that Pennsylvania is endowed
with large natural gas reserves. And I know a lot
of people are excited about that. But natural gas
is a bridge to nowhere. And if we do not move to
renewable economy as soon as possible, we are
handing down a really devastating legacy for our
next generation. Thank you very much.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Next on the list
is Joseph Minott. We ask that you stand right here just so everybody can respectfully hear.

MR. MINOTT: Can you all see me? I'm short. My time doesn't start until people get to see me. So I apologize. I did not realize there was going to be a three minute time limit. And as an attorney, that is a nightmare. So I have extra copies of my testimony. Clock-watcher, if you could start now.

So good afternoon. My name is Joe Minott. I'm the Executive Director and Chief Counsel of the Clean Air Council. When many people discuss environmental justice, they think about the disproportionate exposure of communities to harmful air emission, water discharges, and hazardous release on land. But it is more than these things. Environmental justice requires a holistic consideration of other factors in the larger environment inhabited by communities including employment, health status of community members, literacy levels, culture and linguistic differences and barriers, and limited financial and time resources.

At the core of environmental justice issues, whether urban or rural, is the inability of
residents to adequately and meaningfully influence many of the decisions that impact their community. The system is rigged against them. Until we acknowledge that and the failure of all levels of government to commit to addressing the power dynamics that make it impossible for most environmental justice communities to truly effect change in the communities, it is all window dressing.

It is not just about the permitting of large stationary sources, for example environmental justice problems can arise from polluting consumer behaviors, not only from the activities of industrial plants. In Philadelphia for instance, people in environmental justice areas are exposed to harmful air emissions from congested motor vehicles in city streets, as well as traffic along rail and highway corridors. DEP must have a definition of environmental justice that takes in all of these factors.

The policy of environmental justice has been difficult to transform into law. With respect to the law that does exist, every year we see environmental agencies go through the motions of considering environmental justice concerns in
connection with applications for permits for industrial permits and pipelines, yet we do not see agencies cite environmental justice as a reason for denying an application for a permit, or even imposing significant restrictions.

Environmental justice problems are worsened by the constraints on funding of DEP. During the past decade, DEP has been undermined by budget cuts, including cuts to its information technology budget and an antiquated information technology system. It is critically important that any DEP action that will impact an EJ area, that information is provided in a timely way, and that deadlines are significantly longer than the one's routinely provided by DEP.

As a result of budget cuts, we are seeing permits that are being approved that are incomplete, inaccurate, inconsistent with the law. If DEP does not have an adequate - does not have adequate resources to fully vet permits, engage in rigorous enforcement, and do extensive monitoring, and effective public outreach to under-resourced communities at the very early stages of the permit application or a proposed regulation, why are we even here having a discussion of environmental
I'm only halfway through, but hopefully that piqued your interest, and I'll get a chance to say more.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Next on our list is Jasper Jones.

MR. BEY: Good evening, everybody. My full name is Jasper Jones Bey. I'm a Cherokee Indian. I'm here representing the Shaykamaxum Republic, but I'm also here representing the Promise Zone, which by pro se definition, qualifies for environmental justice intervention.

Since I only have three minutes, I will send you an email with what I want to talk to you about. It gives the full frame on it. Basically, what we're attempting to do overcoming the institution of racism of the city of Philadelphia, is to get into the city to utilize the property zone protocol to implement an apprenticeship program in alternative technician fuel training, to prepare us for the day in what we are calling alternative fuels will be the only fuel.

The reason that we want to do this is that the alternative fuels will stop the air pollution, which causes 12,000-plus children in
Philadelphia County to have asthma attacks. It's been a big increase in that. Some of those children die from the asthma attacks. So what we have here is crime against humanity, and crimes against our constitution going on by SEPTA, the City of Philadelphia, and so forth, because they do not have a plan to get off of fossil fuels, neither SEPTA or the City of Philadelphia.

And I want you to know that Saudi Arabia has a plan to get off of fossil fuels. So this is ridiculous.

And the technology exists off the shelf to get off of fossil fuels and on the height. Three years ago, the Department of Energy figured out that we should transition to hydrogen because we have technology to make it possible. And because of this climate realization, you can actually get the money to finance the equipment to a non-recourse financial interest, which means the people of Philadelphia won't have to pay for the change of the infrastructure to hydrogen. Yet we can't get any traction on this point.

The City of Philadelphia has had ten years to prepare and figure all of this out. It's only recently that they also got the fact that being
on fossil fuels causes 12,000-plus children to have asthma attacks and some of them die. So what this is is criminal behavior on oil institutions. We have to their reach-out to DEP and our representatives, form a partnership, form an intergovernmental agency task force to make a model for starting this transformation off of fossil fuels, setting up of alternative technicians fuel program at community - based out of community colleges. They've figured it out. Any questions please talk to me.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Next on the list is John Waffenschmidt.

