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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Dominion Cove Point LNG, LP : Docket No. PF12-16-000
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COVE POINT LIQUEFACTION PROJECT

Patuxent High School
12485 Southern Connector Blvd
Lusby, Maryland 20657
Tuesday, October 9, 2012

The environmental scoping meeting, pursuant to notice, convened
at 7:16 p.m., before a Staff Panel:

MAGGIE SUTER, Environmental Engineer
ZEKE RICE, Merjent

With:

AMANDA PRESTAGE, Regulatory and Certificates Analyst,
Dominion Cove Point LNG, LP

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

2 MS. SUTER: Good evening. On behalf of the Federal
3 Energy Regulatory Commission, or FERC, I'd like to welcome you all
4 here tonight. This is the environmental scoping meeting for the
5 Cove Point Liquefaction Project proposed by Dominion. Let the
6 record show that the public scoping meeting in Lusby, Maryland began
7 at 7:16 p.m. on October 9, 2012.

8 The primary purpose of this meeting is to provide you an
9 opportunity to comment on the project or the scope of the
10 environmental analysis being prepared for the Cove Point
11 Liquefaction Project.

12 My name is Maggie Suter, and I am an Environmental Project
13 Manager with the Commission's Office of Energy Projects. With me
14 tonight at the table is Zeke Rice, with Merjent, an environmental
15 consulting firm working as a third party contractor in assisting us
16 to prepare the environmental document for this project.

17 Working at the sign-in table is Gramm Brook, who is also
18 with Merjent.

19 FERC is an independent regulatory agency that regulates
20 interstate transmission of electricity, natural gas, and oil. We
21 review proposals and authorize construction of interstate natural
22 gas pipelines, storage facilities, and liquefied natural gas -- or
23 LNG -- terminals, as well as the licensing and inspection of
24 hydroelectric projects.

1 As a federal licensing agency we have the responsibility
2 under the National Environmental Policy Act -- or NEPA -- to consider
3 the potential environmental impact for which a project is under our
4 consideration.

5 With regard to the Cove Point Liquefaction Project, FERC
6 is the lead federal agency responsible for a NEPA review and for the
7 preparation of an environmental document. Thus far the Department
8 of Energy has agreed to participate as a cooperating agency in the
9 preparation of the environmental document. They will use this
10 document to meet their respective NEPA responsibilities, and
11 associated with issuing their permits.

12 As I said earlier, the primary purpose of the meeting
13 tonight is to give you an opportunity to comment on the project, or
14 on any environmental issues you would like to see covered in the
15 environmental document.

16 It will help us most if your comments are as specific as
17 possible regarding potential environmental impacts or reasonable
18 alternatives of the proposed Cove Point Liquefaction Project.
19 These issues generally focus on the potential for environmental
20 effects but may also address construction issues, mitigation, and
21 the environmental review process as a whole.

22 In addition, this meeting is designed to provide you with
23 an opportunity to meet with Dominion representatives after the
24 formal portion of the meeting closes so that you may ask them

1 questions and get more detailed information about their proposed
2 facility locations and the construction plans.

3 Tonight's agenda is simple. First I'm going to describe
4 the environmental review process and FERC's role in the project.
5 Then I'm going to allow Dominion to give a more complete description
6 of the proposal.

7 Finally, we will hear from those of you who have signed
8 up to speak.

9 If you would like to present comments tonight, please be
10 sure to sign the speaker's list at the sign-in table in the back of
11 the room.

12 I would like to briefly describe our environmental review
13 process for all of you.

14 All of you should have had a copy of this Notice of Intent
15 that was mailed out to you. We have copies of this sheet here in
16 the back of the room also for you.

17 Basically we're very early on in our process. We're
18 right here in this first Public Input Opportunity. We'll start out,
19 just to give you an overview of the project as a whole. Dominion
20 began with the pre-filing process, which means that a formal
21 application has not been provided to the Commission. It is in early
22 review so that we can have early public involvement, early agency
23 involvement to identify and concerns about the project.

24 They began this back in June of this year. We approved

1 them to enter into the prefiling process, and we started identifying
2 agencies and landowners and other affected individuals that would
3 be interested in participating in the process. Then we began with
4 our public input opportunity which was, FERC staff attended a
5 Dominion-sponsored open house which occurred back in July.

6 We issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental
7 document, which opened a scoping period. And that was issued on
8 September 24, 2012. And that had a 30 day comment period associated
9 with it. That 30 day comment period ends on October 24, 2012.

10 I want to emphasize, this comment period does not mean
11 that FERC staff will no longer accept any comments on the project.
12 The idea behind this comment period is it allows us time to begin
13 to analyze the comments that we receive. It gives Dominion the
14 opportunity to incorporate responses to your comments into its draft
15 Resource Reports that is preparing during the prefiling process.
16 The idea behind this comment period is it allows us time, during
17 prefiling, to begin to evaluate and research your issues.

18 If you continue to respond, which you are more than
19 welcome to do so, our docket does continue to remain open during the
20 entire process. It merely means that we may not be able to evaluate
21 your comments until later in our process, meaning you may not see
22 responses from Dominion or from FERC staff until we issue our
23 environmental document.

24 So during this entire process, Dominion is going to be

1 developing draft resource reports that will be filed publicly, on
2 the record. And you will be able to review those and submit comments
3 on those if you would like.

4 After that time they will eventually file a formal
5 application. The docket number will change -- and we'll address
6 that a little bit later in the speech. However, once we determine
7 that a complete application has been submitted, we will begin to
8 evaluate that and prepare and issue an environmental document. That
9 environmental document does get issued to the public, again for
10 another public comment period associated with that issuance.

11 After we issue the environmental document, the
12 Commission then decides to vote to approve or deny the project.

13 As I said, we are in the first part of this public input
14 opportunity, but there are more opportunities later on in the
15 process.

16 To emphasize what I mentioned earlier, no formal
17 application has yet been filed. We are in the pre-filing process,
18 but there are other federal, state and local agencies that have also
19 begun their review of the project. We do coordinate with those
20 agencies and work with them on our review of the project, even if
21 they are not formal cooperators. We do talk with agencies and review
22 and evaluate the project.

23 We will assess the project's effects on water bodies and
24 wetlands, vegetation and wildlife, endangered species, cultural

1 resources, soils, land use, air quality and safety; to name a few,
2 but any issues you can bring to our attention we do evaluate in our
3 environmental document, if it is associated with an environmental
4 impact.

5 All other issues, the Commission does evaluate in its
6 overall decision whether to approve or deny the project.

7 Dominion plans to file a formal application in April of
8 2013, and we will evaluate the completeness of that application.
9 The EA that I mentioned before will be mailed to all interested
10 parties. I would like to note, because of the size of our mailing
11 list, the mailed version of the environmental document is often on
12 CD. That means unless you tell us otherwise, the EA or environmental
13 document that you find in your mailbox will be on CD. If you prefer
14 to have a hard copy, you must indicate that choice on the return
15 mailer that was on the Notice of Intent that you received in the mail,
16 or you can let us know at the sign-in sheet that was at the back of
17 the room at the sign-in table.

18 Following the end of the comment period, the
19 Commissioners will vote whether to approve or deny the project.
20 I want to emphasize this point; the environmental document is not
21 a decisional document; it is not a yes or no. After we issue the
22 environmental document, which purely is a document which informs the
23 Commission and the public on what the environmental impacts of the
24 project are, the Commission then votes on whether or not to approve

1 or deny the project.

2 If you received the NOI in the mail, you are on our
3 mailing list and will continue to remain on our mailing list unless
4 you tell us that you do not want to be on our mailing list anymore.
5 If you did not receive it, we encourage you to sign in at our table
6 and let us know so that we may add you to our mailing list. We do
7 apologize if you did not receive it; the mailing list is quite large
8 and is always ever-evolving, so we do like to try to catch as many
9 people as we can.

10 I'd like to add that we encourage electronic filing of
11 all comments and other documents. We have a brochure at the sign-in
12 table that tells you about all electronic things at FERC; how to stay
13 involved, how to what we call eSubscribe, how to file comments, the
14 project; there's a brochure all about that so that you can stay
15 informed about the project.

16 However, if you prefer to submit written comments, there
17 are directions in the NOI and there's also a form at the sign-in table
18 that can tell you how to do that. We can also take your written
19 comments tonight; one of the FERC staff can help you with that.

20 It is very important that any comments you send,
21 electronically or by traditional mail, include the docket number for
22 the project. The docket number was on the cover of the NOI. If you
23 decide to send us a comment letter, you do need to include that number
24 on it. It will ensure that the member of FERC Staff evaluating the

1 project will get your comments as soon as possible.

2 The Docket No. for this project is PF12-16.

3 Now I'd like to briefly explain the roles of the FERC
4 Commission and of the FERC environmental staff. There is a five
5 member Commission that is responsible for making a determination on
6 whether to approve or deny the project. The environmental document,
7 as I mentioned, describes the project facilities and the associated
8 environmental impacts, along with alternatives to the project, and
9 mitigation to avoid or reduce impacts. And any conclusions or
10 recommendations that we may have.

11 As I mentioned earlier, this is not a decisional
12 document. The document is being prepared to disclose to the public
13 and the Commission the environmental impact of constructing and
14 operating the proposed project. When it is completed the Commission
15 will consider whether the environmental information from the
16 environmental document, along with non-environmental issues, such
17 as engineering, markets and rates in making its decision to approve
18 or deny Dominion's request for a certificate.

19 There is no review of FERC's decisions by the President
20 or Congress, which maintains FERC's independence as a regulatory
21 agency, providing for fair and unbiased decisions.

22 Before we start taking comments from you, I've asked
23 Dominion to provide a brief overview of the proposed project.
24 Amanda Prestage is going to provide some information on the proposed

1 project.

2 MS. PRESTAGE: Good evening. My name is Amanda
3 Prestage, and I am the Regulatory and Certificates Analyst for
4 Dominion for the Cove Point Liquefaction Project. I am responsible
5 for preparing the project application that is ultimately filed with
6 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for the Project.

7 Also here from Dominion are representatives from our
8 engineering, land lease and right-of-way, environmental, government
9 affairs, mediation relations, and operations departments.

10 I have prepared a speech that I will read into the record
11 so that the information may be accessible for later use. Tonight
12 I will provide information about Dominion, the proposed project, the
13 process we are undertaking for the Project, and the applicable
14 environmental and safety regulations.

15 I would like to start by expressing Dominion's
16 appreciation to everyone for coming tonight, and to say that we are
17 looking forward to your comments regarding the Cove Point
18 Liquefaction Project. We also appreciate the Federal Energy
19 Regulatory Commission affording us the opportunity to provide this
20 overview, with the goal of providing information and clarity about
21 the project to everyone.

22 First I would like to briefly describe Dominion Cove
23 Point LNG, L.P., or Dominion. Dominion owns and operates the Cove
24 Point LNG Terminal, the Cove Point Pipeline, and the Loudoun and

1 Pleasant Valley Compressor Stations. Dominion is the liquefied
2 natural gas -- or LNG -- business unit of Dominion Resources,
3 Incorporated, which is one of the nation's largest producers and
4 transporters of energy, serving more than five million electricity
5 and natural gas customers in 15 states in the Mid-Atlantic, Midwest,
6 and Northeast regions of the United States.

7 Next I would like to describe the project and project
8 facilities.

9 The Cove Point liquefaction project will involve
10 construction of new facilities and expansion of existing facilities,
11 to provide liquefaction and LNG export services to customers who will
12 provide their own natural gas supply. The proposed liquefaction
13 facilities, combined with existing facilities, will provide a
14 bidirectional service for import and export of LNG at the Cove Point
15 LNG terminal located in Calvert County, Maryland.

16 Additional compression on the Cove Point pipeline is
17 required to deliver the inlet gas to the Cove Point LNG terminal.
18 Dominion proposes to install additional compression, up to
19 approximately 34,000 horsepower at its existing Loudoun compressor
20 station and/or Pleasant Valley compressor station, located in
21 Loudoun and Fairfax Counties, Virginia, respectively.

