

# **Attachment B**

The following attachment contains the transcript from the May 27, 2015 Siting Board public hearing held in Weymouth, MA.

VOLUME A, PAGES 141

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD  
FERC PF15-12-000

PUBLIC HEARING, held at the Abigail  
Adams Middle School Auditorium, 89 Middle Street  
East, Weymouth, Massachusetts, on Wednesday, May 27,  
2015, commencing at 7:11 p.m. concerning

ALGONQUIN GAS TRANSMISSION LLC

SITTING:

Robert Shea, Hearing Officer  
Barabara Shapiro, environmental director  
James Buckley, general counsel  
Ashley Ferrer, analyst

-----Reporter: David A. Arsenault, RPR-----

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1 APPEARANCES:  
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 8 for Algonquin Gas Transmission LLC  
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1 this matter. To my immediate left is the general  
 2 counsel to the Siting Board, James Buckley; and to  
 3 his left is an analyst from the Siting Board, Ashley  
 4 Ferrer. In the back the environmental director of  
 5 the Siting Board is helping with the sign-in sheets,  
 6 and that is Barbara Shapiro.  
 7 My opening remarks tonight are designed  
 8 to provide a brief description of the Siting Board  
 9 and its role in this case, to explain how  
 10 individuals can be involved in the process, and to  
 11 establish some guidelines for tonight's public  
 12 hearing.  
 13 First, there's a speaker sign-in sheet  
 14 near the back entrance. If you would like to speak  
 15 tonight, please sign the sheet. Elected officials  
 16 are not required to sign the sheet, but it would be  
 17 helpful to make sure I call on them. Once we have  
 18 heard from all elected officials, we will then be  
 19 calling speakers in the order on the sign-in sheet.  
 20 There's also an interested persons memo  
 21 in the back. That memo has my contact information  
 22 on it. Anyone who wants to submit a written comment  
 23 may send it to me on the email address on the  
 24 memorandum by the deadline listed on the memorandum.

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1 PROCEEDINGS -- 7:11 p.m.  
 2 MR. SHEA: Good evening, ladies and  
 3 gentlemen. This is a public hearing held by the  
 4 Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board  
 5 relating to a pre-filing proceeding at the Federal  
 6 Energy Regulatory Commission, which is better known  
 7 as FERC. The FERC docket number for this case is PF  
 8 15-12.  
 9 This pre-filing process was begun by  
 10 Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC and it relates to  
 11 the Atlantic Bridge project. The Atlantic Bridge  
 12 project stretches from New York to Massachusetts.  
 13 The portion of the project to be constructed in  
 14 Massachusetts consists of a new compressor station  
 15 to be constructed in Weymouth, as well as the  
 16 rebuilding and modification of meter and regulation  
 17 stations in Salem, Needham, Pine Hills, Plymouth and  
 18 Fall River. The project previously included a  
 19 proposed construction of 3.5 miles of natural gas  
 20 pipeline in Franklin, but Algonquin has withdrawn  
 21 that proposal.  
 22 My name is Robert Shea. I've been  
 23 designated as the hearing officer from the  
 24 Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board for

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1 Please note that the deadline for filing comments  
 2 with me is Friday, June 5th. The deadline to file  
 3 comments with FERC is June 11th. We need to  
 4 carefully review your comments in order to  
 5 incorporate them into our comments.  
 6 The Siting Board is an administrative  
 7 agency of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. One of  
 8 the principal functions of the Siting Board is to  
 9 review proposals for the construction of new energy  
 10 facilities in Massachusetts, including large power  
 11 plants, electric transmission lines, natural gas  
 12 pipelines that are intrastate, wholly within  
 13 Massachusetts, and natural gas storage tanks. The  
 14 Siting Board does not have the authority to approve  
 15 or disapprove interstate natural gas pipelines, such  
 16 as the one proposed by Algonquin in this case.  
 17 Instead, such authority rests with FERC, which is  
 18 located in Washington, D.C. The Siting Board is not  
 19 a part of FERC. FERC is an agency of the federal  
 20 government, while the Siting Board is a state  
 21 agency.  
 22 When an interstate natural gas pipeline  
 23 company such as Algonquin files a petition with FERC  
 24 seeking permission to construct or modify facilities

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1 within Massachusetts, the Siting Board is required  
 2 by its regulations to preserve the rights of its  
 3 citizens and residents of the Commonwealth by  
 4 intervening in a FERC proceeding and measures that  
 5 are taken. Algonquin is now in the pre-filing phase  
 6 of the FERC proceeding, meaning that no petition has  
 7 yet been filed with FERC. Consequently, the Siting  
 8 Board cannot yet intervene. The purpose of  
 9 tonight's public comment meeting is to get feedback  
 10 from you regarding the project. Based upon what we  
 11 hear from you tonight and on the written comments we  
 12 receive and our review of the prefiled documents, we  
 13 will draft comments and submit them to FERC. Our  
 14 comments will include as attachments a copy of every  
 15 written comment that we receive from the public.

16           The Siting Board's comments are intended  
 17 to identify difficulties and problems with the  
 18 project associated with environmental issues. In  
 19 addition, the Siting Board may advocate for the  
 20 imposition of conditions on Algonquin in order to  
 21 mitigate the impacts that the project would cause on  
 22 abutters and the local community.

23           When Algonquin submits a petition  
 24 seeking permission to construct the Atlantic Bridge

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1 project, including the Weymouth compressor station,  
 2 that petition must address all of the concerns that  
 3 are raised in the comments that by that time will  
 4 have been submitted by the Siting Board and others  
 5 in this pre-filing process. Therefore, the comments  
 6 the Siting Board submits in its pre-filing process  
 7 will have an impact on the petition that will later  
 8 be filed seeking FERC's permission to construct the  
 9 project.

10           Once Algonquin has filed an official  
 11 petition with FERC, then the Siting Board will hold  
 12 another public informational hearing in the area  
 13 where some portion of the proposed facility will be  
 14 located. Most likely that hearing will be held in  
 15 Weymouth. A notice of this hearing will be given to  
 16 members of the public, and any and all members of  
 17 the public will be invited to attend the public  
 18 meeting and to submit further comments, written or  
 19 oral.