MR. WAFFENSCHMIDT: I didn't anticipate the whole balancing thing. So hopefully I'll be able to do it. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I would like to commend Secretary McDonnell for his willingness and wisdom to conduct these listening sessions. I've been involved with Pennsylvania for over 20 years and believe that Pennsylvania leads the nation with regard to environmental justice. In particular, the Department's perspective that any applicant for specific permits has to interact with the community as part of the application process is an excellent
community empowerment tool. Some have argued that
those so-called trigger permits should be expanded.
That appears to be a reasonable perspective.

The Environmental Advocates that you
utilize in the regions are valuable assistance tools
to communities. The previous advocate for this
region, Alice Wright, did an excellent job working
with communities. It is probably reasonable to say
that this region is a better place because of her
involvement. I can say that I am a better person
from having known her. I would encourage the
Department to continue to seek out individuals of
her caliber and to continue to support the
environmental advocate program.

While I have a high opinion of the
Department's Environmental Justice Program and their
overall approach to community permitting, I do have
some suggestions for improvement. When one takes a
genetics course, the first thing you learn is that
genotype plus environment equals phenotype. The
concept of environment includes everything external
to the organism. Despite the fact that economics is
a determining factor for an Environmental Justice
community designation, it appears that that logic is
eliminated or eroded in the community review and
involvement process. Too many who participate in trying to assist disadvantaged communities focus almost exclusively upon tradition environmental parameters. That is not to say that there are not still environmental parameters to work on, that's going quick, to work on. It is merely to say that that perspective is likely to be too narrow to benefit these disadvantaged communities.

My recommendation to the Department is to expand the definition of environment so that it isn't just the parameters associated with discharges and the typical environmental criteria that we work on every day. Instead, I would encourage the Department to begin to view the concept of environment more in line with the words that we learned in our introductory genetics course. These disadvantaged communities are made up of individuals. Those individuals have specific parameters associated with them relating to their health and education. We can clearly measure an individual's health, as well as the education they receive.

My time has expired.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Next on the list is Fred Stine.
MR. STINE: Thank you. My name is Fred Stine. I work with the Delaware River Network. I'm here. I wanted to - I wanted to just address two different issues that are important with the Delaware River Network. One is the work we're doing down in Eastwick, Pennsylvania down near the airport, down near John Hines Wildlife Refuge. The second is Elcon Recycling Services application that's in front of the Pennsylvania DEP right now.

With Eastwick, the two biggest concerns in the Eastwick community, and I serve on the Eastwick Friends and Neighbors Board, Executive Board, is the flooding coming from the Darby Creek. It's been happening for years, and years, and years. And with Pennsylvania DEP's changes in there, and there's four permits in the Department for TMVL's next year. They could move for better protection for upstream sources. But those plans, and we find this in New Jersey, those plans are only plans until they're implemented. So getting a plan written to infuse non-point source pollution and flooding, the sedimentation coming down that are threatening the residents of Eastwick is only a plan unless there's a strong implementation connected with that.

The second is flood insurance. And I
know flood insurance is - a lot of it is a federal issue. But the residents of Eastwick at meeting after meeting, we have federal agencies in. And the agencies will say that they don't have any control over it. That it must be the banks that are responsible. It might be the insurance agent - excuse me. I'm sorry. What we are looking for is some assistance from the Pennsylvania Insurance Department to help the residents of Eastwick better understand why one person who lives across the street is going to pay one amount for flood insurance, while the person across the street pays twice that amount. It's not clear. It's not fair. It's not equitable. And residents should not be on the hook for trying to figure this out. You know, we need someone to come in and assist. And maybe the Pennsylvania Insurance Department can help bring in FEMA and other agencies that can help the residents understand this.

The second issue I wanted to bring up is Elcon Recycling Services. Elcon was just awarded the phase one permit. Their phase two permit is being considered by Pennsylvania DEP. The process starts and is underway now. This is where 210,000 tons of chemical hazardous waste is going to be
brought in to a facility in Bucks County. And it's
an industrial site, but it's less than a half a mile
from the Delaware River. And it's hydrologically
connected to the Delaware River. It may be good
technology. It may be necessary to use chemicals.
It may be something that has to be done. But it
shouldn't be right next to the Delaware River. The
Philadelphia Water Department has expressed concern
that if a spill at this facility, even though it's
15 miles upriver, would be catastrophic because it
would force the shutdown of the Baxter Street Water
Facility, which provides 60 percent of Philadelphia
residents with water. And again, it's just a bad
site location. And we're looking for the
Pennsylvania DEP to come out strongly, and require
Elcon to do so many things to this site, that
they'll be forced to go somewhere else. Thank you.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: I'm being told
that some people in the back can't hear too well.
So if you do have to speak, make sure you speak into
the microphone as clearly as you can. Next on our
list is Marilyn Howarth.

MS. HOWARTH: Good afternoon. I'd
like to thank you also for coming to listen to some
important concerns this community has. My name is
Dr. Marilyn Howarth. I'm an occupational environmental medicine physician. I work with the Center of Excellence and Environmental Toxicology at the University of Pennsylvania. We are an NIEHS-funded P13 Environmental Health Source Center. We work with communities in a host of environmental problems. And in the course of that work, I've had the privilege of working with a number of the environmental justice staff. And I will tell you that they have been superb. In terms of working on the mission of engaging people and bringing them to the table, and hearing their concerns, your staff has been extraordinary. In particular, I've been working with most recently from the Chapter Environmental Partnership.