22 Dominion will construct the proposed liquefaction
23 facilities at the Cove Point LNG terminal and use about 200 acres
24 of offsite property in Calvert County for temporary construction,

1 lay down and parking areas. The entire Cove Point LNG terminal
2 property encompasses more than 1000 acres. However, the new
3 liquefaction facilities will be placed on 40 to 60 acres within the
4 fenced area of the 130 acre operating industrial area.

5 The Cove Point pipeline will be used to transport the
6 natural gas supplies to the Cove Point LNG terminal for liquefaction.
7 The new liquefaction facilities will tie into the existing plant and
8 share common equipment and infrastructure such as the LNG tanks,
9 pumps, piping, and pier to support both services: Importing and
10 exporting LNG.

11 The main components of the project will consist of one
12 LNG train, which is a type of processing equipment, and will be
13 capable of processing an average total of 750 million standard cubic
14 feet per day of natural gas for a nominal LNG train capacity of
15 approximately 4.5 to 5 million tons per annum. The liquefaction
16 facilities will utilize new natural gas-fired turbines to drive the
17 main refrigerant compressors. The facility will also generate
18 additional power on site to meet the power needs of the liquefaction
19 plant.

20 Equipment will also be installed to remove impurities
21 from the gas stream, which have no heating value, have corrosive
22 potential, or will crystallize during the liquefaction process.

23 There will be no LNG transported through existing
24 interstate natural gas pipelines in Virginia or Maryland. The

1 natural gas will not be liquefied until it reaches the Cove Point
2 LNG terminal in Maryland.

3 The project will not result in any increase to the
4 previously authorized ship traffic at the Cove Point LNG terminal.
5 Exporting LNG from the terminal would reverse the direction of LNG
6 traffic from incoming ships unloading LNG at the terminal to outgoing
7 ships, loading and transporting LNG from the terminal.

8 Ships receiving LNG for export would exchange ballast
9 water prior to coming to Cove Point so that any discharged ballast
10 water would meet U.S. Coast Guard regulations.

11 To minimize disturbance of the natural areas at the Cove
12 Point LNG terminal, offsite areas will be used for temporary
13 construction lay down and parking. One lay down area, Offsite Area
14 A, will be used for a staging -- as a staging area for equipment and
15 supplies, pre-assembly, and construction worker parking. This 186
16 acre site is located approximately one and a half miles west of the
17 liquefaction facilities, along Route 2-4.

18 A second lay-down area, Offsite Area B, is proposed as
19 a barging site to receive major equipment and supplies that are best
20 transported by water. The equipment and supplies will then be
21 transported to the other lay down area or directly to the
22 liquefaction facility.

23 Next I will discuss where we are in the FERC process.

24 In June 2012, Dominion began the National Environmental

1 Policy Act Prefiling process with FERC. This process allows
2 Dominion to work closely with FERC, resource agencies, communities,
3 and individual landowners during the early permitting stages of the
4 project, with the goals of better coordination of major permitting
5 issues and a more complete project application when filed.

6 Dominion is currently in the initial assessment,
7 planning, and design stage of the process. At the conclusion of the
8 prefiling process, Dominion will file a formal application with
9 FERC. Draft resource reports for the project will be filed next
10 month, and will be available for viewing on FERC's eLibrary website.

11 The formal application for a Certificate of Public
12 Convenience and Necessity and Section 3 authorization will finalize
13 the project scope, and include environmental resource reports.
14 These reports, which will consider your public comments and comments
15 by the agencies, will also be available to the public for review and
16 comment.

17 In addition to providing comments tonight, the public
18 will have an opportunity to comment on the resource reports and the
19 application. Dominion anticipates filing the application for the
20 project in April 2013. After FERC approval, construction of the
21 facilities is planned to begin in early 2014 to meet a projected
22 in-service date for the entire project in 2017.

23 The construction, operation, and maintenance of the
24 project will require permits and regulatory approvals from various

1 federal, state, and local agencies. Dominion will work with all
2 governing bodies and the local communities to ensure that the
3 facilities are developed and operated to meet or exceed all safety,
4 environmental, regulatory and legal requirements.

5 At the project facility site locations, Dominion will
6 perform relevant field studies and surveys necessary to assess the
7 environmental impact of the project. As part of the FERC process,
8 an environmental document will be written and distributed by FERC
9 to communicate and establish environmental conditions and
10 mitigation measures for the project. Dominion will comply with
11 environmental laws, including but not limited to the National
12 Environmental Policy Act, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, National
13 Historic Preservation Act, Archeological and Historic Preservation
14 Act, and Endangered Species Act.

15 In addition to compliance with environmental laws,
16 safety is a core value of Dominion. Dominion incorporates this core
17 value into the design of its facilities, and strives to meet or exceed
18 the safety regulations in its operations.

19 Dominion must comply with pipeline safety regulations
20 set forth by the U.S. Department of Transportation as well as FERC.
21 Dominion has operated its natural gas facilities for over a hundred
22 years, and has a very good safety record. Dominion will continue
23 to comply with federal, state, and local safety laws to achieve
24 reliable operations for the proposed facility.

1 In closing, I would like to say that Dominion strives to
2 be both a good neighbor and a good corporate citizen. Dominion's
3 field supervision will work with local residents to address their
4 concerns and inform them of operating activities that may directly
5 affect them.

6 Dominion will work with the local community and
7 landowners to address their concerns raised during the permitting
8 and detailed design period of the project. Your comments tonight
9 and throughout the FERC process will provide an opportunity to
10 complete the Cove Point liquefaction project in a safety and
11 environmentally respectful manner.

12 I would again like to thank you for the opportunity to
13 provide this information tonight.

14 MS. SUTER: Thank you, Amanda.

15 After our meeting here is adjourned, representatives
16 from Dominion will be available with project maps and will be on hand
17 to answer additional questions about the project.

18 We will now be getting to the important part of the
19 meeting where we will hear your comments and we will first take
20 comments from those who signed up on our speaker's list. After all
21 of those who've signed up to speak, if there is time remaining, we
22 will allow additional speakers to come up to the microphones and
23 speak as well.

24 If you would prefer, you may hand us written comments,

1 as I mentioned earlier this evening.

2 I'd like to emphasize, whether you provide your comments
3 verbally or written and mail them in, we will consider them equally.

4 So let's set some minor ground rules. I'm sure that you
5 have noticed that tonight's meeting is being recorded by a
6 transcription service up here at the front. This is being done so
7 that all of your comments and questions will be transcribed and put
8 into the public record.

9 To help the court reporter produce an accurate record of
10 this meeting, I ask that you please follow some minor ground rules.

11 When your name is called, I ask you to please come up to
12 the podium up here in front of the room and speak into the microphone.
13 State and spell your name for the record. Identify any agency or
14 group that you are representing, and define any acronyms that you
15 may use.

16 I also ask that everybody in the audience please respect
17 the speaker who is talking and refrain from any audible show of
18 agreement or disagreement while they are speaking. Please hold
19 applause or disagreement until they are done.

20 Please make sure that you face FERC staff so that FERC
21 staff and the court reporter can accurately record all of your
22 comments.

23 We are now ready to call the first speaker.

24 Jack Russell.

1 MR. RUSSELL: Good afternoon. My name is Jack Russell.
2 That's J-a-c-k R-u-s-s-e-l-l. Jack Russell. And I'm president
3 of the Board of County Commissioners in St. Mary's County.

4 And I will not belabor the point, but I am here as a
5 representative of the Board of County Commissioners in St. Mary's
6 County, lending support to the Board of Commissioners from Calvert
7 County in support of this project.

8 After having been a waterman for 50 years, I can see some
9 of the aspects of this project. And I will just go over some of them.

10 Number one, the shift traffic will not be increased, as
11 we understand it now.

12 Discharge from ballasts is a big thing for the Chesapeake
13 Bay of which we have to look out for.

14 And the third thing, from the time I've worked in the
15 river and been incorporated here around St. Mary's and Calvert
16 County, we have known Dominion to be a good, safe partner with those
17 of us who work the Chesapeake Bay.

18 So that's my motive here this evening. Thank you for
19 having us here and allowing us time to speak. Have a great evening.

20 MS. SUTER: Thank you very much for your comments.

21 The next speaker on the list is Jerry Clark.

22 MR. CLARK: Good evening. My name is Gerald Clark,
23 G-e-r-a-l-d C-l-a-r-k.

24 Good evening. My name is Gerald Clark, or Jerry, as a

1 lot of people call me. I'm the president of the Board of County
2 Commissioners in Calvert County.

3 On behalf of the Commissioners and the citizens of
4 Calvert County, we welcome the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
5 -- better known as FERC -- back to Calvert County.

6 FERC is no stranger to Calvert County and has provided
7 outstanding review services for energy expansion projects in the
8 past.

9 FERC is here tonight to provide an opportunity for the
10 public to learn more about the Dominion Cove Point's desire to make
11 improvements at the Cove Point facility in Lusby, Maryland. This
12 public meeting is part of FERC's process to comply with the National
13 Environmental Policy Act to provide an environmental document on the
14 potential impacts of the proposed Dominion Cove Point gas
15 exportation project.

16 As mentioned, FERC is very familiar with Calvert County
17 and Dominion's operations at Cove Point. In 2001 FERC approved the
18 reactivation of the terminal and the construction of the new onsite
19 facilities. In 2006 FERC approved a major expansion of the facility
20 which nearly doubled the size of the terminal. In 2009 FERC approved
21 the expansion of the offshore pier to accommodate docking of larger
22 LNG vessels.

23 We hope to see the approval of the liquefaction plan and
24 other support facilities that the company can both import -- so the

1 company can both import and export liquefied natural gas as quickly
2 as possible.

3 The board is aware of Dominion's seeking federal approval
4 to export 750 million cubic feet of natural gas per day, building
5 a new facility within the existing fence line, using the existing
6 LNG storage tanks, pipes, equipment and pier.

7 We also are aware that the improvements are being done
8 mostly onsite with minimal impact to the local community during the
9 construction. We fully support this approach.

10 The existing facility and proposed expansion plays a
11 significant economic role in our community. We are therefore very
12 pleased that Dominion is working towards approval of expanding this
13 facility.

14 In time when each family in our county, state, nation
15 struggles with sluggish economy, Dominion brings to our community
16 investment of over \$2.5 billion. That could result in significant
17 tax revenue for our county and citizens.

18 This impact of this investment is significant to us.
19 Why? Because the investment of this magnitude could stabilize the
20 county budget, allow us to continue to provide outstanding services
21 to our citizens with minimal impact on personal budgets. The new
22 investment will help make Cove Point a more visible and viable
23 facility in our community for years to come.

24 Dominion's commitment to our community will result in

1 thousands of new jobs during construction, new permanent jobs in our
2 community, and significant tax revenue to our county.

3 Thank you again for your time this evening and for taking
4 the opportunity to make the public aware of this project.

5 As with any economic development project, the county
6 expects to see significant employment opportunities during
7 construction of the facility and additional property tax revenues
8 as a result of the expansion. However, supporting this project
9 comes with -- supporting this project goes beyond economic impact.

10 Our decision is simple, easy and uncomplicated:
11 Dominion is a good and responsible corporate citizen in the community
12 and we do -- I repeat: We do have a vested interest in their success.

13 However, we also possess knowledge of the plant's safe
14 operation history. We also know their dedication to public safety.
15 And we also witness the environmental and community commitment that
16 they have.

17 Since the mid-1970s, Cove Point has operated seamlessly
18 in Calvert County. The facility's management has been diligent in
19 their preservation of the environment and assurance of the highest
20 standards of safety in the industry. We remain confident Dominion
21 will continue their efforts to ensure the utmost principles of safety
22 and environmental preservation in our community.

23 Throughout Southern Maryland Cove Point is recognized as
24 a cooperative partner, employer, and community asset. We also

1 recognize the important role Cove Point plays in meeting our nation's
2 energy needs. And we are proud to stand in full support of this
3 effort.