20           Because Algonquin has not yet filed a  
 21 petition with FERC, I cannot estimate when the  
 22 Siting Board will conduct this public hearing. In a  
 23 minute I will turn the microphone over to  
 24 representatives from Algonquin Gas who will present

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1 a description of the proposed project. That will be  
 2 followed by comments from the public. I will first  
 3 call on any state or local official representatives  
 4 who are present, and then call on the people in the  
 5 order they have signed the speakers list.

6           There are no strict time limits, unlike  
 7 the FERC meeting. But we ask that speakers in  
 8 general limit themselves to about five minutes. We  
 9 have this auditorium until 10:00 p.m. If everybody  
 10 limits themselves to about five minutes of speaking  
 11 time, then we are likely to hear from all those who  
 12 would like to make a statement. This time  
 13 limitation does not apply to elected officials.

14           We ask that everyone in the auditorium  
 15 please be courteous to all speakers whether or not  
 16 you agree with what they say. A speaker that is  
 17 interrupted takes much longer than necessary, and it  
 18 will be difficult for the stenographer to record.

19           If anyone wants to make a video  
 20 recording of this meeting, it is allowed but must  
 21 not be disruptive. Finally, I would like to ask  
 22 each person who speaks to please state his or her  
 23 name and address clearly and in particular to spell  
 24 his or her last name. This hearing, including the

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1 statements made by members of the public, will be  
 2 transcribed. We will use the remarks that you make  
 3 as recorded in the transcript to help us write our  
 4 comments.

5           After this is over, if you have any  
 6 questions for me, I would be glad to speak with you  
 7 or you can contact me using the information on the  
 8 sheet on the table that's near the entrance.

9           I will now call upon a representative of  
 10 Algonquin to make the presentation.

11           MR. LUSKAY: Good evening. James  
 12 Luskay, L u s k a y. I am the regional project  
 13 director for Algonquin Gas, and Atlantic Bridge is  
 14 one of my projects. We would like to thank the  
 15 board for hosting this hearing and to allow us to  
 16 give an overview of the Atlantic Bridge project.

17           To give a little background on Algonquin  
 18 Gas Transmission, we are an existing interstate  
 19 pipeline system, and we transport about 2.63 billion  
 20 cubic feet of natural gas from various supply basins  
 21 throughout North America each day. It consists of  
 22 approximately 1127 miles of pipeline facilities,  
 23 anywhere from 4 inch up to 42 inch. Our first  
 24 delivery was in 1953. We just celebrated 50 years

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1 of safe and reliable service to the Northeast.

2 We currently provide services to

3 Massachusetts companies such as National Grid,

4 Eversource, Columbia Gas of Massachusetts, Liberty

5 Utilities, as well as generating facilities and

6 manufacturing facilities.

7 We are regulated by the Federal Energy

8 Regulatory Commission, and Mr. Shea described their

9 role in the review and approval of the project, and

10 also the U.S. Department of Transportation. That's

11 the regulating federal body that has the codes and

12 standards that we operate by that we construct our

13 facilities to and that we maintain our facilities in

14 accordance with. They are also the agency that

15 comes out and inspects our facilities on a regular

16 basis.

17 This is an overview of the existing

18 Algonquin system. It begins in the Pennsylvania/New

19 Jersey line. It comes off of the Texas eastern

20 system which primarily comes up from the Gulf states

21 and traverses across the midsection of the country.

22 We pick up the gas there, part of it anyway, and we

23 travel across New Jersey, New York and then southern

24 New England and up into the Boston area and above

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1 Boston in Salem is where we connect to the M&N

2 system, the Maritimes and Northeast. That currently

3 brings gas down from offshore Canada. We have got

4 supplies from pretty much all of North America

5 coming into the Algonquin system.

6 As you see on the map, we are very well

7 positioned in an area that has a high demand for

8 gas, an increasing demand for gas between New York

9 and Boston as well as up into northern New England.

10 One of the advantages of our system is that the

11 system can be expanded as needed as the market calls

12 for. We can do that fairly quickly. The Atlantic

13 Bridge project is looking to be in service in 2017

14 as that's where the customer demands are.

15 We also serve LDCs, local distribution

16 companies. We serve power generators, which is part

17 of the supply for ISO New England. We also have

18 with the Atlantic Bridge project the opportunity of

19 providing additional supply to the Northeast that is

20 cost-effective, it's domestically produced, and an

21 environmentally friendly source of energy.

22 This is a map that shows the facilities

23 that are proposed for the Atlantic Bridge project.

24 With your permission could I use a laser pointer?

12

1 MR. SHEA: Please do.

2 MR. LUSKAY: Starting down to the west,

3 we have got three sections down here of take-up and

4 relay pipe of our of existing 26-inch to 42-inch

5 line. At our compressor station in Oxford,

6 Connecticut we will be adding additional horsepower.

7 That's another compressor unit. And our station in

8 Chaplin, Connecticut we will also be adding another

9 compressor unit.

10 The section that we are here to discuss

11 tonight is the proposed Weymouth compressor station,

12 a new compressor station on our system. That would

13 be an additional unit to the Algonquin horsepower.

14 The project need. The way the system

15 works as far as developing projects and identifying

16 the need for projects is that it begins with

17 customer input and customer requests for additional

18 supply. It began with an open season which began in

19 2014. That's where we basically go to the market

20 and say we have heard there's interest in building a

21 project. We are looking to put the scope together,

22 what companies have interest in it.

23 We heard back from a variety of

24 shippers, eight of them, that had very strong

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1 interest in the project and looking for that '17 in

2 service. One of them is located in Connecticut,

3 Norwich Public Utilities, LDCs in Massachusetts and

4 Maine, and Heritage Gas is in Canada. And then

5 manufacturing companies as well, located in Maine

6 and in Eastern Canada.

7 It's important to know that the Atlantic

8 Bridge project has customers that are getting the

9 end product of the project. This is not designed to

10 be an LNG export project.