So to me, Environmental Justice is a bigger mission than that. It involves the fair and meaningful involvement of people, and the outcomes in good health. And I will tell you that as I look across the Environmental Justice communities in Pennsylvania, we can easily show data that the health disparities due to illness that is directly impacted by environmental exposure, it's tremendously different. It is tremendously different in our environmental justice communities.
And so whether you want to call upon the state constitution or you want to call upon your own mission, I have to say it seems like in-part, it's failing. So I would urge you to look at those health disparities. Those health disparities in asthma, in cancer, in lead poisoning, and many other environmentally-communicated diseases.

The people, it's important that they have meaningful involvement. But to me as a physician, it's more important that their environmental health be protected by their environmental health, Environmental Protection Agency. Thank you.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Next is Reverend Alison Cornish.

REV. CORNISH: Hi. I'm really delighted to be here. Congratulations to you on your confirmation, Secretary. And thank you Representative Bullock for helping to host this great event.

We've submitted some written comments so I'm not going to take too much time and type the response specifically to your questions in those comments. But I want to emphasize something that I think we're hearing over and over again. And that
is that we may be moving past Environmental Justice to climate justice. And I know that terminology is challenging for some in our state government and in our federal government.

But quite honestly, we're at a place where the changes that we're seeing due to climate change are directly impacted population that environmental justice is designed to address. And I think one particular event that we're going to see over and over again in Philadelphia, and that is high index - heat index days. Where are the cooling centers? Where are the opportunities for people to seek relief? When we have mortality rates rising, because people don't have access to cooling, we are really in a pickle. Because in order to cool our environments more, we're going to be producing more and more climate-related effects.

So I also so appreciate the comments about Eastwick that have been hit over and over again when supposedly 100-year flood storms in a short amount of time. And our infrastructure is simply not designed to handle that amount of water. So when we talk about environment, we need to start talking about climate in its broadest sense.

Thank you so much for your work in the
Department and for your work in the House.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Next on our list is Peter Winslow.

MR. WINSLOW: Thank you, Representative Bullock and Commissioner McDonnell.

Thank you for this opportunity. I'd like to ask you to help us help you. I think that with Reverend Cornish, I'm on the Board of Pennsylvania Power and Light, which services indirectly. The point that she has made a climate disruption is a different mindset than just allowing industry and applicants for permits, permission to emit toxins into the atmosphere, into the water, into our land. As a principle amount of damage that they can do, it is a different kind of approach. An approach that is more focused on the outcomes than inputs and outputs. And the effects that has on people, have on the land in which we live, and operate, and work, and go to school.

So I'd like an expanded continent of enhanced scrutiny for environmental zones. So that it's not just a particular geography. But we look at the agencies, especially the state agencies, that are involved in activities that have a dynamic effect upon the lives of people and the natural
habitat. That doesn't exist right now. And dealing with agencies such as
SEFTA and the Port Authority and other sister
agencies of the Commonwealth, there is not a
recognition of environmental justice in any board
environmental justice zones. We have had an ongoing
dispute with SEFTA with gas-fired power plant in
Nicetown. And the conversation that has taken place
is that it's our fault because there is a failure to
recognize the specific impact on the people who
reside at Nicetown, as opposed to a distraction of
the EPA.

The second part of this has to do with
the establishment and maintenance of good
information. And Joe has pointed out, it's really
necessary that in addition to just enforcing
specific regulations, that there be a concerted
effort to obtain a database of public comments that
is available and meaningful in terms of
understanding our environment. This is something
that shows. We are eager to partner with the DEP to
make this happen.

So again, let us help us to help you.
Thank you.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Next is Karen
MS. MELTON: So I would also like to thank you for being here today. Given the funding environment that we're looking at, I consider this quite an act of optimism that you're even letting us here to talk about more issues.

I'm just going to mention two air quality issues that I've been involved with recently. One on behalf of Sierra Club is Greer Island. And I've heard a lot about Greer Island. It's the only coal-powered power plant in Pennsylvania that's been allowed to continue to operate with no pollution controls. Even their partial - with their partial recompense to gas, we have no commitment from them that they're going to stop doing that. There's a Sierra Club showing that some of our code orange and red air dates here in Philadelphia can be directly attributed from the pollution from that plant.

So regardless of what happens with the plan that's been submitted to the EPA, you know, I would just like to see DEP go after that because it's affecting all of us.

Another one, which Peter mentioned, is the situation with SEFTA. We've been trying to stop
them from building a gas-fired power plant. And
another thing we're trying to do is get them to
embrace the vision of an electric, fully electric
fleet of buses. Just to give you an example of
where they are on that right now, they're getting 25
electric boxes this year. And they have 525 diesel
hybrids on order over the next five years. So we're
trying to convince them that they need to move much
more quickly toward a fully electric diesel fleet.
And, you know, they need to look at how they're
going to produce that electric city. And we don't
want it to be with gas.