4 Based on the benefits of the proposed project, we
5 encourage FERC to move quickly through their approval process
6 without delay. Our request of FERC is that you continue to provide
7 an open and transparent public process where everyone has an
8 opportunity to ask questions, express their opinions and learn more
9 of the regulatory process.

10 We appreciate your time this evening and look forward to
11 continuing working on a continued understanding working
12 relationship.

13 Just on a real quick personal note, as I look around this
14 room this evening I see quite a few people -- or a few people that
15 remember in the mid-'70s or late-'70s when the plant originally
16 opened. I'm one of them, and there are a few other people that are
17 maybe as old as me that are here, too. And there's quite a few that
18 haven't. We've watched this as a community; we've watched this
19 facility be a benefit to Calvert County from the very beginning.

20 Calvert County is a very fortunate county. We have had
21 some very significant utility projects that have made this county
22 grow and become one of the shining stars of the State of Maryland.
23 We have a tremendous educational system that can be the thanks of
24 a lot of the utility systems that have come into Calvert County, both

1 of them that we have.

2 And I see that this facility when it comes to fruition
3 will be the next phase and the next step for Calvert County to achieve
4 even farther up that goal of being the best county in the State of
5 Maryland to live and to prosper.

6 Thank you very much.

7 MS. SUTER: Okay. Our next speaker on the list is Mark
8 Fisher.

9 MR. FISHER: Well, thank you. It's a pleasure to be here
10 in support of this project.

11 You know, for the past two weeks alone I've had three
12 folks that I know really well who are about to lose their homes
13 because of a lack of employment in this state and in this county.
14 And it seems like it's been that way for years. And we now have a
15 project that has the opportunity to employ 3000 people.

16 Maryland's real unemployment rate is 12.7 percent. That
17 includes people who are unemployed, underemployed, and people who
18 are structurally unemployed. 12.7 percent. And that's low
19 compared to where it's been for the past four years.

20 People need work. This project provides work not just
21 for 3000 construction jobs and then long-term jobs after that that
22 are good jobs, but it also provides jobs in an economic multiplier
23 effect.

24 So think about it for a second. If all these folks are

1 working, they're going to be shopping in the local stores. They're
2 going to be eating at the local restaurants. They're going to be
3 spending money in the local establishments. They're going to be
4 interested in potentially buying a home in Calvert County, which will
5 buoy our real estate market which has been suffering very badly over
6 the years.

7 This project is needed because it also provides
8 apprenticeship programs for our local youth, which will be
9 integrated into the local public schools.

10 More importantly, of course, is -- and this is something
11 that I think often escapes folks -- is that it will generate \$40
12 million a year in local property tax revenue. \$40 million. That's
13 a game-changer for Calvert County.

14 We're talking about the possibility of not just funding
15 our public education system and public safety systems in a better
16 way, but also keeping local real estate property taxes low. That
17 would make us, believe me, the envy of the state. In fact, this
18 project is in many respects the envy of the state because of all those
19 economic benefits.

20 No project is perfect. I'm the first to admit it. No
21 project is without some downsides. But I will tell you the
22 interesting thing about natural gas, as I've learned more about it
23 and as I continue to try to educate myself about it, is that right
24 now across the East Coast we have so many coal-fired plants that could

1 be converted to natural gas. And that would have a tremendous
2 environmental benefit not just to Maryland but for the entire
3 country.

4 And so for all those reasons I support this project. I
5 want to get people back to work. That's what this project does.

6 Thank you.

7 MS. SUTER: Thank you.

8 The next speaker --

9 UNIDENTIFIED PARTICIPANT: Who was this gentleman? He
10 didn't say.

11 MS. SUTER: That was Mark Fisher, I believe with the
12 Maryland House of Delegates?

13 MR. FISHER: Yes.

14 UNIDENTIFIED PARTICIPANT: From which district?

15 MS. SUTER: Which district?

16 MR. FISHER: 27B, which is Prince Frederick.

17 MS. SUTER: For future comments, guys, in order to keep
18 everything working for on the record, comments have to come up to
19 the microphone so that the court reporter can get it. And I
20 understand he did need to specify his affiliation.

21 And for all future speakers, as a reminder, please
22 remember to state your name and if you are a representative of any
23 affiliation, please identify that as well.

24 The next speaker we have on the list is Jean Marie Neal.

1 MS. NEAL: Thank you.

2 My name is Jean Marie Neal. My address is 2950 Beacon
3 Court in the Cove of Calvert, which is a residential community in
4 very close proximity to the Dominion Cove Point facility.

5 I am representing and have been asked by the board to
6 represent the Cove of Calvert Home Owners' Association.

7 The Cove of Calvert consists of about 60 homes, and is
8 just one of several communities located in close proximity to the
9 plant. What the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission decides in
10 this regulatory process will have an impact on our lives. For you,
11 it is satisfying the requirements of the National Environmental
12 Policy Act. But for us it is very much more.

13 The Cove of Calvert HOA sent a letter on August 8 to the
14 appropriate officials at the Department of Energy and FERC. In this
15 four-page letter we raised many questions, numerous concerns about
16 Dominion's plans. Our letter, signed by all five board members,
17 following a full HOA membership meeting, made this statement.
18 Quote:

19 "We fail to see how this would be in the public interest
20 or that of our community from an environmental, safety, and economic
21 perspective."

22 I would like to ask that our letter be added to the record
23 of this meeting.

24 Since then we have been able through public filings to

1 learn more about the project. We've also come to realize how little
2 information is now available to the public. As the contact person
3 for the HOA on this, I am stunned at the enormous and wide-reaching
4 scale of this project.

5 It is really not accurate to call this an expansion of
6 the existing Cove Point facility. An expansion would be what
7 they've done in the past to expand the existing importation facility.

8 The proposed plans, if approved, would change the
9 fundamental mission of Dominion Cove Point. It includes major
10 construction involving three or four locations, adds more than 200
11 new acres of land to accomplish the construction, and in the end
12 Dominion Cove Point would become a liquefaction and export facility
13 with far different processes and impacts than just an importation
14 facility.

15 For this reason we believe it would not be fulfilling the
16 spirit or the requirements of NEPA unless a full environmental impact
17 statement is performed. In 2005 and '06 when Dominion was doing an
18 expansion of Cove Point FERC ordered an EIS. That project literally
19 pales in comparison to what is now proposed.

20 While there were concerns about the previous expansions
21 of the import facilities, the residents of our community did not
22 formally object. Many of us felt that it was doing our part as
23 citizens, realizing that the United States is an energy-dependent
24 country and that we need to import energy resources as a result.

1 Just as an aside in following on the comments on natural
2 gas, I've been a strong supporter of the increased use of natural
3 gas as an energy source, especially because it is cleaner and less
4 expensive. And, as Mr. Fisher referenced, it can be used to convert
5 coal plants to natural gas. However, what Mr. Fisher did not say
6 is that this facility is taking the gas and exporting it to other
7 countries.

8 There is nothing about this project that is going to give
9 more gas to the United States; quite the opposite.

10 After years and years of hearing how we need to develop
11 our own internal sources of energy, and likewise being told that
12 natural gas is the key to this cleaner environment, we're now being
13 told it would be good to sell our one abundant -- possibly abundant
14 -- energy resource to other countries. Indeed, we're being asked
15 to allow the construction and operation of what is virtually a new
16 facility here in our community so Dominion can fulfill the contracts
17 it is already negotiating with Asian companies -- specifically
18 Japan.

19 If there were no negative impacts on local and regional
20 environment, safety, air quality, water quality and health, it might
21 be different. This new facility will directly affect us as nearby
22 residents, as well as our wetlands and marshes and our efforts to
23 clean and maintain the Chesapeake Bay and Patuxent River.

24 I should note that the American Public Gas Association,

1 which represents publicly-owned natural gas utilities such as the
2 Southern Maryland Rural Electric Co-op, is on record opposing the
3 exportation of U.S.-produced and owned natural gas due to the price
4 impact on American consumers, the threat to developing energy
5 independence, and the expected increased U.S. demand for natural gas
6 here in our country.

7 I don't know if you saw T. Boone Pickens was on Morning
8 Joe recently. And he is a big proponent, as you probably know, of
9 increased use of natural gas. When the question of exportation came
10 up Mr. Pickens said, "It makes no sense to me," and went on to say
11 that we are taking our own natural resource and we will put it into
12 a global marketplace, just like oil is now. And the prices we pay
13 now and SMECO pays now for natural gas will triple, quadruple, et
14 cetera.

15 Asian countries already pay six to ten times what we pay
16 for natural gas. So where do you think that natural gas is going
17 to go for the most part unless we start paying equal amounts.

18 Dominion Cove Point has been a facility for importing
19 LNG, a process much less risky and less technical than what is now
20 being proposed. They're proposing to use at least three sections
21 of land mass, one some seven to eight miles from the plant location,
22 and will add up to 205 or more additional acres of land for the
23 construction.

24 What is being proposed simply does not fit into lower

1 Calvert County. It is rather like trying to fit a square peg into
2 a round hole. It will put new stress on the Chesapeake Bay and bring
3 the Patuxent River into play.

4 Thousands of large trucks and other vehicles will travel
5 two-lane Cove Point Road, which I should note is the sole evacuation
6 route for thousands of us, including many people here, if something
7 should happen at either the Dominion facility or the very, very close
8 Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Plant.

9 Two or more gas turbines will be installed, resulting in
10 permanent noise issues for residents in our community who already
11 suffer from the noise of the existing two. And this has been made
12 known to Dominion in the past.

13 The addition of liquefaction has many other components.
14 You just look at the application to FERC. It says that, of these
15 components, will include an inlet feed gas heater, feed gas
16 compressor, acid gas removal unit, gas dehydration and mercury
17 removal unit, refrigeration and liquefaction units, one or two new
18 drive transit trains, et cetera, et cetera, in a long list that's
19 provided to FERC.

20 That does not represent a little expansion.

21 The filing with FERC goes on to say -- quote:

22 The project may -- may -- require new facilities or
23 modifications to the existing site, including, but not limited to,
24 new or remodeled warehouses, new or remodeled control room, new or

1 remodeled storage for chemicals and other substances onsite,
2 relocation or replacement of facilities, with no indication of what
3 type of facilities, addition of LNG pumps and piping modifications,
4 new storage tanks as needed, new booster compressors, new heat
5 exchangers, minor modifications to the pier, modification to or
6 additional roads as needed, and on and on and on.

7 And, yes, Dominion does not follow this up by saying they
8 do not see a need for an environmental impact statement; just a simple
9 environmental assessment will do just fine.

10 We disagree. As someone who worked in Congress for 22
11 years, mostly as a Senate Chief of Staff, I do appreciate the
12 difference between an environmental assessment and an environmental
13 impact statement. It is a world of difference.

14 Consider this. Dominion is negotiating -- and I notice
15 Mr. Clark did not mention this. All we keep hearing is about how
16 this is going to be restricted to the current inside the fence area
17 at Dominion.

18 Dominion is now negotiating with a landowner in Solomons
19 to lease or buy their farmland. Those plans are filed as
20 confidential, and we the public has no access. We know there will
21 be a tremendous impact on the beautiful town of Solomons. And I
22 would bet the impact will have a negative effect on what now supports
23 Solomons: Tourism, fishing and boating.

24 The land they propose to develop is across from the

1 Calvert Marine Museum, an extremely popular facility for tourism and
2 a facility that conducts regular frequent programs for a large number
3 of children onsite.

4 The land would be developed with major lighting into a
5 full-scale construction site located right on the Patuxent River.
6 It would be used to hold large equipment, parking for workers coming
7 into the area from other areas, and for unloading of barges bringing
8 in equipment.

9 This raises a lot of questions. Will they take over the
10 existing Pepper Langley boating area, now heavily used by area
11 boaters and proudly dedicated to the memory of a local hero? Or will
12 they build new large piers on the Patuxent?

13 By the way, for Solomon residents, they should note that
14 the coming in by barge is so large that it will be required to travel
15 Route 4 to the Cove Point facility -- again, seven to eight miles
16 -- in the wee morning hours. I was told two or three a.m. perhaps.
17 I certainly hope that the people of Solomons don't intend to be
18 sleeping during that time.