11 A little bit about how Algonquin

12 operates and how all interstate natural gas

13 pipelines operate. We transport gas on behalf of

14 customers. Essentially we are an underground

15 trucking company. We don't own the gas that's in

16 the pipe. That gas and space in the pipe is owned

17 by the customers. We charge a rate over time to

18 recoup the cost that we invest in the project. We

19 don't build anything on spec. It is based on what

20 the customers are willing to pay for based on what

21 they see their future demand is.

22 We recognize that natural gas is just a

23 piece of the overall energy portfolio. We certainly

24 support solar and wind and renewable sources. But

<p style="text-align: center;">14</p> <p>1 we recognize natural gas is the cleanest burning of  2 fossil fuels and plentiful in the United States.</p> <p>3           The process that we go through to get  4 the project reviewed and towards approval is on the  5 federal level. The Federal Energy Regulatory  6 Commission is the lead agency in the review and  7 approval of the project. They work with other  8 agencies that cooperate in the process. Listed here  9 are the EPA, the Fish and Wildlife, Army Corps,  10 Marine Fisheries.</p> <p>11           In some cases there are local permits  12 that we need to obtain and then state reviews. As  13 Mr. Shea pointed out, there's feedback to the FERC  14 from state and local agencies about their take on  15 the project and any concerns that might be expressed  16 to them.</p> <p>17           Community outreach is certainly a very  18 important part of the project development. It began  19 in June of 2014 with the contact to the agencies and  20 local leaders. We then sent out introduction  21 letters in January of 2015. We had informational  22 meetings that the company held located in Weymouth  23 and Quincy for this part of the project. Just two  24 weeks ago FERC had their scoping meeting. I believe</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">16</p> <p>1 certificate in September of 2016, which will lead to  2 a notice to proceed construction which would be in  3 the first quarter of 2017. We are looking for an  4 in-service in November of 2017.</p> <p>5           This is an overview of the existing  6 pipelines that go through the property that we are  7 looking at for the proposed station. To the south  8 is the existing Calpine facility. This is an area  9 of bridge construction. This is an existing  10 metering station that we have that's at the end of  11 our Hub line system, and this is the proposed  12 location here of the compressor station. That's an  13 MWRA building out at the end.</p> <p>14           Coming from the south we have an  15 existing line from the Algonquin system that  16 currently flows to the south. This is where the  17 Maritime system comes down to the Hub line, and the  18 two systems come together right at this point.</p> <p>19           This is a blowup of that area. Again,  20 the highway over here, the existing meter station,  21 the pipeline in this general area here. This is a  22 depiction of the layout of the compressor station  23 with the suction line coming off the pipeline going  24 into the compressor building. At that point that's</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">15</p> <p>1 that date is wrong. I believe it was the 13th that  2 they were here.</p> <p>3           There will be opportunities for further  4 outreach. The FERC does allow public comment during  5 the environmental assessment. And also during the  6 application period there's a comment period.</p> <p>7           And as was mentioned earlier as well, on  8 the FERC website, ferc.gov, the project number is up  9 there, PF 15-12-000, if you do want to make comments  10 online. So the first process is we notify the FERC  11 that we have a potential project, file with them,  12 have a scoping meeting, and start the outreach  13 program with FERC.</p> <p>14           And then we start putting together  15 resource reports. Resource reports are the heart of  16 the application, covering everything from the need  17 of the project to impact to various parts of the  18 environment to local communities. That's where the  19 bulk of the time goes in identifying what  20 information needs to be researched and delivered in  21 order for the project to be thoroughly reviewed.</p> <p>22           Then we file the FERC application, which  23 we plan to do in September of this year. What we  24 are anticipating is an EA in May of 2016, and the</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">17</p> <p>1 where the gas is compressed. There's a turbine unit  2 in there. The gas, once it is released at higher  3 pressure, it comes out, goes through coolers and  4 goes in the pipeline and goes up north to feed the  5 Maritimes system to feed the Maine customers.</p> <p>6           We know there's been some question why  7 the location is selected here. It is currently an  8 industrial area. However, where the pipelines come  9 together is very key. Given the pressures what we  10 have, the I-8 and I-9 system meeting up with I-10,  11 which has a higher pressure. It requires the  12 compressor to be in this location so that we can put  13 higher pressure going north on the system.</p> <p>14           Also looking at alternatives, in order  15 to find another location that we could site a  16 compressor, we would need to add some additional  17 pipeline in order to get to that critical location.  18 And any sites that we would find would be to the  19 south and it would be a far more congested area and  20 not an industrial area. It is also located next to  21 the Weymouth Fore River plant.</p> <p>22           Just as a comparison of what the  23 facilities are that we are proposing to put in, the  24 current gas-fired generating turbines at that</p>

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1 facility are about 775 megawatts. The turbines we  
 2 are proposing for the pipeline are about 8  
 3 megawatts, just about one percent the size of the  
 4 existing power plant, for reference.

5           There's also been concern about siting  
 6 in the location, in the small location. This is a  
 7 couple of compressor stations that we have in New  
 8 Jersey. It is a little bit hard to see, I  
 9 apologize, but there's a compressor station in here  
 10 that's actually in the middle of that clover leaf.  
 11 There's another compressor station down here that is  
 12 at the area of this, right at the end of the airport  
 13 in Morristown, New Jersey. So we have been able to  
 14 site facilities on small locations. This is another  
 15 one in New Jersey in an industrial area up against a  
 16 residential area.

17           I'll talk a little bit about it once we  
 18 go into service, the operational safety and what we  
 19 do to make sure that all the facilities are operated  
 20 safely. We do have a gas control department that  
 21 controls the pipeline. They are located in Houston.  
 22 They continuously monitor the pipeline for proper  
 23 operation. We do meter and measure the gas and  
 24 regulate the pressure with the gas measurement group

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1 and also monitor and ensure the quality of the gas.  
 2           Compressor station operations. This is  
 3 not a facility manned 24 hours a day. However, it  
 4 would be manned during normal working hours. And  
 5 the responsibility of that crew would be to maintain  
 6 the facility to be sure that the equipment operates  
 7 properly, the engine, compressor, the associated  
 8 valves and systems, any gas equipment operates  
 9 correctly. That's what the goal of those folks are.