So if you can find ways to incentivize
- and of course, this will be an issue throughout
the Commonwealth. We have been doing a lot of
research about cities around the country who are in
the process of going fossil free with their transit
system. We'd be happy to share that with you. But
if you can find ways to extend Pennsylvania's
transit system in that direction, I think you would
be doing a good service to urban citizens who live
in that pollution. Thank you.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Next is Adam
Cutler.

MR. CUTLER: Thank you all. I echo
the thanks that have already been extended for
having this session. And as an attorney who's been
working on environmental justice issues for almost a
decade now, both first in public interest, and since
then on the environment advisory board, I want to
say that we look forward to continuing to work with
the board - we look forward to continuing to work
with the board and working with Secretary McDonnell
on advancing environmental justice issues in state
government here in the Commonwealth.

I want to also plug-in for
environmental justice advisory board meetings, which
are open to the public and have public comment
sessions. So those of you wanting to go to the DEP
website, you can find the schedule of environmental
justice advisory board meetings there. And we look
forward to input on a continuing basis from your
communities on the issues that are important to you.
So that we can discuss them at the board level and
with the secretary.

I want to mention two specific issues
that we've been trying to move forward with in
advisory boards. The first is on the issue of DEP
partnering with sister agencies in the Commonwealth,
specifically the Department of Health and the
Department of Transportation on environmental justice issues, on environmental health issues.

It's particularly important for Department of Health expertise to be brought to bear on some of these issues in the environmental justice communities, because as we understand it at the board level, right now we don't have any capacity within the Department of Environmental Protection. So reaching out to the Department of Health would be, I think an effective start. And likewise, the Department of Transportation has so many projects that impact these environmental justice communities. We think it's very important, and I think it's very important that the Department interface more closely with PennDOT on these issues.

And lastly, I want to just make another pitch for continuing expansion of the Department's transparency initiative with data, with permitting documents, to the extent these documents can be put online in easily searchable, easily accessible formats. That could make all the difference in the world for environmental justice communities who, you know, can't really do anything to assert themselves without good information. And having that information available online in an
easily accessible way really can make a huge
difference. So thank you. My time's up. Thanks.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Next up is Lese
Baxter.

MS. BAXTER: Hi. My name is Lese
Baxter. I'm part of coalition - Now? Okay. I'm
part of our coalition of concerned residents in
Lower Bucks County. We call ourselves POWA or
Protect Our Water and Air. I'm here to ask you to
please consider the negative impact of Elcon
hazardous waste facility on Folks Township, Lower
Bucks County, and surrounding areas.

This is an area that already has more
than its share of pollution. And we have stern with
EPA standards. The area is also 50 percent
minority, with 34 percent of residents living below
the poverty level. And that's according to the EPA.
But because of this, due to the census tract, it's
not designated as an environmental justice area.
But it should be in my opinion.

On March 2nd, 2017, Elcon Recycling
submitted its phase two application to the DEP to
build a hazardous waste building in Falls Township,
Bucks County. Within Bucks County, Falls Township
has already had, already boasts nearly 70 percent of
the County's industrial air pollution sources, according to the EPA. The American Lung Association just ranked Bucks County number one for ground-level ozone in Pennsylvania, ahead of both Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, and they are cities.

According to the CDC, Bucks County is the only county in Pennsylvania that's increasing childhood cancer rates. Additionally, the location of the Elcon proposed hazardous waste facility is close to the Delaware River and hydrologically connected to the River. Just one spill of hazardous chemicals should be detrimental to the drinking water for millions of people, both in Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, including Philadelphia.

Shouldn't the DEP make sure that Bucks County, which is currently a non-attainment area failing EPA standards, include their air quality so they're in compliance with current air standards, rather than allowing additional sources of pollution to an already over-polluted area. Please do not allow Elcon to build a hazardous waste facility in an area that is already failing air pollution standards, and is located near the source of drinking water for millions of people.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Next on our list
is Walter Tseu.

DR. TSEU: Thank you. I want to say that my name is Dr. Walt Tseu. I'm a public health physician and former Health Commissioner for Philadelphia. And I am executive director of Philadelphia Physician Associated Responsibility.

I speak today because I believe that the first priority of the Department of Environmental Protection is to protect the public from environmental hazards. It's not to kowtow to corporate interests, or to the gas industry, or the legislature which is paid off by the gas industry. And they need to be very clear that DEP, the Department of Environmental Justice, need the DEP to be protecting the interests of the public first and as its major priority.

Second point is that we're build ---- we built a SEPTA gas plant in Nicetown, one of the poorest areas of North Philadelphia. Putting a gas plant in Nicetown is kind of like putting Tower Records on the dawn of the internet. We're making a 20-year or 30-year investment in something that will be obsolete the day it's built.