19 Just the aspect of this expansion of the project screams
20 for intensive environmental study that cannot and will not be made
21 through an environmental assessment.

22 Other issues at the Cove Point facility location: Trees
23 will be removed, storm water runoff will increase, septic demands
24 will increase. What are the plans to deal with that? What about

1 groundwater contamination or the use of tremendous amounts of water
2 -- and I mean tremendous -- from the same aquifer planned to be used
3 for Prince Frederick's new water system.

4 Does the facility have a nitrogen removal septic system,
5 as residents are now required to install? The noise congestion, air
6 quality changes, impact of major construction traffic, et cetera,
7 all falls on the residents of the Cove of Calvert and the other
8 neighborhoods nearby.

9 What are the environmental offsets that will be purchased
10 which will let Dominion exceed air quality standards in our area
11 where we live by purchasing offsets from other facilities? What is
12 the impact of that? What does it mean? We have no idea.

13 What if there should be an explosion or fire on the
14 facility? Is the county equipped to deal with something of that
15 nature? What's the coordination being done with the fire
16 department?

17 We as a community cannot pay for independent scientific
18 analysis. But in effect we feel like we've already paid for that
19 because that's what our tax dollars go for.

20 I should note that on a permanent basis another fact that
21 hasn't been said here today, the new Dominion Cove Point facility
22 will only add 60 to 70 permanent employees. 60 to 70 permanent
23 employees. And I would guess -- and it's purely a guess on my part
24 -- that many or most of them will come from other Dominion facilities.

1 I'm very skeptical as well about how many of the construction workers
2 will actually come from Calvert County.

3 If you look at the history of this facility, this is at
4 least the third, maybe the fourth company which has tried to operate.
5 It has failed repeatedly. None of the promises made to the county
6 by other companies, and by Dominion when they did this last
7 expansion, have been met.

8 I also might add that different people here referred to,
9 well, there won't be an increase in vessels, the large tankers coming
10 in. Number one, get rid of the mistaken idea that the Coast Guard
11 escorts those tankers all across the Chesapeake Bay to the Cove Point
12 pier. That does not happen. The Coast Guard quit doing that long
13 ago.

14 We watch these in our community; we stand on the beach
15 and watch it. There are no longer Coast Guard ships in front or
16 behind. They come in by themselves.

17 In terms of tankers, the facility has been approved for
18 up to 200 a year, I believe. This was in past expansions. They have
19 told us that there will be 70 to 90 that will start coming in once
20 this facility is in operation. This is quite a contrast to what came
21 in last year: Five tankers. Five tankers. A little different
22 than 70.

23 On liability, Dominion is proposing that almost all
24 responsibility for liability in case something should go wrong will

1 rest on the companies from other countries which have contracts to
2 buy the gas. In other words, they are saying that they're providing
3 just a service and the liability rests with the companies that are
4 purchasing the gas, which means if we have some issue in the Cove
5 of Calvert and we need to deal with it, we're going to have to deal
6 with the Chinese- or Japanese-owned company, not Dominion.

7 In closing, I would like the record to note that it is
8 really a myth that Dominion Cove Point consults with its neighbors
9 and keeps us informed. We all read about the new plans in the Calvert
10 Recorder. Our HOA has never been contacted through the years by
11 Dominion until the HOA sent its letter to DOE and FERC.

12 I have talked to many people in surrounding communities
13 in the last month, and they say the same thing.

14 After we sent our letter it got their attention and the
15 Board and I met with Dominion. Their presentation basically
16 followed their presentation on their website. We did appreciate the
17 meeting and their time. But no one there tried to address the
18 concerns in our letter. I don't think anybody even had a copy in
19 front of them; I didn't see it.

20 When we brought up safety, they said a fire or explosion
21 is impossible in this process. When we brought up increased
22 terrorism threats, especially with the Calvert Cliffs Plant
23 adjacent, they said terrorism won't happen.

24 You know, there's a comment that was made by the Dominion

1 spokesman when they were first announcing that they were going to
2 be filing for this new mission. Spokesman Dan Donovan was asked
3 about the effects of the new project on residents and told reporters
4 that the Cove Point LNG is -- quote:

5 "--kind of isolated. There will be a lot of trucks
6 bringing in equipment, but I don't know that it's going to be too
7 disruptive."

8 Well, as a lot of us here can testify, it's not isolated.
9 There are numerous, numerous communities there. We have a lot of
10 people in our communities that commute over to the Patuxent Air Base.
11 We're not remote.

12 Likewise, we know our Board of Commissioners does not
13 solicit public opinions but endorses any project if it means new tax
14 dollars without considering the impact on residents' lives and the
15 environment. I heard today the Board's endorsement of this project.
16 They have never bothered to reach out to residents. They rely on
17 studies done by and paid by Dominion.

18 I talked to the County Office of Economic Development and
19 I was asking for some information and studies; everything they
20 referred me to was Dominion documents.

21 The burden of proof on the impacts of this project should
22 rest on those that will profit: Dominion, not local residents.
23 That would be a serious flaw in this whole process if that happens.
24 All information and full plans should be available to the public,

1 to FERC, and DOE before decisions are made.

2 To merely do an environmental assessment will
3 shortchange us and make a total mockery of the goals of NEPA. We
4 must depend on FERC and DOE, and all we can do is to ask you to please
5 take this seriously and not just as a procedural duty.

6 As I've said before this is an effort to turn the Dominion
7 Cove Point facility into something it was never intended to be and
8 something that is not feasible. It is really that square peg trying
9 to fit into a round hole. It just does not fit in lower Calvert
10 County. And the impact of the two to three offsites will be huge.
11 And we're not talking about a short period of time; we're talking
12 about at least three years of construction.

13 Thank you.

14 Oh, if I can raise one more thing. This meeting tonight,
15 I don't know what the method of notification was. We've been
16 watching the *Calvert Reporter* and not seen any articles. I've been
17 watching and reading the legal ads and I haven't seen anyt. So maybe
18 we just missed them; but people in our community were really
19 surprised that there was no more effort for public notification for
20 something that's as important as a scoping meeting.

21 Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 MS. SUTER: Before I call the next speaker I'm just going
24 to address a few points that she made, to hopefully answer a few

1 questions. I'm not going to answer all of the questions and points
2 that you brought up, but just a few minor ones.

3 I'm going to start with the last one and kind of work
4 my way backwards.

5 Just in terms of the method of notification, the Notice
6 of Intent that was mailed out, it was mailed to all of the landowners
7 and -- affected landowners, interested parties, public interest
8 groups; it was mailed to libraries, it was mailed to newspapers, it
9 was mailed to a very large group --

10 MS. NEAL: No one in our community got it.

11 MS. SUTER: You cannot talk unless you're up at the
12 microphone. I'm sorry --

13 MS. NEAL: No one in our community got it.

14 MS. SUTER: You can't talk unless --

15 MS. NEAL: Why not?

16 Why not?

17 MS. SUTER: Because the court reporter needs to be able
18 to hear you to transcribe what's going on. I'm sorry, but that's
19 how our meetings are run.

20 That is how the mailing list went out. We tried to reach
21 as many folks as we can through our notices. We do recognize that
22 it is a large mailing list, and not everyone is reached, but we do
23 try to reach as many as we can. Some newspapers choose to run with
24 stories and issue notices; some choose not to. We do apologize that

1 not everyone is notified, but we do make every effort to reach as
2 many people as we can and to cast as wide a spread as we can.

3 When we came to the open houses, we also had the mailing
4 list with us, to add folks to the mailing list that maybe were not
5 on Dominion's original mailing list.

6 So we do try to constantly expand our mailing list. Just
7 like tonight, we had more sign-in sheets. If you did not receive
8 the original notice, you can again sign up to make sure that you
9 receive the environmental document and any additional mailings that
10 we send out. We do constantly try to expand our mailing list to reach
11 everyone. We are always trying to expand. That was that point.

12 I also want to emphasize: Yes, we do recognize we're
13 early in this process in terms of an EA versus an EIS. The notice
14 identified initially that we have set an EA; however, we said based
15 on the comments received during this process, the entire scoping
16 process, based on the draft resource report that we will get from
17 Dominion, based on all of the information and our evaluation of the
18 project, we may decide that an environmental impact statement is
19 needed.

20 So that decision has not officially been made; it is not
21 final yet. We have not decided that an EA is going to be prepared;
22 this is just how it works. You start out going down the road in some
23 cases of preparing an EA until you determine that there is sufficient
24 impact that an EIS is necessary. So we are still evaluating and

1 obtaining the scope of issues that are necessary be making that final
2 decision.

3 The next speaker on the list is Daniel Loveless.

4 MR. LOVELESS: Good evening. Daniel Loveless,
5 D-a-n-i-e-l L-o-v-e-l-e-s-s. I'm the Assistant Business Manager
6 with Steamfitters Local 602 in Washington, D.C.

7 First of all, I'd like to thank you for the opportunity
8 to express our thoughts and concerns regarding the proposed Cove
9 Point Liquefaction Project. As I said before, I'm the Assistant
10 Business Manager of the Steamfitters Local 602, and I stand in
11 support of this project. As Assistant Business Manager, my main
12 priority is the dispatching of manpower to contractors in need. In
13 this role it is imperative that I am familiar with capabilities and
14 skill set of the membership.

15 I can honestly stand before you today and say that there
16 are no better qualified workers in the country to perform the task
17 of building the Cove Point project than the members of our Local --
18 and the members of the local building trades here in attendance
19 tonight.

20 On a yearly basis our membership contributes over five
21 million dollars to an apprenticeship program. Our apprentices are
22 kept up, kept current with the latest technological advances in the
23 industry. We take great pride in the quality of our work.

24 Maintaining this high level of craftsmanship is a

1 responsibility on which the local places a high priority. It is
2 critical to being competitive in the workplace. The quality
3 training our members receive comes at no cost either to the general
4 public or the contractor. Having said that, I'd like to invite
5 anybody from the Commission to take a tour of our training facilities
6 should they accept to do so.

7 It's this level of craftsmanship that contributed in the
8 early '70s to the building of the Cove Point facility which was
9 constructed in partnership between the Consolidated Natural Gas
10 Company and Columbia Gas. Construction on this plant was built on
11 time and on budget by members of our local and the Washington and
12 Baltimore building trades.

13 And the high quality construction of this plant has paid
14 future dividends. There have been no major problems with this
15 construction that was completed nearly 40 years ago.

16 Many of the now-retired workers who helped construct this
17 plant are here in attendance tonight. They aren't here because they
18 personally need the jobs; they are here in support of this next
19 generation of craftsman so that they may have the same opportunity
20 to work here, locally, and see that their neighborhoods and
21 surrounding areas in which they live and send their children to
22 school will prosper as they did.

23 Being in a global marketplace, there are other countries
24 seeking to beat us to the punch in exporting their natural gas

1 supplies. We're asking that you look upon this proposed project
2 favorably and complete this process as quickly as possible.

3 The jobs provided by this plant will put many of our
4 brothers and sisters back to work locally here in the State of
5 Maryland, thus providing a rippling effect of positive economic
6 benefits to the local workforce, the local communities, and the local
7 economy as a whole.

8 Again I'd like to thank you for allowing us to share these
9 thoughts with you.

10 MS. SUTER: Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MS. SUTER: Our next speaker this evening is Lino
13 Cressotti.

14 MR. CRESSOTTI: Good evening. My first name is Lino,
15 L-i-n-o, last name Cressotti, C-r-e-s-s-o-t-t-i. I'm the business
16 manager for the Insulators and Allied Workers Local 24.

17 First I'd like to welcome the Commission to Calvert
18 County. Let me give you a brief history on the Insulators.

19 We were chartered in August of 1907. That's 105 years
20 of history and tradition, working in many historic buildings,
21 monuments, museums, power plants such as Calvert Cliffs and Cove
22 Point; a history of providing skilled work force for the insulation
23 industry, bringing good jobs on time, on budget, done right the first
24 time.