10           We do maintain our pipelines and all of  
 11 our facilities against corrosion and defects through  
 12 cathodic protection programs as well as ensuring we  
 13 have a proper coating on it. Our integrity  
 14 management program is a key part of our safe  
 15 operation. That's the program that, we actually had  
 16 a program in place long before it became the law to  
 17 have an integrity management program. We have been  
 18 running tools through our lines and inspecting them  
 19 internally as well as doing other forms of regular  
 20 inspection.

21           Ground and leak surveys. We look for  
 22 leaks which are very rare on an interstate high-  
 23 pressure pipeline. We have an aerial patrol. About  
 24 twice a week it flies through looking for any sort

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1 of activity near the pipeline that could be a threat  
 2 to the line. We maintain our valves. If there were  
 3 an incident where we had to shut down the line or  
 4 isolate something, we have valves that respond  
 5 properly.

6           The greatest threat to a facility is  
 7 third-party damage. We are a member of the one-call  
 8 center. Making sure there is no third-party damage  
 9 on our pipeline or any part of the facility is  
 10 another key factor to operate the pipe safely.

11           Also, we have our logo: Above all else,  
 12 safety. We keep ourselves, our teams and our  
 13 communities safe. That really is the fabric of our  
 14 operation. We are making sure that our employees are  
 15 working safely, that the folks working are safe, and  
 16 above all to make sure that the communities we  
 17 operate in, to be sure that they have a safe  
 18 facility in the neighborhood.

19           A little bit more about safety.  
 20 Mercaptan, that's an odorant that we add in our  
 21 pipeline. One of the things I keep hearing from all  
 22 kinds of sources is that our gas is not odorized.  
 23 That is not correct. It is odorized. If you do  
 24 smell gas, it is important that you call the local

21

1 distribution company or Algonquin to notify them.  
 2           Natural gas is lighter than air. So if  
 3 there is a release of gas, it does dissipate quickly  
 4 into the air. Mercaptan is heavier so that may  
 5 linger longer. I know there was a discussion last  
 6 week if it were released near the highway.

7           This is a scale that's probably  
 8 difficult to read from the back of the room on sound  
 9 levels. What we are obligated to is the property  
 10 line nearest receptor, to maintain a maximum 55 dB,  
 11 what we are required to build our facilities to.  
 12 What we were required to do is do some premonitoring  
 13 on the site as well. We have done some very  
 14 preliminary work. Right now at the site we are at  
 15 the 65 to 70 dB. The threshold we have is below  
 16 what the traffic noise is in that facility.

17           A little bit about the compressors  
 18 themselves. They do employ the best available  
 19 technology as far as low emissions. We are planning  
 20 to install 9 PPMVD units which are a great deal more  
 21 efficient and less emissions than the federal  
 22 standard of 25 PPMVD is. Also, we have got  
 23 additional oxidation catalysts installed on units to  
 24 further reduce emissions. That's the best available

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1 technology which we are putting in.  
 2 And above all else, safe.  
 3 Thank you to the Board and thank you to  
 4 everyone coming out this evening.  
 5 MR. SHEA: Thank you for those comments.  
 6 I would like to call first one of the  
 7 elected officials to speak. Mayor Kay, would you  
 8 like to speak first? There is no time limit for  
 9 elected officials.  
 10 MAYOR KAY: Okay. Thank you for being  
 11 here this evening. I would like to at least let the  
 12 public know that we have elected officials who are  
 13 very concerned. Our majority leader, representative  
 14 Ron Mariano, is represented by Lindsay Robinson  
 15 tonight, and someone is here representing  
 16 Representative James Murphy, who is probably on his  
 17 way, and town counsel president Patrick O'Connor is  
 18 here and wants to make sure that the people get  
 19 enough time to speak so he is not going to speak  
 20 this evening.  
 21 I want to thank the staff of the  
 22 Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board for  
 23 holding one of the two public meetings in Weymouth.  
 24 Although no pipeline changes are proposed in

23

1 Weymouth, the plan to add a compressor station in  
 2 North Weymouth would have environmental impacts on  
 3 the community that need to be carefully studied. I  
 4 am certain you will hear tonight from many residents  
 5 of the Fore River basin who have been burdened by  
 6 industrial uses that have contributed to the  
 7 degradation of the neighborhood environment. I am  
 8 pleased that you will participate in the FERC  
 9 proceedings and help to represent the concerns of  
 10 local residents to FERC.  
 11 Your knowledge of the Fore River basin  
 12 and permitted uses, such as the Fore River Station  
 13 Power Plant in Weymouth and the Potter Station plant  
 14 in Braintree, make you aware of the potential  
 15 environmental impacts if this proposal could  
 16 prevail. We know you are familiar with the noise,  
 17 air pollution and safety issues that we as local  
 18 residents have been dealing with for years.  
 19 I want to state up front that I am  
 20 vehemently opposed to the proposal to site a new gas  
 21 compressor station in North Weymouth. I do not  
 22 believe that this is the right location to site a  
 23 compressor station for two reasons. First, a  
 24 compressor station creates environmental issues such

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1 as noise, odors, and safety. They should not be  
 2 located in a densely populated area such as the Fore  
 3 River basin. I believe for the earlier sitings it  
 4 wasn't very populated.  
 5 The North Weymouth neighborhood and Fore  
 6 River basin is already the location of problematic  
 7 industrial uses and the community does not need to  
 8 deal with another such use. These uses include a  
 9 power plant, MWRA sewer pump station in Weymouth, a  
 10 power plant hazardous waste facility, and gasoline  
 11 and/or oil depot in Braintree, right next door, and  
 12 a chemical plant and sewage pelletizing plant in  
 13 Quincy, all contiguous.  
 14 Let me comment briefly on the specific  
 15 environmental issues that concern me with the  
 16 proposed gas compressor station.  
 17 Noise. A compressor station would  
 18 potentially create a nuisance to the surrounding  
 19 community due to the large amount of noise they  
 20 produce emergency shutdowns and/or blowdowns at  
 21 compressor stations have been described as sounding  
 22 like a freight train or jet engine. These  
 23 occurrences would create a nuisance to a large  
 24 number of North Weymouth residents.