Third thing is that there are at least three different studies I want to talk about from a
public health perspective. One is that the
Geisinger study, which is done right here in
Pennsylvania, looked at the proximity of residents
to gas drilling wells. This is a Hopkins-Geisinger
study. They found asthma, migraine headaches, and
nose bleeds, and premature birth all were correlated
with proximity. And these are not small numbers.
We're talking about, you know, 35,000 cases of
asthma. The significances are very, very high.
They compel that we need to do a true prospective
study in order to answer the questions about what
we're doing here on gas drilling in the state.
Because frankly, the current evidence suggests that
fracking is not safe in the state. Every state
legislature should know about this. And we need to
do what is called the precautionary principle in
public health. Meaning we need to stop doing it.
Don't issue anymore permits. And then after the
prospective study, actually extending the questions.

The whole industry does this thing
called non-disclosure where they tell people in
exchange for fresh water, you need to stop talking
about the health effects that happen to your family
and your community. That actually destroys any type
of research we want to do. We need to actually
answer these questions. And you need to tell them at DEP, you cannot force them to sign non-disclosure agreements. You need to provide them the buffaloes of water so that we can actually - and let them talk to the researchers so that we can answer these questions, instead of hiding this stuff like we're constantly doing.

And then finally, you are aware about the public health study that was done by your department, 4,000 cases that they investigated to find out what happened to the water that was polluted. And your Department basically either didn't do the testing, follow-up testing, or the follow-up that was necessary for this.

My time is up. I could go on, but.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Next on our list is Coryn Wolk.

MS. WOLK: My name is Coryn Wolk. And I'm a member of Adjective, an environmental advocacy organization based in Philadelphia. I've been working on fossil fuel infrastructure across the city.

To answer DEP's first question about the definition of environmental justice, obviously I think that for a start it's good. But there are
populations, especially in Philadelphia, that should also be taken into consideration. For example, the area around Philadelphia's refineries, Philadelphia Energy Solution has a high percentage of elderly populations and immigrant populations who have limited English proficiency. The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission uses a much broader definition of environmental justice, potential communities, including elderly populations, female-headed households which are often single mothers with small children, and elderly people with limited mobility. And so sometimes there's a cross-section of those populations and minority populations or low income populations, but not always. And these populations often have vulnerabilities or needs that are not the same as this broader definition. And that's something that I think DEP needs to take into consideration of public outreach, and also when considering permit applications.

The other thing is that while I know that air management services is responsible for a lot of air pollution regulation in Philadelphia, they don't have the resources to always either enforce or communicate to people in Philadelphia. And that's something where DEP, which is also under-
funded and under-resourced, should be stepping in. However, I do have a great concern about DEP's ability to expand its outreach of enforcement, given that Governor Tom Wolfe has been pushing through the Department of Economic Development, a huge increase in natural gas infrastructure across the city. And if that came through, a lot of that natural gas infrastructure would be based in Philadelphia.

So given that one agency of the state is pushing for a more polluting infrastructure, I kind of wonder what the point is of people coming here and asking the DEP for more, when that would counteract the state government's other initiatives. Even though obviously, something should be done.

Lastly, there are things that DEP does regulate in Philadelphia, such as waste water and storage facilities that I would like to see DEP do a better job of enforcing. Because we do know that a lot of facilities in Philadelphia are not in compliance or have never actually been inspected or regulated, because they're operating outside of the law. And DEP does have the duty and power to do that.

And also as another wish list item, especially in communities of color and low-income
communities, especially in impoverished areas that
has the height of population and the height of
industry-owned facilities, slowly things will be
piled on top of each other. And I would like to see
DEP do a better job of communicating what those
cumulative risks are to populations. Not just
through really obscure documents on the website or
something where you have to go to the office.

My time has expired, so I have the
whole wish list here. Thank you.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Next on the list
is Linda Rosenwein.

MS. ROSENWEIN: Hi. I am a Germantown
resident and a school teacher. And two months ago,
I found out that a gas plant was going to be built
within walking distance of my house. So I decided
to join up with 350 Philadelphia. I just want to
say that it shouldn't be necessary for someone like
me that has a full-time job already, to have to
volunteer all my extra time to try to canvas all my
neighbors, and the neighbors of Nicetown, to try to
catch an upswell of the public, first of all to inform
them about this, to get them to protest, or to reach
out, or to speak out to their elected officials, so
that somebody will listen to the problem.
It shouldn't be necessary for people to
volunteer all of this time, run around, to try to
convince our elected officials, or you, or anyone
else in charge. Someone should be minding the
store. And, you know, that's all I have to say.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Last on the list
is Jerome Shabazz.

MR. SHABAZZ: Thank you very much.
Thank you Secretary, Director. My name is Jerome
Shabazz. I'm the executive director of the
Overbrook Environmental Education Center. And
instead of talking about the point-source egregious
activities of industry or utility, I want to make
sure that we emphasize that we're talking about
vulnerable communities. As environmental justice
issues, we need to realize that these are
communities where people do not have a lot of
resources. They may not have political connections.
They may not have access to information.

But what is taking place is a whole
movement around an enlightened citizen. And we
should take advantage of that. We should create
more opportunities for people to be monitored in
their own neighborhood. We should take advantage of
the opportunities for people to know what kinds of
activities, personal activities that may be creating
environmental conditions that affect them right
where they live. If we're talking about domestic
toxins, how you dispose of potential hazards, we
need to have more information that's available to
communities so that they can help themselves.