1 We're also members of the Washington, D.C. and Baltimore
2 Building Trades and Maryland State Building Trades, where they
3 represent over 45,000 unionized and skilled craftsmen and women of
4 the trade which live in Calvert County. They're mothers, fathers,
5 sons, daughters, aunts and uncles; they're little league coaches,
6 soccer moms that this project will benefit this community and
7 surrounding communities in Maryland with good-paying wages and
8 benefits.

9 The economic benefits project, which would bring us up
10 to 40 million per year in property tax revenues in Calvert County
11 over the life of the project and another 16 million in income tax.
12 The State of Maryland income and sales tax will approach 60 million
13 over the life of the project.

14 Approximately 2700, peaking out at 3400 construction
15 jobs of employment in Calvert County with this project. These jobs
16 will be filled by skilled craft labor. The project will be
17 integrated in the union apprenticeship programs. With a job of this
18 size we can project anywhere from 500 to 1000 brand new apprentices.
19 And in the building trades these aren't jobs; these are careers.

20 Many of these men and women in this room tonight have gone
21 through some sort of apprenticeship program where they've raised
22 their families, sent their children to college. When entering an
23 apprenticeship program, whether it's a four- or five-year program,
24 an apprentice earns while they learn, while on the job training while

1 attending school.

2 Some of the apprenticeship programs, they earn college
3 credits upon completion of the program. And upon completion of the
4 program they become some of the most productive and safest workforce
5 anywhere in the world.

6 There is a sense of urgency for this project because of
7 the international competition. There is a window of opportunity for
8 U.S. gas resources to meet the international demand for LNG. Other
9 countries are aggressively pursuing export terminals, liquefaction
10 plants and pipelines with the goal of securing long-term contracts
11 for their gas.

12 Recent news reports indicate that Canada is streamlining
13 their environmental technical reviews in favor of a one project-one
14 review policy. Unnecessary federal reviews and delays will only
15 serve thousands of jobs to be needed for this project will be sent
16 overseas to Canada, Australia, or others to lock up the demand for
17 LNG.

18 I would like to say thank you to the Commission for coming
19 tonight. And I would like to ask a favorable approval for the Cove
20 Point liquefaction plant. This project is a win-win for the State
21 of Maryland and the Calvert County community.

22 And I'd also like to thank the brothers and sisters for
23 coming out tonight and supporting the project.

24 Thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. SUTER: Thank you.

3 Our next speaker is Vance Ayros.

4 MR. AYROS: Good evening, everyone. Thank you for
5 having us out here to speak on this important project that's going
6 to happen.

7 My name is Vance Ayros, V-a-n-c-e A-y-r-o-s. I'm the
8 Executive Secretary Treasurer of the Washington, D.C. Building
9 Trades Council. Some of these folks you've just heard from are a
10 part of my council; they're the leaders of these local unions that
11 employ all these folks.

12 You know, we can debate the environmental issues back and
13 forth with what's going on with the reports they've done, with what
14 Dominion has done all night. The reality of the situation is it's
15 going to create thousands of construction jobs. And we were talking
16 earlier about permanent jobs. There's a lot more permanent jobs
17 that we'll just be creating that's planning along with this process
18 once it's done.

19 You know, in creating jobs in these areas, as Lino
20 Cressotti just told you, you're going to create a couple thousand
21 jobs for local area residents. We represent about 25,000
22 construction workers in this area. Probably 20,000 of our members
23 live in Maryland.

24 I would say between 5- to 7000 actually live maybe in this

1 county, and probably 12- to 15,000 live in the tri-state area that
2 will all be manning this project while creating careers for folks
3 into these apprentice programs with a lot of projects that we have
4 in line to move on to to curb -- to solve this problem of, you know,
5 the unemployment, base load electricity.

6 Also we were talking earlier -- I heard a young lady
7 talking about the environment and us shipping everything overseas
8 for Dominion to make money. And global warming and the environment
9 is a problem through the United States, granted, and it's all over
10 the world. If we can reduce the impact of the emissions by doing
11 a thing like this -- she stated the fact that this natural gas is
12 a cleaner burning source of energy. So we need to actually reduce
13 the green, you know, the impact and make it greener all over the
14 planet. And this will actually help do that.

15 We spend -- our council alone in apprenticeships and
16 training, just to tag onto what somebody was saying earlier, we spend
17 about \$25 million a year out of our building trades council alone
18 with the unionized construction industry creating these careers and
19 the best professional construction workers in the world, on time and
20 on budget. That's our motto. We stand by it; we push it. That's
21 why we have continuing education along with very long apprenticeship
22 hours.

23 And as Lino was saying earlier, whether you want college
24 credits or not, a lot of our programs, when you finish the

1 apprenticeship program you come out with basically an associate's
2 degree. And you can move on to become -- a lot of our folks end up
3 becoming electrical engineers and everything else to move on and
4 better our trades.

5 And now to address a little bit about the environmental
6 impact with our members. I would say 80 to 90 percent of our members
7 are actually sportsmen, including myself. I hunted, fished all my
8 life. I'm a member of Ducks Unlimited. I've paid for licensing all
9 my life, which all contributes back into the environment.

10 We wouldn't be pushing projects if it was going to tear
11 the environment up. You know, there's a way to build stuff and build
12 it smart. And that's what Dominion actually, with the regulations
13 that have been set moving forward into the future, with all the effect
14 we've had with society pollution and the effects, Dominion -- the
15 bottom line is Dominion will have to meet all EPA requirements set
16 by law. And that's to protect the environment.

17 So it's not like they're coming in here and they're going
18 to skirt any process. They have to meet everything; they have to
19 file for every permit they get and go through a process.

20 I appreciate everybody's concerns, you know, about the
21 environment because I have them myself. But the reality is they go
22 through a heck of a process to be able to do something like this.

23 So thank you for having me. That's it.

24 (Applause.)

1 MS. SUTER: The next speaker on the list is Steve
2 Zimmerman.

3 MR. ZIMMERMAN: My name is Steve Zimmerman, spelled
4 S-t-e-v-e Z-i-m-m-e-r-m-a-n.

5 I am a 32 year resident of Calvert County. I sit on the
6 building board. I've sat on the Environmental Commission here.
7 I'm on the Waterman's Wharf Committee. I'm on the architectural
8 review committee. And I'm also a business representative for BEW
9 Local 26. I represent 8000 members. I have over 600 members in
10 Calvert County alone.

11 The question was brought up about us not having local
12 people do the work. We're in the process of working with the county
13 commissioners and the Dominion officials to use Calvert County
14 residents on this job as a guarantee.

15 And, like I said, when this meeting is over with, I'm
16 going to my house. I live here in Calvert County. I love this
17 county; that's why I moved down here 32 years ago. My family has
18 been raised down here.

19 I don't know what else I can do. I just had one of my
20 members come in tonight. He spent two and a half hours driving from
21 Ashburn, Virginia to his residence here in Calvert County to make
22 a living and pay the county taxes.

23 The reason I'm pushing these jobs for our residents is
24 safety reasons because I've got people that drive from Lusby to

1 Ashburn, Virginia. Lusby to Rockville, Maryland. They're taking
2 their lives in their hands leaving out of here. These jobs belong
3 in Southern Maryland. They belong to the members in Calvert County.

4 Dominion has reached out to us, come to us and guaranteed
5 it's going to happen.

6 Thank you for my comments.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. SUTER: Thanks.

9 The next commenter is Kory Raftery.

10 MR. RAFTERY: Hello. My name is Kory Raftery, as you
11 said. K-o-r-y R-a-f as in 'frank' - t as in 'Tom' - e-r-y. I live
12 in St. Leonard with my beautiful wife and three children. I'll let
13 you get that one on the record where I can tell her I said it.

14 And in all seriousness I'm here tonight to support the
15 proposed liquefaction expansion at Cove Point.

16 Now some of you in the room may know, I work for another
17 major energy producer in Calvert County, Calvert Cliffs Nuclear
18 Power Plant, which is operated by Constellation Energy Nuclear
19 Group.

20 So let me begin by saying the Federal Energy Regulatory
21 Commission, or FERC, undertakes great efforts to monitor, review,
22 and approve the interstate transmission of electricity, natural gas
23 and oil, including natural gas pipelines and LNG facilities and
24 terminals like the one here at Cove Point.

1 I value and appreciate the thoroughness with which you
2 all do your jobs. And I know and trust that, just like the U.S.
3 nuclear energy industry, our natural gas production, import, export
4 and transportation industries are among the most highly regulated,
5 safest, and best managed industries in the world. And this is due
6 in large part to the oversight presided by such organizations as
7 FERC.

8 So specific to Calvert County and the proposed
9 liquefaction expansion at Cove Point, I understand the project
10 involves the expansion of an existing facility where many critical
11 infrastructures are already in place, like the pier, the pipeline
12 and storage facilities, thus minimizing future environmental
13 impact. And I know the expanded facility would be run by Dominion,
14 a trusted well-experienced LNG operator that has strong financial
15 resources and is well regarded within the energy industry.

16 I also know that this expansion is needed to stabilize
17 local, national and global energy needs. In fact, the project will
18 help enhance Calvert County's already strong standing as an energy
19 hub and producer in the State of Maryland and the mid-Atlantic
20 region, something that none of us should take for granted.

21 In my opinion the reliable steady and sustainable supply
22 of LNG can provide a steady base load demand and in turn support
23 ongoing development to help keep our domestic gas prices both
24 predicable and balanced, facts that are good for business and good

1 for all of us as energy consumers.

2 At a time when the state is pushing more expenses onto
3 local jurisdictions, while our economy continues to struggle and our
4 expenses continue to rise, this expansion would have far-reaching
5 and positive impacts to our county's bottom line. The expansion and
6 predicted increased property tax revenue it will produce for Calvert
7 County is something we all need to help us out during these tougher
8 economic times.

9 Additional revenues could mean more money for a host of
10 public projects, services, community improvements, all of which
11 could make a world of difference in our quality of life and our
12 children's quality of lives in the future.

13 In summary, Dominion has proven itself to be a good
14 neighbor in our Calvert County community over the many years they've
15 been here. This expansion promises increased revenue to our county,
16 bringing us the ability to meet and stabilize our national and global
17 natural gas demands. And we should all heed confidence that the
18 project will be overseen by many local, state and federal regulatory
19 agencies like FERC.

20 So in light of these facts I'd just like to offer my
21 support for this project without any reservation.

22 Thank you.

23 MS. SUTER: Next to speak is Sonja Cox.

24 MS. COX: Hi. Good evening. My name is Sonja Cox,

1 S-o-n-j-a C-o-x.

2 And I'm the chair of the Calvert County Chamber of
3 Commerce, and also a long time resident of Calvert County. On behalf
4 of the Chamber of Commerce and our business community, I'd like to
5 thank you for coming out tonight and hearing our comments on the
6 proposed expansion at Cove Point.

7 As the chair of the Chamber, it should be no surprise that
8 I am in support of the expansion proposal at Dominion Cove Point.
9 Dominion is an outstanding corporate entity here and they pump
10 millions of dollars into the local, regional, and state economy every
11 year.

12 Business sales associated with this project will be a
13 boost to our local economy. The increase in employment at Cove Point
14 will lead to an increase in prosperity for Calvert County residents
15 and businesses.

16 More employed residents means more needs for services,
17 more disposable income to support our restaurants and shops, and an
18 increase in entrepreneurial activity. This is just what Calvert
19 County citizens and businesses need.

20 All Chamber member businesses stand to benefit from this
21 expansion, from hair stylists to restaurants, to contractors. And
22 that's why the Calvert County Chamber of Commerce wants to publicly
23 offer its support for the Cove Point liquefaction expansion.

24 Thank you for allowing me to speak to you this evening.

1 MS. SUTER: Our next speaker is Linda Fadely.

2 MS. FADELY: It's okay. It's not my name; everybody
3 pronounces it incorrectly. I'm Linda Fadely, L-i-n-d-a
4 F-a-d-e-l-y. I have been Linda Fadely for more than half my life,
5 so I kept it.