25

1 Air pollution. The area of the proposed  
 2 compressor station is already saturated with  
 3 industries that pollute the air. Two adjacent point  
 4 sources of pollution include the power plant itself  
 5 as well as Twin Rivers located in Quincy. The  
 6 compressor station would add another major source of  
 7 air pollution to the area.  
 8 Safety. First responders would have to  
 9 deal with emergencies at the compressor station and  
 10 we don't have a lot of personnel. News accounts of  
 11 people injured or killed in such facilities can be  
 12 seen if you just go on a website. The town will  
 13 have to train first responders at our own cost in  
 14 responding to emergencies at the compressor  
 15 especially if it is not staffed.  
 16 Geographic location. The geographic  
 17 location of the facility is concerning as well.  
 18 Massachusetts GIS has the site listed within a  
 19 hurricane inundation zone. This means the site may  
 20 become inaccessible during and/or after a Category 2  
 21 hurricane, only a 2; and completely inundated after  
 22 a Category 4 hurricane, and we've seen them.  
 23 In addition, if a major event did occur,  
 24 it would have the possibility of shutting down Route

1 3A, damaging or closing the Fore River Bridge -- can  
2 you imagine? -- and/or disrupting trade on the Fore  
3 River itself.

4 I will also be submitting written  
5 comments to your agency prior to June 5 that will  
6 amplify the issues I've addressed tonight.

7 I want to close by noting that this is  
8 an environmentally stressed area and should not be  
9 subject to additional degradation of the  
10 environment. This proposal must be evaluated in the  
11 context of other land uses in the Fore River basin.  
12 It is loaded.

13 Thank you, Siting Board, thank you,  
14 staff, for the opportunity to present our issues of  
15 concern with this proposal. I trust you will hear  
16 our issues tonight and advocate, please advocate on  
17 our behalf through the FERC proceedings. Weymouth  
18 needs your help and we need it now. Thank you.

19 MR. SHEA: Thank you very much, Mayor  
20 Kay. I understand that Representative James Murphy  
21 is here. Would you like to address the audience?

22 MR. MURPHY: Good evening.  
23 Representative James Murphy. I've represented the  
24 Town of Weymouth and Hingham in the legislature for

1 the past 14 years. I've received a lot of phone  
2 calls and letters from probably many people in this  
3 room. I, like you, have concerns about the location  
4 of this station. I grew up in the Town of Weymouth,  
5 lived here my whole life, in North Weymouth for a  
6 while and now in East Weymouth.

7 During the course of the proceedings  
8 over the course of the past few months I've heard  
9 from a lot of you and I've worked with Mayor Kay.  
10 I, like her, have concerns about this location, not  
11 to debate the need for natural gas in the region. I  
12 think that's a separate discussion. But based upon  
13 the density of North Weymouth and the environmental  
14 impact this could have on the South Shore, not just  
15 Weymouth and Quincy but the region, I do have  
16 serious concerns about the station located in North  
17 Weymouth.

18 I do oppose this site as the location of  
19 the compressor station. I'll address my comments to  
20 you during the course of the proceedings. I will  
21 save the time tonight and allow the residents the  
22 time to speak. I do oppose the location and will be  
23 submitting official comments to the state and  
24 federal agencies regarding that. Thank you very

1 much.

2 MR. SHEA: Are there any other state  
3 senators or state representatives in the audience  
4 now? I think some will be coming. In that case, is  
5 Councilor Becky Haugh here?

6 MS. HAUGH: Thank you and good evening.  
7 My name is Becky Haugh. I'm a district one  
8 councilor for the Town of Weymouth who represents  
9 the area of the proposed gas compressor station. I  
10 would like to thank the Energy Facilities Siting  
11 Board for holding this public hearing here for the  
12 citizens of the Town of Weymouth, Quincy and  
13 Braintree who will be affected by the station.

14 I have multiple concerns about the  
15 compressor station being located at this location in  
16 Weymouth. For starters, we are currently familiar  
17 with the Fore River Bridge construction project  
18 which sits about a hundred yards away from the  
19 proposed site. This is a \$244 million bridge  
20 project being funded by both federal and state  
21 monies and destined to be complete in 2017. Workers  
22 have just in the recent weeks completed the concrete  
23 approach on the Weymouth side. I fear just the  
24 heavy construction alone for the compressor station

1 or any major vehicle, for that matter, will  
2 jeopardize the structural integrity which is  
3 supposed to last 75-plus years. For the price tag  
4 the taxpayers paid for that, I am concerned with  
5 this as a problem.

6 Next to this proposed property the Town  
7 of Weymouth awarded a conservation restriction to  
8 three acres for a park for passive recreation  
9 through a mitigation obligation under the  
10 Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection  
11 Chapter 91 license for the power plant across the  
12 street. Chapter 91 regulations require its projects  
13 must provide greater benefits than deficits to the  
14 public's rights and waterways. We fought in the  
15 town in the early 1990s for the benefit. We fought  
16 in early 2000 for the Fore River project to get this  
17 area rehabilitated after construction.

18 A gas compressor station at this site  
19 will render this conservation land useless because  
20 no one in their right mind would take leisurely  
21 walks next to this thing. It is actually very  
22 peaceful there now. Many who have visited the site  
23 in the last few weeks can attest to that.

24 Should an emergency arise at the

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1 proposed gas compressor station, we will have an  
 2 extreme public crisis on our hands in Weymouth and  
 3 Quincy no matter what Spectra's evaluation for  
 4 action for that emergency would be. The Fore River  
 5 Bridge, which would be part of any evacuation plan,  
 6 transports over 33,000 vehicles a day. For public  
 7 reference for evacuation purposes, the evacuation  
 8 zone is one mile. Pinpoints for residents would be  
 9 St. Jerome Church on 3A and the Abigail Adams, and  
 10 the intersection of the Southern Artery at  
 11 Washington Street in Quincy. If the evacuation zone  
 12 for an emergency was two miles, that would Hingham  
 13 Shipyard, Weymouth Town Hall and Quincy Center. We  
 14 are talking about evacuating tens of thousands of  
 15 people and shutting down most travel roads in  
 16 Weymouth if an emergency arises.