There's a whole swath of people who do
not realize that the ancillary things to what they
do is causing greater harm than they realize. We
have to bring resources to that effort. We have to
bring outreach to that effort. We have to bring
information to that effort so people can improve
their quality of lives, and so that we have better
communities from the ground up. Thank you.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: That is
everybody on the list. Is there anybody that did
not get the opportunity to speak that would like to
speak at this time? And please state your name.

MS. LIBBY: My name is Pat Libby. I
am the voice of the stillborn who cannot speak. I
am the voice for the disabled in pain. I am the
voice of the asthmatic who cannot breathe. I am the
voice for those you have slain. They breathe the
air that's polluted by toxins. They drink the water
that's darkened by grime. They scratch their skin
raw from all the red rashes. They go to school on roads covered in slime. You are the cause of their suffering and agony. You are the cause of their writhing in pain. Fracking is killing our totally defenseless. It has no sympathy for those it has slain.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Anyone else?

Please state your name.

MS. AIKENS: My name is Shoshana Aikens spelled S-H-O-S-H-A-N-A. So yeah, sorry. I was just spelling it for the stenographer.

So I work in this type of work. And I know that these meetings are really hard. And I really appreciate you guys taking the time to do this. I feel like it's really important for federal agencies or any government agency to let people come and experience joy, and pain, and anger. Because what happens is when you don't give people this chance, you don't get people who show up who are angry. And that's why people get really frustrated at public meetings. Especially people who organize them. So it's really critical to change the culture to let people speak on - in more than one way, and in more than one platform.

So I hope that you guys keep doing
stuff like this. And you make sure that it’s not just people who are comfortable standing in front of a room who get the opportunity to speak. It’s also people who panic in front of a room who get that chance and you make sure to reach out people in every possible way. So thank you.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Please state your name.

MS. RABBLE: Very brief. Reine Rabble. We need a DEP office in Philadelphia. Norristown is too far for most of us that don’t drive. I know it by transportation. And while in Philadelphia, make it accessible. This is hard to get. This location is hard to get to.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Anybody else that has not yet spoken?

MS. BOLES: Good afternoon - or good evening. My name is Laureen Boles. I’m an environmental advisory board member, and also an advisor to the EPA Environmental Policy and Technology. And what I’ve heard tonight, we’ve heard a lot of comments about some of the permits that are being issued in environmental justice communities, those that are already overburdened. We’ve heard a little bit about the cumulative
effects. But what I'd like to lift up is that DEP consider the cumulative impacts of the permits that are issued. If every industry were able to come in and pollute to the maximum extent, just the cumulative impact of all of those. We need to consider that, especially where the community is already been overburdened.

In some cities, they have an advisory board made up of engineers, planners, well-informed citizenry who review permits for the City of Philadelphia and make very good suggestions about green infrastructure. And some of the other ways to mitigate some of the pollution that's coming pursuant to permit. And so typically, the review comes through the Department of Environmental Protection, and then through the city, to the advisory board, and then forces it to be a final division. But that is a role that environmental justice board could play.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Anybody else that has not yet spoken? Anybody that has spoken who would like an additional three minutes?

MR. MINOTT: So I hope you all remember where I left off. My name is Joe Minott. I'm the executive director of the Clean Air Council.
One of the things I heard today that wasn't in my testimony that I think is absolutely true is that DEP's Environmental Justice Program cannot be silent. It really needs to be coordinated with the other agencies in order to have the full impact on the community. PennDOT has their own advisory committee. DEP has their own. I don't even know if PUC even has one. And lord knows they need one.

So I recently had the pleasure of listening to your confirmation hearing. And you did very well by the way. But I was stumped by the fact that the members of the legislature only seem to be concerned with the delay of DEP's issuance of permits. Not one, not one legislator asked about the health effect or health impact. And I think that says something about where the power is in Pennsylvania, and who owns the legislature.

I think it's really up to you, Secretary McDonnell, to publicly make the case that under your present budget, DEP cannot issue complete and timely permits, and will not be forced into doing so. I know there's tremendous pressure on DEP to move the permits. I know the legislature probably has your personal home number and calls you, and says this needs to be done. I know
Governor Wolf has put pressure on you to move forward with issuing permits.

But I think it is up to you to say publicly, loudly, and proudly that if they keep slashing your budget, you simply cannot meet that need. And I think I'll stop there. Thanks.

MR. BEY: Back again. I'm Jasper Jones Bey. What I didn't mention is that the Shaykamaxum Republic has submitted to the United Nations a petition for relief of genocide by ecocide, which is what really their definition is supposed to cover, but did not cover. The institutional configuration of SEPTA, the City of Philadelphia, the rest of those agencies are destroying the environment, killing people, and destroying our economy. We should have been off of fossil fuels. The issue in terms of economics DEP is glossing over is that the cost of fossil fuels causes many sections of the economy to drop out of participation in the economy, which is why we have the depression since 2007.