6 I've been a county -- I'm the chair of the Calvert County
7 Tourism Advisory Commission, appointed by the Board of County
8 Commissioners. I have served in this capacity for a few years now.
9 I'm a local Calvert County resident and a local realtor with Century
10 21 New Millennium. I run a business here; I've raised two children
11 here; and I'm active within the Chamber of Commerce.

12 So you can tell from that brief resume, I love this
13 county. I'm ingrained here.

14 And I'm here tonight to support the proposed expansion
15 of Dominion Cove Point for liquefaction and export of natural gas.
16 This project is expected to bring jobs to Calvert County. And while
17 one aspect of that might bring new people to the county, I know it
18 also means more jobs and possibly better jobs for the people who
19 already live here.

20 Secure, well-paying jobs are the backbone of this
21 community -- or of any community, for that matter. When people are
22 employed and receiving a steady paycheck to provide for their
23 families, everybody benefits.

24 The expansion project at Cove Point means more money

1 being pumped into our local economy, both from visitors,
2 construction workers, and permanent workers once the expansion is
3 complete. This benefits our merchants, restaurant owners, hotels
4 and maybe even a realtor or two.

5 But it also means additional property taxes will be paid
6 by Dominion. And that, too, will provide a great benefit to our
7 county in Southern Maryland.

8 As a real estate professional, I know firsthand how tough
9 times have been. I work with clients every day who continue to
10 struggle, tightening their belts and trying to make ends meet. But
11 I also believe that better times are coming. The jobs, increased
12 income, tax revenue, and continued support in Calvert County by
13 Dominion will help to ensure that our future is bright.

14 Calvert County is a terrific, resilient and strong
15 community. We have the ability to band together and support one
16 another through good times and bad. Dominion has been part of our
17 community for years, and I know well their dedication to our schools,
18 our rivers, and the Bay, our wetlands and forests, local charities,
19 and our parks.

20 I am happy to support Dominion in this expansion. I hope
21 to see things go smoothly for Dominion throughout FERC's review and
22 analysis, and appreciate the ability to speak to you this evening.

23 Thank you.

24 MS. SUTER: Next on the list is Carolyn Hart.

1 MS. HART: Good evening. My name is Carolyn Hart,
2 C-a-r-o-l-y-n H-a-r-t. I am the president of the Calvert County
3 Chamber of Commerce. And our organization has over 700 members and
4 representatives. Collectively, we represent nearly 9600 employees
5 working together to develop a productive business environment in
6 Calvert County.

7 I am here tonight to speak in support of the proposed
8 expansion at the Dominion Cove Point facility. I know that Dominion
9 has proposed added export capability to its liquefied natural gas
10 import terminal at Cove Point, Maryland. I also know the role of
11 FERC is to oversee Dominion's application for this proposed
12 expansion to ensure safety, security, and reliability of the plant
13 on our community.

14 I trust that FERC will work closely with the U.S. Coast
15 Guard, Department of Transportation, the State of Maryland, and
16 local governments, as well as listen carefully to the testimony of
17 people who will be most affected by this expansion: the residents
18 and business owners of Calvert County.

19 We live here and have shared history with the Cove Point
20 facility. Over many years we have come to trust this company and
21 look to them to help make our community one of which we can be proud.

22 Dominion provides good-paying jobs, supports our
23 charitable initiatives, funds schools and museum programs. Their
24 staffs patronize our business, volunteer in our community, and

1 oversee the welfare of our precious waterways.

2 I trust that FERC's review will demonstrate without a
3 doubt that an expanded Cove Point will continue to meet the safety
4 and environmental requirements imposed by all federal and state and
5 local regulations, both during construction and operation.

6 I also trust that Dominion will continue to conduct
7 business at an expanded facility in the same fashion they always
8 have: responsibly, respectfully, and safely.

9 Calvert County is ready for this type of expansion and
10 investment. The biggest advantage is that the entire expansion
11 project will occur within the plant's existing property lines so
12 there will be little impact to nearby home owners and businesses,
13 except for the economic benefits we will enjoy.

14 Thank you for hearing my testimony this evening.

15 MS. SUTER: Our next speaker is Wilson Parran.

16 MR. PARRAN: Good evening. My name is Wilson H. Parran,
17 W-i-l-s-o-n, middle initial H, last name Parran, P as in
18 Paul-a-r-r-a-n. And I live in Huntingtown, Maryland.

19 I am a former county commissioner, but I'm speaking
20 tonight as a private citizen. And as a former county commissioner
21 I know that FERC is no stranger to Calvert County. And while
22 commissioner, I truly appreciated the thorough and comprehensive
23 review of all the issues surrounding the previous expansion at
24 Dominion Cove Point.

1 As a private citizen I am extremely comfortable that you
2 will review all the necessary information to provide guidance for
3 this expansion at Dominion Cove Point.

4 FERC has a long and storied history with this county, not
5 only with the previous expansion at Dominion but also with other
6 utility projects in the county. And I'm confident in your review
7 process and appreciate your attention to detail.

8 I have taken the opportunity to review preliminary
9 information about what Dominion seeks to accomplish in Lusby. As
10 such I know that they seek federal approval to export 750 million
11 cubic feet of natural gas per day.

12 One important fact that I learned was that Dominion plans
13 to build within their existing fence line and will use their existing
14 LNG storage tanks, pipes, equipment and pier as they expand this
15 facility. This means little disturbance to public areas during
16 construction.

17 In my research I also learned that Dominion plans to
18 shuttle workers to and from the facility to avoid traffic impact on
19 Cove Point Road; that they plan to use local labor and businesses
20 when possible, and have made these commitments to the community up
21 front. These preliminary actions taken by Dominion are all very
22 positive for Calvert County citizens because during construction
23 there will be minimal impact to the community.

24 And when complete, Cove Point will be able to both import

1 and export LNG, making that facility more stable against market
2 forces, more stable in our local economy, and ready to respond to
3 natural fluctuation in national and global energy demands.

4 I also learned about the significant economic impact this
5 project has on our community. In times when families struggle due
6 to the economy, Dominion plans to bring a \$2.5 billion project to
7 our county. This is tremendous. This means thousands of
8 construction jobs and many new permanent jobs. This also means
9 significant tax revenue to our county and citizens. That same tax
10 revenue that funds our county infrastructure, schools, public
11 safety, parks, roads, and also the teacher pension that part of it
12 will now be paid by Calvert County.

13 The impact of this investment is significant to Calvert
14 County. I urge FERC to seriously consider the tremendous economic
15 benefit to Calvert County in your review of Dominion's proposed
16 expansion project and subsequently the application.

17 As president of Calvert County Commissioners Clark
18 mentioned, this hearing is the first of several opportunities for
19 the public to comment on the project.

20 I encourage each citizen to do his or her part, learn
21 about the process, and get involved. Your impact is critical for
22 the success of the project and the long term success of Calvert
23 County. Draw your conclusions based on facts and learn why an
24 investment of this magnitude in our community impacts each of you

1 and our future.

2 When you take a facility like Cove Point that has been
3 in Calvert County since the '70s -- and as a life-long resident, I
4 remember when it was built in the '70s -- and you could combine it
5 with a company like Dominion, you have an incredible recipe for
6 success. I have no doubt that management and staff at an expanded
7 facility will continue to do a -- to be as diligent as they have
8 historically been in preserving the environment; that they will
9 continue to demonstrate the high safety practices in the industry;
10 and they will be successful for years to come.

11 Throughout Maryland, our counterparts are envious of the
12 relationship we enjoy with Dominion Cove Point. The facility is a
13 jewel to the community. And I look forward to seeing Cove Point
14 expand again for the benefit of the county, the region, the state,
15 and the nation.

16 I urge you to support Dominion's expansion project and
17 the application when it's filed.

18 Thank you again for your time this evening and for taking
19 the opportunity to make the public aware of this project.

20 Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. SUTER: Our next speaker is John Duberg.

23 MR. DUBERG: Good evening. I am John Duberg, J-o-h-n
24 D-u-b-e-r-g, with Sage Policy Group.

1 Sage was asked by Dominion to estimate the economic and
2 fiscal impacts associated with this multi-billion dollar expansion
3 of the Cove Point LNG terminal. The expansion, as has been noted,
4 will create the ability to liquefy natural gas and prepare it for
5 export.

6 We looked at total impacts, what is often called the
7 multiplier effect. These impacts include the direct activities at
8 Cove Point, activities along the supply chain that supports these
9 direct activities, and the impacts of all these workers spending
10 their income in Calvert County and Maryland.

11 Using widely accepted econometric methods, Sage looked
12 at two stages of development: the planning and construction phase,
13 which began last year and is expected to wind up in 2017, and the
14 operational phase, which is expected to begin in late 2016.

15 The seven-year construction phase will generate almost
16 10,700 jobs in Calvert County. And for this analysis we're defining
17 a job as someone working one job for one year. These jobs will have
18 income of \$573 million and are associated with business sales in the
19 county of \$1.4 billion. These impacts will occur over the entire
20 construction period.

21 Peak activity will occur from 2014 through 2016, when
22 actual construction takes place. Peak employment is expected to be
23 in 2015, when about 3000 jobs will be supported in the county.

24 The construction phase will also create impacts on the

1 rest of Maryland outside Calvert County. Construction is projected
2 to support a total of over 4,700 jobs, with associated income of \$339
3 million.

4 Maryland businesses outside of Calvert County are
5 expected to garner sales of over \$830 million as a result of
6 construction of the project.

7 Once operations begin, a total of 70 jobs in the county
8 will be supported by the project. These jobs include those at the
9 Cove Point facility as well as supply chain jobs and jobs in local
10 businesses benefiting from the new consumer spending of Cove Point
11 and supply chain workers.

12 These jobs will have associated annual income of \$8.7
13 million, and county businesses will have annual sales of \$54 million
14 as a result of the expanded Cove Point operations.

15 Operations will also support jobs in other parts of
16 Maryland. On an annual basis operations at the new liquefaction
17 project will support 60 jobs with annual income of 1.9 million.
18 Business sales in Maryland outside of the county will average 11.6
19 million per year.

20 All of these new jobs and the new investment at Cove Point
21 terminal will also create tax revenues for the county and the State
22 of Maryland. Construction incomes will generate \$11.6 million in
23 Calvert County income taxes. Once operations begin the county will
24 collect an additional \$177,000 each year in income taxes.

1 The much larger county fiscal impact will be new property
2 taxes resulting from the investment in the Cove Point terminal.
3 Once tax incentives and abatements expire, the county will collect
4 an additional \$40 million in property taxes, a 27 percent increase
5 over current property tax revenues.

6 The State of Maryland will also benefit. Construction
7 will generate an estimated \$31 million in state income taxes and \$16
8 million in sales taxes. Operations are expected to generate
9 \$357,000 in new income taxes and 182,000 in sales taxes each year.

10 Finally, the main purpose of the liquefaction plant is
11 the creation of LNG for export. The value of these LNG exports is
12 estimated at almost \$5 billion per year in today's prices, a sum that
13 would increase the total value of Maryland's annual exports by 40
14 to 50 percent.

15 And I would finally note that Maryland's economy is
16 particularly dependent on expanding the Federal Government. And at
17 a time when fiscal cliffs and deficit reduction are in the papers
18 every day, this is a project which is being driven by the private
19 sector and hence not dependent on government.

20 Thanks very much.

21 MS. SUTER: I still have a pretty good amount of speakers
22 signed up on the list. And then we're hitting nine o'clock.

23 So what we're going to do, we're going to take a quick
24 ten-minute break just to allow everybody an opportunity to stretch

1 their legs, use the restroom, grab a sip of water, whatever you need.
2 We still are on the formal part of the record. So we're not going
3 to answer questions at this time; just stretch your legs.

4 Only ten minutes and then I will be coming immediately
5 back on the record to call the next speaker.

6 Just so you know who it is, it is Karen Meadow -- so you
7 are next to speak.

8 (Recess.)

9 MS. SUTER: Good afternoon. We're going to go right
10 into more speakers.

11 We have had a slight change to the next speaker. The next
12 speaker is going to be Paulette Hammond.

13 MS. HAMMOND: My name is Paulette Hammond,
14 P-a-u-l-e-t-t-e H-a-m-m-o-n-d. And I am representing the Maryland
15 Conservation Council, MCC, as its president.