17 In September of 2007 Spectra proposed to  
 18 build a gas compressor station on the Algonquin  
 19 line. It was 150-acre parcel in Boxford,  
 20 Massachusetts. This location is 15 times the size  
 21 of Weymouth's proposed parcel. The population of  
 22 Boxford is only 8,000 compared to Weymouth's 54,000.  
 23 There were a couple dozen homes within a half mile  
 24 radius in Boxford. We have almost a thousand.

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1 February 2008 Spectra pulled their plans  
 2 to build the compressor station due to what they  
 3 said was lack of financing. Alternative sites at  
 4 that time were in Danvers and Rehobeth. Both are  
 5 significantly less populated than Quincy and  
 6 Weymouth and have much more open space. If Spectra  
 7 now has plans to build a compressor station, why not  
 8 go back to these communities on the Algonquin line  
 9 and transport north from there. There are no public  
 10 documents from the power station for siting the  
 11 proposed compressor station.

12 Having to evacuate 17, 26, 34 households  
 13 within a half-mile isn't good for anyone, but it is  
 14 a lot easier than handling a thousand-plus  
 15 households. Has anyone asked the mayor of Weymouth  
 16 or the fire chief if they are capable of vacating  
 17 half of North Weymouth? Has the mayor of Quincy  
 18 been asked if they can evacuate Quincy Point and  
 19 Germantown, both environmental justice designated  
 20 communities due to their high minority and  
 21 low-income population? Has anyone asked why such a  
 22 highly populated area is being targeted for a  
 23 compressor station when others are more rural and  
 24 the impact for such a station and potential risks

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1 are relatively small? Why is Weymouth, the South  
 2 Shore, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts being set  
 3 up by a company based out of Texas to essentially be  
 4 a science experiment for this?

5 I could go on and on for hours about  
 6 this, but I'm truly motivated by the crowd here  
 7 today and the dedication of the residents of  
 8 Weymouth and Quincy that came out. And I would like  
 9 to hear and thank each and every one who speaks  
 10 tonight. Thank you.

11 MR. SHEA: Thank you. Is district  
 12 councilor at large Jane Hackett here?

13 MS. HACKETT: Thank you to the Energy  
 14 Facilities Siting Board, and thank you to all of you  
 15 for being here tonight. As Councilor Haugh said,  
 16 this is exactly what we need in Weymouth right now.

17 Thank you to the Energy Facilities  
 18 Siting Board for holding this hearing. I too am  
 19 opposed to siting of this compressor station at 36  
 20 Bridge Street as part of the Algonquin Gas  
 21 Transmission, LLC Atlantic Bridge project.

22 As far as the proposed site, it is my  
 23 opinion that this compressor station site is far too  
 24 industrially and residentially dense and too

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1 environmentally sensitive to host this compressor  
 2 station. Weymouth, North Weymouth in particular,  
 3 will bear increased construction disruption and  
 4 increase in baseline ambient noise and increased  
 5 environmental health and public safety risks and  
 6 Weymouth will receive no benefit.

7 I believe the Morristown plant that was  
 8 highlighted here tonight, in fact, during its  
 9 construction in 2013 I believe caused an elementary  
 10 school evacuation due to the venting and blowdown  
 11 during construction. This school is .7 miles  
 12 further away than the Wessagusset School is in  
 13 Weymouth to the proposed site.

14 I too will be filing written comments.  
 15 I would like to hear from the public at large. I do  
 16 urge Spectra to attempt to find an alternative  
 17 location for the station and ask you, the Siting  
 18 Board, to assist us in itemizing and legitimatizing  
 19 the adverse environmental impacts of this project.  
 20 We worked with you before in this area, and very  
 21 much appreciated working with you in that capacity  
 22 with the site plan in this area, and we really need  
 23 your help again. Please help us. Thank you.

24 MR. SHEA: Thank you. Is councilor at

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1 large Patrick O'Connor present?  
 2 MR. O'CONNOR: Thank you to the Siting  
 3 Board. Patrick O'Connor. I serve on the council as  
 4 president as well. I didn't plan to speak on this  
 5 issue. I was at the FERC meeting, and additionally,  
 6 the North Weymouth Civic Association meeting when  
 7 this all started gelling. On the council level, I  
 8 must say in hearing the comments from two weeks ago  
 9 and hearing the comments tonight and seeing the work  
 10 that has been put into this, Councilor Becky Haugh  
 11 is a superstar on this issue. We are lucky to have  
 12 her.  
 13 I know people are anxious to speak on  
 14 this issue. I won't be long. I didn't plan on  
 15 speaking. In just seeing this entire situation  
 16 develop, I wrote some notes down on my phone.  
 17 I'm completely opposed to this proposed  
 18 compressor station. I think enough is enough.  
 19 North Weymouth has been subjected too far too many  
 20 of these high-impact, high-burden projects for  
 21 decades. In my opinion it has been to the detriment  
 22 of economic development right at the gateway of our  
 23 community. I think it is time to think bigger,  
 24 North Weymouth and Weymouth as a whole, bigger than

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1 the corporations and utilities. We are at the  
 2 gateway of our community with them using us for  
 3 projects like this with high risk and no benefit.  
 4 To the proponents of the project I say find a new  
 5 site. Thank you.  
 6 MR. SHEA: Are there any other public  
 7 officials, elected officials who would like to  
 8 speak?  
 9 MS. LAFOREST: Margaret Laforest, Quincy  
 10 city councilor, ward 1, which covers Houghs Neck and  
 11 Germantown. I myself consider myself a direct  
 12 abutter. I live right across the water. Brad  
 13 Croall is Ward 2, representing Quincy Point; we both  
 14 consider ourselves site abutters. We had a site  
 15 visit to see how close this is to the properties.  
 16 You aren't necessarily seeing the compressor station  
 17 because of the topography where our districts are in  
 18 Quincy. We absolutely share the concerns and share  
 19 the opposition of the site in Weymouth, the  
 20 location, the environmental justice, the noise and  
 21 public safety. You heard from the elected people  
 22 this evening. I'm sure you will hear the same from  
 23 the public.  
 24 One point is two of the regulatory