So I'm going to do a hail for you. If you send me an email at cadreoflawyers@yahoo.com, I'll send you a petition for relief which you can join. And if we don't get off of fossil fuels, the
depression that we're in is going to continue until our local economy is destroyed. And because they're stupid, they really haven't trained these people to deal with the alternative fuels. And once we run out of fossil fuels, which we are, there actually were estimates given by industry people when fracking is an infeasible programs to be continued. But because of people attending that, and I'll just say it, the people in our government are on the payroll of big energy, which is why we keep getting these stupid results, like the Philadelphia Energy Authority setting up this ridiculous proposal for making up a fossil fuel hub, when it's known that it's going to peak.

It's not going to be available as a fuel, so we need to be changing our infrastructure over to what the Department of Energy figured out 30-plus years ago, it's hydrogen. It's an inexhaustible energy that's clean. It will stop killing our children with the asthma attacks. And the program will allow people to convert existing vehicles over to hydrogen and other fuels that don't produce air pollution that kills our children. Again, cadreoflawyers@yahoo.com if you want more information. Thank you so much.
MR. WAFFENSCmidt: So I'm also in the
where I left off stage. The literature is replete
with evidence to support my recommendations. From
the lay media perspective, the New York Times in a
2014 article compared Fairfax County, Virginia, a
rich community, to McDowell County, West Virginia, a
poor community. The life expectancy delta for
women, 12 years. For men, 18 years. That puts
McDowell County residents with a life expectancy
equivalent to Iraq. These deltas are directly
related to the differential wealth and income
between two counties. These same life expectancy
data can be found throughout the world as presented
by the World Health Organization.
Success at addressing the lifespan
differential as mentioned the Fairfax/McDowell
County communities, has been mitigated in part by
making sure that there is appropriate prenatal care,
and higher birth weights for those at lower income
levels. Such programs should be maintained and
expanded. Regarding asthma, we need to focus of
individual health criteria, including a therapeutic
understanding of early life influences on asthma
development. In like fashion, every child, poor,
rich, whatever should benefit from the latest data
on vaccine intervention.

On education, we need to provide universal pre-k and have a pre-k to 12 program which focuses on skill development, communication skills, and personal financial management. We should recognize the increasing technical complexity of our world. This enhanced complexity argues that quantitative skills beyond the math basics, including understanding the function of the compound interest rate formula, statistics, the broader aspects of science, coding, and logical process should be part of that educational commitment.

While many school districts may have challenges with having the capacity to provide this level of training, it should be pointed out, as Berkowitz, et al., that there are some fairly effective systems which can assist in enhancing the educational experience in mathematics.

Two very sobering facts drive home the importance of addressing education as an environmental factor for the disadvantaged. First, Author shows that profound effect that differential levels of education can have on relative earnings. He goes on to clearly show the fundamental disadvantage of inequality by demonstrating that
inequality itself impedes economic mobility. A quote from the study, two of the strongest predictors of children's ultimate educational attainment are parental education and parental earnings.

If Author was not sufficiently persuasive, one need only visit Cho to realize that economies which offer differential compensation as a fundamental condition of their structure will evolve to inequality at the exponential scale. While one may be disillusioned by these data, we should recognize the inherent capacity for such competitive economies to have the promotion, the potential to promote well-being. We should also be mindful of the potential for class-based migration up the income ladder via enhanced skill sets.

I'm sorry I took a couple of extra seconds. But I told you I'd go to the end of the paragraph.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Please state your name.

MS. CORNINGHILL: Hi. My name is Jo Corninghill. And I just wanted to say a couple things. One, I'm 24 years old. And so I will be dealing with the state of the world getting worse
and worse for a lot longer than a lot of people in
this room. And I also, I just, I want to say that I
am not - I did not identify as being part of a
marginalized community. I'm speaking to the
question about DEP engaging with marginalized
communities, number three. I'm curious how many
people, by show of hands, identify as being part of
a marginalized community. Raise your hand.

Okay, we've got about two in a pretty
small, like room full of not many people. And so I
think that answers the question. I don't have
anything to say on behalf of marginalized
communities. And I don't think I or anyone who is
not from them should be saying anything on behalf of
them. Although, I do really appreciate all of the
information spoken today. And I think there's
really important work going on. I think you could -
it's also as if you didn't do anything because
there's so much more yet to be done in terms of
going that input from the people who are actually
being impacted. Thanks.

DR. HALWORTH: Dr. Marilyn Halworth
again. I just wanted to mention that although
poverty is really very important to health, there's
no question about that, there are some very specific
ways that we can overcome the environmental justice communities, some of these issues.

The VW settlement has just come out and Pennsylvania has been identified as one of those states that they're actually going to get a pile of money. And I would urge you to utilize those funds for our environmental justice communities. Those vehicles that overburdened our communities because they weren't following the law, they did so more so in very populated areas, very environmentally vulnerable areas. And so let's, you know, just kind of make it right in some ways by using those funds in those same places.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Anyone else that would like to speak? If there's nobody else? I'll turn it back over to Carl.