16 Two other members are here as well, representing our
17 board in support of my comments, Dr. Norman Meadow, the first vice
18 president, and Mrs. Karen Meadow, the treasurer. And we would like
19 to thank you very much for allowing us the opportunity to speak this
20 evening.

21 The Maryland Conservation Council is one of the oldest
22 environmental organizations in our state. We were established in
23 1969. Our mission is focused on the protection of Maryland's
24 natural heritage.

1 We are party to a legal agreement which protects the
2 ecology of the land outside of the fence that surrounds the
3 industrial area of the LNG plant. Dominion is another of the
4 parties. And want to say that over the years Dominion -- that
5 Dominion has owned the property, their concerns for its ecological
6 preservation has been above and beyond expectations.

7 They have been proactive in pointing out potential
8 threats to ecology and in offering to help prevent them from
9 materializing. They have often gone well beyond the legal
10 requirements of the agreement at the expense of both direct monetary
11 cost and donation of their employees' time and efforts.

12 The most outstanding of these voluntary actions is the
13 restoration and protection of the freshwater marsh which was
14 breached by the Bay during a storm several years ago, threatening
15 one of the rarest collections of freshwater plants in the vicinity
16 of the Bay. This marsh was so unusual that it was designated a
17 natural heritage area by the Maryland DNR -- Department of Natural
18 Resources.

19 As part of Dominion's enlargement of the tanker pier, it
20 went to the expense of building a revetment and breakwater extending
21 for thousands of feet, and of rebuilding the eroded beach. This not
22 only cost them several million dollars, but it required many hours
23 of executive and staff time to get the permits necessary from three
24 or four regulatory agencies.

1 All this effort was entirely voluntary on Dominion's
2 part. The agreement did not oblige them to do any of it.

3 In trying to be brief let me just say that the marsh
4 restoration was only one of many instances when Dominion went out
5 of the way to offer help where they had no legal obligation to do
6 so. They frequently consulted with us for projects on their
7 industrial area because they wanted to do the work in the
8 environmentally best possible way.

9 With regard to MCC's legal agreement with Dominion, we
10 have examined the proposal for the new liquefaction facility and
11 concluded that the project does not violate the agreement as we have
12 recently testified in county court. And given their history, as we
13 have stated, we believe Dominion will undertake the project in the
14 most environmentally advantageous way possible.

15 Thank you.

16 MS. SUTER: Our next speaker is Moe Snit.

17 (No response.)

18 MS. SUTER: Is he still here?

19 (No response.)

20 MS. SUTER: Okay.

21 Then our next speaker is Bill Cooper.

22 MR. COOPER: My name is Bill Cooper, B-i-l-l
23 C-o-o-p-e-r. I am the president of the Center for Liquefied Natural
24 Gas -- CLNG.

1 Thank you for the opportunity to make this presentation
2 here this evening. And thank you for holding meetings like this
3 where folks have the opportunity to express their views.

4 CLNG is composed of a broad group of energy providers and
5 trade associations, with its mission being to promote fact-based
6 discussions on LNG, support public policies that permit LNG to be
7 a part of the U.S. natural gas mix, and to ensure the continued safe,
8 secure and environmentally-sensitive development and operation of
9 LNG facilities. CLNG does not advocate on behalf of any particular
10 project, but instead advocates on behalf of the LNG industry as a
11 whole.

12 I'm here tonight on behalf of CLNG in support of the
13 proposed LNG export projects located here in the United States. The
14 United States has an abundant and affordable supply of natural gas.
15 Selling some of America's abundant natural gas resources in global
16 markets represents a major opportunity for the U.S. to create
17 thousands of new jobs, grow our manufacturing base, generate
18 billions of dollars in additional royalties and new government
19 revenues, and expand the benefits of U.S. trade.

20 Because of technological advances, the United States has
21 enough natural gas not only to meet growing American consumer
22 demands, but also to export some supply in the form of LNG without
23 significantly impacting domestic prices.

24 Natural gas has approximately half the carbon dioxide

1 emissions as coal when burned for electricity, and little to no
2 emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, or particulate matter.
3 By exporting LNG the United States will be providing the world with
4 increased access to a source of cleaner and reliable energy without
5 compromising America's ability here at home to utilize this
6 important resource at affordable prices.

7 Since the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's
8 authority is to approve or disapprove the construction and operation
9 of particular facilities and the site at which such facilities shall
10 be located, I'll focus my comments briefly on the environmental
11 aspects of the existing LNG facilities seeking to add liquefaction
12 capacity or equipment within the existing footprint of the
13 facilities previously approved and currently operating, such as
14 Dominion's Cove Point facility.

15 As to such existing facilities, an environmental
16 assessment is appropriate as opposed to an environmental impact
17 statement, since the existing facilities were previously subject to
18 an EIS. The Commission has stated:

19 "--the relevant issues that needed to be considered were
20 relatively small in number and well-defined."

21 No doubt the Commission would have never approved a
22 project, nor allowed it to be built and operated if the environmental
23 issues had not been appropriately and properly addressed.

24 When preparing the EA the analysis should focus on the

1 area immediately surrounding the facility. As the Commission has
2 recently said, quoting the Council on Environmental Quality --
3 quote:

4 "--it is not practical to analyze the cumulative effects
5 of an action on the universe; the list of environmental effects must
6 focus on those that are truly meaningful."

7 Certainly an EA will appropriately focus on the potential
8 impacts on the proposed facilities at existing LNG sites.

9 Given the seriousness with which the applicants for these
10 facilities regarding potential effects on the environment, I am
11 confident that the procedures to be implemented will result in
12 minimal environmental impacts and that the facilities will be
13 designed, constructed, and operated in a manner that provides for
14 the safety of the workers, the community, and the environment.

15 Thank you.

16 MS. SUTER: Thank you for your comments.

17 Our next speaker is Mike Denny.

18 MR. DENNY: It's Mike Denny, M-i-k-e D-e-n-n-y, local
19 resident to the plant.

20 First of all I'd like to focus on safety during
21 construction and operation. I've heard seven years. The plant
22 right now is located on a two-lane road school buses use every day.
23 It goes past a major park that's used every day during the summer.
24 I don't know how they're going to get 2700 workers in and out of that

1 plant without creating problems between traffic, large trucks, even
2 if they're busing them in.

3 A personal experience: I've had a truck run me off the
4 road. I called the plant up to complain. Their response was it was
5 a subcontractor; not my problem. So I'm not too pleased with that.

6 Operations. I do not believe -- or nobody has explained
7 to me how the Calvert County fire department, the volunteer fire
8 departments are set up to handle any kind of emergency or fire or
9 issues at the plant. I'd like to see what is being done to upgrade
10 capabilities either at the plant or money to the county to upgrade,
11 and then also how that's going to be staffed at all times without
12 an issue.

13 I live in a community, as most of the folks as well,
14 there's one way out. And if there's an issue there, there's not
15 enough people in place to get it done.

16 I don't know of any risk analysis that's been done to see
17 what the impact of this is going to be. I'd be curious to see that.

18 And the environmental conditions: If it's not such a big
19 deal, you only need to do an EA, why is there a need to buy
20 environmental credits from somewhere else in the country so they can
21 put their emissions here? That alone I think would support the full
22 EIS.

23 Noise is a huge concern for me. I live local to it. Gas
24 turbine is another way of saying jet engine. Everybody knows how

1 loud those are, either if you live near an airport or near Pax River.

2 I've called FERC in the past and they said it's not
3 considered a problem unless it gets in the way and makes it hard to
4 understand a normal conversation between two people -- much louder
5 than what you hear right now in the background fans. You know, so
6 if it's that big -- you know, what hush houses are being built; what's
7 being done for noise mitigation on the facility.

8 Some of the economic benefits I've heard people talking
9 about, I'd just like to go on the record, I don't know how many of
10 those people are local. I heard a lot of people from Washington and
11 Baltimore talking about how good it is. I've heard a lot of
12 Dominion-funded studies. I haven't heard anything about the local.

13 A couple other points I just want to sort of counter.

14 Mr. Fisher says it's great for Calvert County. He lives
15 north of Prince Frederick. It will have no impact on him other than
16 to bring in tax money.

17 Back to the safety issue. If it's so safe when they
18 proposed this project a few years ago in Baltimore's inner harbor
19 it was said, no, it wasn't safe enough to have it at the inner harbor.
20 It got kicked out for safety reasons. Don't know why, but that was
21 what was quoted.

22 Everybody's talking about economic benefits. What
23 percentage is going to be guaranteed to Calvert County people? We
24 mostly see people bring brought in.

1 Real estate, I don't want to talk about that.

2 Tax incentives are being provided. What tax incentives?

3 I'm not sure that's even been put in the paper. I haven't seen
4 anything about how much money is being given to the company to bring
5 all these in, how much taxes would be given up.

6 Mr. Parran spoke. Again no impact: He lives in
7 Huntington, a long way away from all that.

8 I'm trying to think. Yep. That's the last thing I
9 wanted to add.

10 Oh, I'm sorry, one other thing.

11 EIS worked on a program before -- I can't get into that.
12 It's part of work. I shouldn't bring it up.

13 So that's all I've got. Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. SUTER: Thank you for your comments.

16 I do want to address two things, just a reminder. Tell
17 the folks we are, as I've mentioned several times very early in the
18 process; safety is something that will be addressed in our
19 environmental document; that does include a risk analysis, as you
20 mentioned. That will include transportation impacts, as you
21 addressed. Also, the other issues that you identified; noise,
22 emissions, the economics analysis. All of these topics will be
23 addressed in the environmental document.

24 Dominion is preparing draft resource reports which will

1 include their take on the project impact. FERC also does its own
2 independent analysis which includes our analysis of Dominion's draft
3 resource reports, but we also consult with local, state and federal
4 agencies and our own independent research of the project to evaluate
5 the impacts of the project; and that's what goes into our
6 environmental document that we issue. And all of that, all of those
7 topics will go into the document, and we'll address all of the items
8 that you have brought up.

9 So although we don't have answers to all of your
10 questions today, the environmental document will include the
11 analysis of all of those impacts. So that's something that you can
12 look forward to for answers in the future.

13 Our next speaker is Wayne Clark.

14 MR. CLARK: Good evening. I'm Wayne Clark, W-a-y-n-e
15 C-l-a-r-k. I'm a resident of Calvert County since 1983. But I'm
16 speaking on behalf as executive director of the Tri County Council
17 for Southern Maryland.

18 Tri County Council was established in 1964 for the
19 purposes of creating economic diversification in Southern Maryland
20 while at the same time maintaining a quality of life and preservation
21 of our unique environment here in Southern Maryland. And we hold
22 that mission very dear.

23 The executive board of the Tri County Council would like
24 to go on record in support of the exporting expansion proposed for

1 Dominion Cove at this early stage in the process. We feel that the
2 economic vitality that the plant will bring to all of Southern
3 Maryland and Calvert County in particular advances the economic
4 diversification needs of the region.

5 We also are aware of the excellent record that the plant
6 has had in the past since 1972 in working with environmental issues,
7 as you've just heard from the part of the institution that works with
8 them on a regular basis. And we also are very much aware of their
9 safety record and the efforts that they have made in supporting the
10 continued tax base for Calvert County. And those are all very
11 contributing factors to the economic diversification.

12 When they put in the extra pipeline to support this
13 project throughout all of Southern Maryland we know that they did
14 an excellent job of complying with the National and Historic
15 Preservation Act in conducting archeological investigations of
16 resources in the way and other historic preservation activities as
17 an example of good stewardship outside the immediate zone of the
18 campus of the facilities. And so they have a record as well on doing
19 due diligence on following environmental and historic preservation
20 laws and requirements.

21 We are confident, as you heard from the union
22 representatives, that they understand the value of working with the
23 local work force, not only in Calvert County but in Southern Maryland
24 and the larger metropolitan area to try to hire as many local workers

1 as possible.