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1 agencies submitting to FERC are U.S. Fish and  
 2 Wildlife as well as the Division of Marine  
 3 Fisheries. Quincy and Weymouth have a strong  
 4 coastal history. Quincy Bay used to be number one  
 5 for clamming in the State of Massachusetts. Our  
 6 coastal economy has been decimated. What are the  
 7 environmental impacts to the coastal economy and  
 8 fishing grounds in our area? That is an area of  
 9 concern to us. As much as we are talking about  
 10 environmental and air pollution, we need to be  
 11 talking about the coastal impact.  
 12 I too want to hear from a lot of the  
 13 residents tonight. The other request we had  
 14 outstanding was a meeting with your board and the  
 15 public to have a public commentary period, also  
 16 include a meeting in Quincy in Germantown in one of  
 17 our low-income areas. We put that request in prior.  
 18 Secondly, you referenced the resource  
 19 reports being submitted by the project team. Are  
 20 those available at this point?  
 21 MR. SHEA: I'm sorry?  
 22 MS. LAFOREST: The resource reports that  
 23 they represented that they are submitting.  
 24 MR. SHEA: With FERC?

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1 MS. LAFOREST: Yes.  
 2 MR. TYRRELL: I can address that.  
 3 MS. LAFOREST: Those are my comments. I  
 4 would also note that someone from the mayor's office  
 5 is to be here. I know the mayor was sending her.  
 6 Thank you.  
 7 MR. TYRRELL: Mike Tyrrell, the  
 8 environmental lead for Algonquin on this project.  
 9 The question was where are the resource reports and  
 10 are they available now. There are two resource  
 11 reports dealing with the project description and  
 12 alternatives that have been filed already with FERC  
 13 that are on the record. The full set of resource  
 14 reports that cover a lot more detail, including the  
 15 impacts to air, water, geology, soils, those will be  
 16 filed mid-June and be on the docket with FERC as  
 17 well and we will make those available for comments.  
 18 Thank you.  
 19 MS. LAFOREST: I want to make a point of  
 20 the timeline. They need to educate how they are  
 21 going to address these issues, and yet the public  
 22 comment period closes before we have access and time  
 23 to look at the documentation. In Quincy one of our  
 24 processes that we have is a peer review. Here you

1 are, you are doing the development here and you want  
2 to sell it to the community. This community needs  
3 to have an understanding as to what those impacts  
4 are. They have homework as part of the process to  
5 explain that.

6 It would be very helpful to extend the  
7 public comment period, if that is possible,  
8 particularly for the elected officials to review the  
9 documents. There's a lot more information that we  
10 need. Consider that in the time line. The public  
11 comment period for your board and for FERC closes to  
12 the public and to the elected officials prior to  
13 those documents being available. I would like to  
14 request the city officials and local officials have  
15 that documentation prior to the deadline. We would  
16 like to have them ASAP. Thank you.

17 MR. SHEA: If anyone wants to  
18 communicate with FERC directly, the FERC website is  
19 www.ferc.gov. They will have a lot of information  
20 for you.

21 Are there any other elected officials  
22 who would like to speak tonight? If any come in, I  
23 understand there may be a few that come in during  
24 the hearing, they will be heard when they come in.

1 SENATOR HEDLUND: Thank you. I'm not  
2 sure of the process here tonight. Thank you for  
3 having me I think out of turn. Thank you for being  
4 here. I'm Bob Hedlund.

5 MR. SHEA: You are the state senator?

6 SENATOR HEDLUND: Yes. Representing  
7 Weymouth and seven other communities on the South  
8 Shore. Thank you.

9 By way of background. I have lived in  
10 about a three-mile to four-mile radius of the  
11 proposed site my entire life since the day I was  
12 born. That was a long time ago now. I do know the  
13 neighborhood well. I know the proposed site quite  
14 well. I've been in office now for 20 years  
15 representing that particular neighborhood. I've had  
16 an office in North Weymouth. My family's business I  
17 ran for ten years was on the north side just over  
18 the Fore River Bridge. I worked at a gas station  
19 abutting the Fore River Bridge. I know the basin  
20 area quite well.

21 Throughout my lifetime, which is about  
22 50 years now, this particular neighborhood which  
23 will be impacted by this compressor station has been  
24 host to, just in my lifetime, has been host to a

1 coal-burning power plant that left soot on our cars  
2 and clotheslines, a manufacturing plant that filled  
3 the air with pungent odors, an MWRA sewer pumping  
4 station and tunnel.

5 During construction I personally  
6 witnessed residents and neighbors having cracked  
7 ceilings and pool liners cracked. I visited a woman  
8 who complained about the impact to her house. While  
9 I visited the house, I saw a lamp shake off the  
10 table and almost hit the ground.

11 We have hosted in that basin -- when I  
12 say the basin, I mean immediately impacting the Fore  
13 River basin, the waterfront of that community. We  
14 have seen two power plants constructed, seen a  
15 bridge construction project, lane closures  
16 associated with that, a shipyard that once ran three  
17 ships with noise and fumes emanating from that site;  
18 the SCA chemical facility, now known as Clean  
19 Harbors, a hazardous waste facility. The basin has  
20 hosted three tank farms, a fatty acid plant, and a  
21 MWRA sewage pelletizing plant.

22 This neighborhood has endured and  
23 tolerated these facilities. In many cases we  
24 welcomed these facilities and activities because

1 they employed our families, friends and neighbors.  
2 However, there are two proposed uses in the Fore  
3 River basin that we haven't welcomed and have not  
4 tolerated. That was the proposed Clean Harbors  
5 proposed hazardous waste incinerator, and now this  
6 proposal.