MS. ROSENWEIN: My name is Linda Rosenwein. My name is Linda Rosenwein and I'm here with Planet Philadelphia, which is a radio show on the environment of our community. I wanted to second what someone said about helping us to help you. There are a lot of people with different organizations here today and around the Philadelphia area who have projects that they are working on related to environmental justice. And it's not a
thing about -- separating the government out saying this and we're doing that. I think they're, that getting a survey of what's out there and how you could partner with different places might really help you in your endeavors.

REP. BULLOCK: State Representative Donna Bullock again. I just wanted to come back and say thank you again to the Secretary and DEP for coming out. Thank you all for coming out. I volunteer the whole system our district. And I also wanted to thank Water Works for opening their gates. I know it's not always convenient to find one central location for everybody. But I definitely was honored to have this session today in my district.

Secondly, this is not going to be the last time for this. This is not going your last time for Philadelphia. And I'm going to make that promise to everybody in the room today. Last fall, I had an environmental justice commissioner right in the heart of North Philadelphia at 23rd and Ridge. Many of you that are here today was in that room. And we also had many people right in the community of North Philadelphia interacting with advocates.

And in that meeting I said to those
folks, and I say all the time, I was never, I never considered myself an environmentalist. I didn't understand it. I was a city girl. And I didn't realize that the environment was everything around me. And I also acknowledge that many of us do not have the privilege to be an advocate. Many of us do not have the privilege to sit in on a listening session. Many of us don't have a privilege to go to Harrisburg and speak our minds. So those of us who do have that privilege, those of us who have the time and the resources to be an advocate, to be a policy expert, you have a responsibility with that privilege.

And so I thank you for coming out today and understanding that while you may have solely have spoken, I think in good - with good intentions and on the right issues for all of Philadelphians, all Pennsylvanians, we have to bring that message back home. And I've heard that today. And we will continue to do these conversations, have other advocates also share our joy, and share pains, which that young lady mentioned earlier.

And in doing that in an informal environment that we had very informal mixers. There was one speaker, Maurice Stanton from Clean Water
had spoke. But other than that, we did mix, got to
know each other, found out who the players were,
find out who that block captain was that's going out
every day and cleaning up her block. Because she
cares about her environment just as much as that
policy advocate from the Sierra Club that goes to
Harrisburg and knocks on my door. Every one of us
cares about our children. We care about our elders.
And we know that you do, too, Secretary. So I look
forward to a partnership, both in Harrisburg and
here in Philadelphia. And hopefully you'll come
back.

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(WHEREUPON, AN OFF RECORD DISCUSSION WAS HELD.)

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MR. JONES: So first, let me thank you
all for coming out today. I like the feedback and
testimony. And so the next session we're going to
have with information. So this last slide, for
people who were not able to be here, we're accepting
comments online and in writing. So please, if there
are folks who could be here, who you know want to
give testimony, they can submit that to us here.
We're always available. Again, the brochure, which
is out front, has all the same contact information
as well.

We're having all of these listening sessions transcribed. So we have a stenographer who's in the back. So a transcript of the testimony from all the listening sessions will be made available online. And then we anticipate this to be the beginning of our conversation with you. So listening starts with us gathering facts, which is why we were taking the testimony now, so we can come back out and determine how to move forward with the steps that we take as a state as it relates from environmental justice.

Thank you again from the Office of Federal Justice. I will turn it back over to Secretary McDonnell.

MR. MINNOTT: So again, I have more to say. But can I just give it -?

MR. JONES: Correct. All written comments that we receive in addition, will also be attached with the written transcript testimony available online.

MR. MINNOTT: Thank you.

SECRETARY MCDONNELL: Thank you, Carl.

I'll point out he did not get applause. I'm surprised we didn't get more comments just as a
filibuster for the weather. That would help.

I thank you very much. Thank you to
the Representative and the Water Works here for
hosting us today.

One thing I'll leave you with, and
this is, you know, there's probably when you think
about the Secretary of a department, there's a lot
of roles that come into mine. One of the ways I
often describe my role in the agency is frankly my
calendar, right. I have 8 hours, 10 hours, 14
hours, 16 hours in a day in a series of half-hour,
hour, two-hour chunks while meeting with folks,
talking with folks. And for that half-hour,
whatever perspective I get, that's the perspective I
get. And that's all the perspective I get to get
for the answers.

So my view of all of this is if I sit
behind a desk on the 16th floor of a building in
Harrisburg, and just allow whatever perspective
comes in the door to come to me, that's not all the
perspective I need. That's why we're doing these
kind of sessions. That's why we're continuing to
engage in these kind of sessions. So I need all the
perspective. I want to really thank you for your
comments, your passion, your interests. Even though
those you just came out to listen tonight, thank you for that. But I hope you learned something from some of your fellow citizens here tonight. And I really, really look forward to engaging with you all in any number of forums on a government board basis.
So thank you very much. Thank you for your participation.

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HEARING CONCLUDED AT 5:42 P.M.

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings, hearing held before DEP Secretary McDonnell was reported by me on 5/25/2017 and that I, Jamie Ann Morris, read this transcript, and that I attest that this transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceeding.

Jamie Ann Morris,
Court Reporter