2 Calvert County has over 60 percent of our work force
3 commuting outside of the county every day, contributing to air
4 quality problems. By hiring more people and keeping those workers
5 in the county it would be a significant impact on reductions. And
6 that should be considered during the environmental review process.
7 That's a positive impact of local jobs versus out-commuting, which
8 is a challenge for our region.

9 We also would be happy to work, as a work force investment
10 board, to work with the various local businesses and the unions to
11 make sure that our local work forces are trained and available during
12 this period of construction.

13 We also as a council encourage Dominion to work with our
14 local, regional, and Maryland businesses to again try to provide
15 opportunities, where appropriate, for the types of businesses
16 involvement in the construction phase of the project so that again
17 we can keep the value of this project to benefit our local economy,
18 as testified by the chamber of commerce.

19 We want to continue to monitor this project as it goes
20 through the various environmental review processes, and to take into
21 consideration all the views of our citizens, but continue to support
22 overall the application for the expansion of the project.

23 And we thank you for the opportunity to testify.

24 MS. SUTER: Thank you.

1 Our next speaker on the list is Norm Meadow.

2 Is he still here?

3 VOICE: He's gone.

4 MS. SUTER: He's gone, okay.

5 The next speaker on the list is Bob Hugh.

6 MR. HUGH: I'm Bob Hugh, a local resident, 11130 Cove
7 Lake Road. I have some number of concerns.

8 One is the traffic. While driving to this meeting
9 tonight right in front of Dominion property there was an issue. The
10 intersecting Cove Point Road and Little Cove Point Road is dangerous.
11 A car proceeded a left turn without right-of-way right in front of
12 me. I honked my horn and skidded to a stop. This happened to me
13 like three times a year.

14 How much more traffic will be going through this
15 intersection, the only way out for my family as I drive to work.

16 2700 construction workers equals 100 buses up and down
17 a narrow two-lane road with no shoulders.

18 Noise. I live on a high hill. Right now I hear loud
19 bangs. I see ambulances coming to take away the injured from the
20 plant. How much more as I pass on my way to work, people turning
21 right in front of me at 5:30 a.m.

22 Pollution. What are the by-products of liquefaction?
23 Right now my wife and son both have toxic levels of mercury and copper
24 in their bodies. Detoxification is proceeding at a high cost to our

1 finances. And we recently tested our well water. The question is
2 where are the toxic levels coming from.

3 Well, let's take a look at the bigger picture. Natural
4 resources. I have a solar home. I have no need of nonrenewable
5 resources destroying the environment in Virginia, Pennsylvania and
6 possibly Maryland as well for the exportation of LNG to other
7 countries, not lowering our local air pollution concerns at all.

8 Get on with it, Maryland. This project tells the nation,
9 this state and county prefers short-term gains over pursuing the
10 renewable natural resources. Fracking is destroying the
11 Mid-Atlantic. Maryland right now is against fracking. Why in the
12 world would we want to support this?

13 Oh, yeah. By the way, p.s., I was not notified of this
14 meeting by FERC. And I live about a mile and a half from Dominion
15 Cove Point. I received my notice of this meeting yesterday through
16 my Cove Cover HOA.

17 Thank you for hearing my concerns. I will be submitting
18 a written statement as well.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. SUTER: Our next speaker is David O'Leary.

21 MR. O'LEARY: Hello. My name is David O'Leary,
22 D-a-v-i-d O'-L-e-a-r-y.

23 Thank you for conducting this hearing.

24 Also my affiliation: I'm the chapter chair of the

1 Maryland chapter of the Sierra Club.

2 So again, thank you for conducting this hearing.

3 I'll also acknowledge Dominion's stewardship of the
4 existing facility for the past several years as we've worked with
5 them along with the Maryland Conservation Council.

6 You've heard several concerns already from local
7 community representatives, including noise both from the
8 construction and ongoing at the Cove Point site. I presume tomorrow
9 you'll hear also about similar issues at the proposed Virginia
10 compressor sites, other concerns such as sediment runoff during
11 construction at the new sites and various other concerns. So you've
12 heard those already and I will not go into more detail.

13 Natural gas drilling has increased significantly in
14 recent years throughout the Mid-Atlantic, as was just mentioned.
15 And this rapid expansion of drilling has resulted in significant air
16 pollution issues, including release of various volatile organic
17 compounds and increases in life-cycle greenhouse gases emissions,
18 water pollution -- especially surface water due to spills and
19 overflows of the drilling wastewater -- forest fragmentation from
20 new drilling sites, new pipelines and other natural gas pipeline
21 infrastructure really throughout Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and
22 possibly in Virginia, and as was just mentioned again, throughout
23 western Maryland is -- and the potential for that in western
24 Maryland.

1 These are all concerns that should be addressed in an
2 assessment.

3 The economic benefits have obviously been a focus of this
4 hearing so far. Low natural gas prices in this country are really
5 driving a return of manufacturing jobs to the U.S. Exports of
6 natural gas will drive up prices, according to a report earlier this
7 year from the Energy Information Administration. And so increased
8 natural gas prices will certainly have a broad effect throughout the
9 country, not only here in Calvert County, of course. And whether
10 that's, you know, here throughout the Mid-Atlantic region or through
11 the country, again refer to that report from the EIA with more reports
12 and additional information forthcoming.

13 So any assessment should take into account these broader
14 impacts, both environmental and economic impacts.

15 We are not asking for an assessment of the universe but
16 simply an assessment of the significant regional impacts.

17 So I urge that a full environmental impact statement be
18 prepared. Again, a broad -- taking into account this broad range
19 of issues.

20 The Sierra Club will be submitting additional more
21 detailed written comments.

22 And I do have a question based on the comment from one
23 of the earlier speakers; and if you could clarify the role of FERC
24 as the lead NEPA agency, the role of other federal agencies,

1 especially EPA and whether they are actually a cooperating agency
2 at this point, and then also state agencies and their role in this
3 process.

4 Thanks.

5 MS. SUTER: As my opening remarks said, the FERC is the
6 lead agency for preparing the National Environmental Policy Act
7 document, or the NEPA document. Thus far the Department of Energy
8 is the only one who has officially said that they are a cooperating
9 agency.

10 A cooperating agency basically means that they are going
11 to help us prepare the NEPA document and use it for their permitting
12 purposes. The Notice of Intent that was issued went to almost all
13 federal, state and local agencies that we could think of that we could
14 find on our list. In that notice it invited all other federal, state
15 and local agencies who participate can become cooperating agencies.
16 So this process is still ongoing and we are still waiting to hear
17 from many agencies to see if they want to cooperate with us to prepare
18 the document.

19 That is one part of the cooperating agency role.
20 However, the pre-filing process does allow for more than just the
21 official cooperating agency role. Many agencies will elect to
22 participate with FERC staff to consult with us, to talk with us
23 throughout our process, but do not need or have NEPA
24 responsibilities. So therefore an agency will consult with us and

1 work with us, provide input, their concerns and work with us
2 throughout our entire process, however don't officially help us
3 write the document.

4 So there are two sides to all of this. As of this point
5 in time, no, EPA is not a cooperating agency; nobody else has signed
6 up at this time. But keep an eye open. The environmental document
7 will state who is a formal cooperater; their name will be on the cover
8 and their roles and responsibilities will be identified in the
9 environment document as well for all agencies who do sign up.

10 Our next speaker is Stephen Godfrey.

11 MR. GODFREY: Good evening. And thank you for this
12 opportunity to share.

13 My name is Stephen Godfrey, S-t-e-p-h-e-n, Godfrey,
14 G-o-d-f-r-e-y. I am a local resident and I live one mile from the
15 LNG facility.

16 I am strongly opposed to any expansion of the Dominion
17 LNG plant because at this time industrial noise emanating from the
18 existing facility keeps me awake at night.

19 When I first moved to my current residence in 2000 there
20 were no nighttime noises that I could hear coming from the LNG
21 facility. However, since the most recent expansion variable pitch
22 and variable decibel level industrial noise awakens and keeps me
23 awake at night.

24 My strong objections to the expansion will only cease if

1 -- and only if -- Dominion LNG can silence its industrial nighttime
2 noise. Sleep-disturbing noise to me means that Dominion LNG is not
3 a good neighbor.

4 No one who spoke this evening in favor of this expansion
5 is kept awake at night by noise pollution, by Dominion's noise
6 pollution. And no one who spoke this evening in favor of the
7 expansion lives close to the LNG facility.

8 Thank you for hearing my testimony and recording it.

9 (Applause.)

10 MS. SUTER: As I mentioned earlier, noise issues will be
11 addressed in the environmental document.

12 That was the last speaker that we did have signed up. I
13 think we have a short amount of time if there are any additional
14 speakers who wish to come up. I'd ask that you raise your hand and
15 I'll call you up one at a time. Come up to the microphone. You will
16 need to state your name and spell it for the court reporter.

17 If anyone else has any additional questions or comments
18 that they would like to make at this time, come on up.

19 MR. HUGH: I have some administrative trivia here. Bob
20 Hugh, B-o-b H-u-g-h. I don't think I did that the first time up.

21 MS. SUTER: Is there anybody else? Come on up.

22 MS. DENY: Hi. I am Theresa Deny, T-h-e-r-e-s-a
23 D-e-n-y. And I'm a resident also.

24 And a point about the noise that you mentioned, that it

1 would be looked at. At the last expansion we also were told that
2 noise was going to be looked into. And I used to hear waves. Now
3 I hear a generator noise sounding similar to the one here. And, you
4 know, I'm just wondering if things could change, meaning some walls
5 or something.

6 But it had been addressed. We have noise issues. I'm
7 just concerned about this next expansion.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. SUTER: We do fully understand, and I know many of
10 you did come out at the open house and express concern about noise;
11 and we will look into it. We're going to look into what the existing
12 facility is and what is proposed under the new noise levels, and
13 ensure that everything does not exceed the FERC regulations. And
14 there are post construction noise surveys that are required for all
15 projects, and they do have to meet FERC regulations.

16 And I understand that there may be questions or concerns
17 about whether or not the existing facility meets that; we can
18 continue to go out and look at the existing facility; FERC staff does
19 have a dispute resolution service help line to aid in concerns after
20 construction of a project. If you believe that the project or
21 Dominion is not meeting what they said they were going to do under
22 the original project or under this liquefaction project, if you ever
23 believe that the project is not meeting what they said they were going
24 to; FERC staff does have that available during construction and

1 operation of a project where you can call them in and say something
2 is not going right, and we can do an investigation at the time and
3 see if something is happening or not happen correctly.

4 So that is something that can happen.

5 UNIDENTIFIED PARTICIPANT: My question is what are the
6 standards because what we were told before in the last expansion,
7 or when my husband asked was that if you were standing next to
8 somebody and you can hear them speaking, that is okay. That, you
9 know, it can be very loud.

10 MS. SUTER: There is a decibel limit at the residence;
11 and it is identified within the environmental documents. It's 55
12 decibels as a day/night equivalent, and that is explained and spelled
13 out in our environmental documents how that is calculated. And that
14 is done from the project out to the NSA, or the noise sensitive area.
15 So it's not at your property line but at your home or at the residence
16 or -- there are several different types of NSA schools, churches,
17 et cetera that do count as noise sensitive areas.

18 And it's a discrete number. And that number equates to
19 roughly we say it is, you're able to hold a conversation. But there
20 is a discrete number that we hold to it.

21 UNIDENTIFIED PARTICIPANT: Well, I know it's
22 unacceptable, I guess is the problem. And that FERC regulation is
23 unacceptable for me to have at my house, that kind of noise.

24 (Applause.)

1 MS. SUTER: Is there anybody else who would like to come
2 up or has any comments or questions?

3 (No response.)

4 MS. SUTER: Okay. That's the end of our list.

5 Without any more speakers, the formal part of the meeting
6 will conclude. On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
7 Commission I'd like to thank you all for coming tonight.

8 Let the record show that the Cove Point Liquefaction
9 Project Scoping Meeting in Lusby, Maryland concluded at 9:47 p.m.

10 (Whereupon, at 9:47 p.m., the Lusby, Maryland scoping
11 meeting was adjourned.)