7 The proposed gas transfer facility, I  
8 try to look at the big picture when looking at these  
9 and I try to factor in the common good, but the fact  
10 is that this community as shouldered enough burden  
11 from industrial activity.

12 This project as proposed is proposed for  
13 a clearly overburdened community according to a  
14 federal action addressing environmental justice. I  
15 will present written comments in more detail on  
16 that. I just wanted to hit on the major points. As  
17 you know, the purpose of the environmental justice  
18 order was to identify and address the proportion of  
19 high and adverse human health and environmental  
20 effects on minority populations and low-income  
21 populations. The area at the present day already  
22 has a significantly high concentration of  
23 environmental harms versus your average community  
24 and probably more significantly than any

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1 neighborhood that I represent.

2           The area is currently deemed a low/  
3 moderate-income targeted area from the U.S.  
4 Department of Housing and Urban Development. We  
5 know it meets that criteria. I'll go on in more  
6 detail in my written testimony. These target areas  
7 potentially experience disproportionate  
8 environmental harms and risks to exposure. More  
9 than 45 percent of the households in this region are  
10 designated low and moderate income. There's  
11 absolutely no positive economic impact outside of  
12 some short-term construction jobs that will be  
13 presented that will be the result of the project.  
14 There's no logic in approving this project at this  
15 location.

16           I've had meetings with folks from  
17 Spectra. They are a reputable company. I know  
18 their operations in other areas are decent  
19 operations. But the characteristics of those  
20 operations are significantly different than this  
21 location. I hope that is something you look closely  
22 at.

23           I hope that the Siting Board realizes  
24 that this is something that doesn't fit. I

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1 mentioned this at the FERC hearing by one of my  
2 aides, that it is extremely frustrating to me to see  
3 this proposal before us on a site that should have  
4 been part of mitigation from the construction of the  
5 sited energy plant, surplus land that some in the  
6 town felt should have been preserved or at least  
7 controlled by the town so that we could control our  
8 own destiny with that site. Unfortunately, if you  
9 look at the plan that was proposed to the town at  
10 that time, it says right on the plan: For future  
11 potential development. And now we are facing that  
12 future potential development. We should never be at  
13 this point. I hope the Board takes action to  
14 prevent this.

15           MR. SHEA: Are there any other elected  
16 officials who would like to speak?

17           MR. McDONALD: My name is Brian  
18 McDonald, a councillor at large in the Town  
19 of Weymouth. I formerly served in the senate seat  
20 that Senator Hedlund is so ably serving us now.

21           Back in the day we had a proposal by  
22 Clean Harbors. I'm not sure if any of you were  
23 involved in that fight back then. That lasted  
24 probably four and a half years in the towns of East

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1 Braintree, Weymouth and Quincy. We fought that  
2 tooth and nail. That facility made no sense. This  
3 addition to our neighborhood makes absolutely no  
4 sense in a densely populated area. It's my  
5 understanding that the siting of this facility  
6 would be unlike any other in the country in the  
7 population density relative to the particular usage.

8           I think you can see there's a tremendous  
9 community opposition. I did see today that Spectra  
10 has cancelled plans for towns southwest of Boston  
11 for similar type of capacity. I would urge you to  
12 do everything in your power to see the failing of  
13 the plan, the adequacy of the plan, the density of  
14 the population, all of the activity that is in the  
15 Fore River basin. It is something that may be  
16 needed somewhere, but it needs to be in a place that  
17 will have a minimal impact on people.

18           I believe this site would be a  
19 potential, have significant potential possibilities  
20 of some serious catastrophic problems if something  
21 disastrous would happen. Disastrous things aren't  
22 supposed to happen, but we have to plan as if they  
23 do happen.

24           So we were told that the process is

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1 federally driven, that there's very little that the  
2 local community can do, that the state can do. I  
3 don't particularly buy into that. We will do  
4 everything we can to fight the proposal. The  
5 environmental committee is holding a meeting and  
6 inviting Spectra in. So far this afternoon Spectra  
7 said they would not make it. We are going to hold  
8 the meeting anyway. We are going to recommend to  
9 the Weymouth town council opposition. I would  
10 strongly urge that your organization, your Siting  
11 Board do the same thing. Thank you very much for  
12 your time.

13           MR. SHEA: Are there any other elected  
14 officials present who would like to speak? Not  
15 seeing any, I will start calling people in the order  
16 they signed. I will call the person who is next and  
17 also indicate who comes after he or her so that that  
18 person can come up and we won't have any delays and  
19 we can get through this as quickly as possible. The  
20 next person that signed up is Turner Bledsoe. He's  
21 followed by James English and Ellen English.

22           MR. BLEDSOE: Turner Bledsoe, 232  
23 Leavitt Street in Hingham. I'm a resident of  
24 Hingham, but I cross over the border on a daily

1 basis. I'm speaking against the compressor station  
 2 in Weymouth and expansion of the Algonquin pipeline  
 3 in any way. There's a lot in the media about a  
 4 shortage of energy, concerns over the winter.  
 5 Members of your board know that in the deepest cold  
 6 snap in history ISO New England was actually sending  
 7 surplus energy from Massachusetts to states to the  
 8 south. There was an adequate supply of cheap,  
 9 imported LNG. Also, our best innovation energy  
 10 efficiency programs and solar energy programs are in  
 11 exponential growth. We should not be adding new  
 12 caustic and toxic long-term natural gas  
 13 infrastructure in Massachusetts.

14 The gas industry is desperate to reach  
 15 export facilities in Canada, to the contrary to  
 16 Spectra's assertion. I think if you look at the  
 17 name Atlantic Bridge, it is not a mistake. The plan  
 18 is to go into Maritimes and Northeast pipeline. The  
 19 Atlantic Bridge is an export pipeline to carry  
 20 natural gas to Canada. The Weymouth compressor  
 21 station is intended to push that gas to Canada. It  
 22 is not needed to serve Massachusetts. If this gas  
 23 reaches export facilities, the price of natural gas  
 24 in Massachusetts will go up. Studies have shown

1 that Massachusetts will not meet its targets to  
 2 reduce greenhouse emissions.

3 If this compressor station is built in  
 4 Weymouth, its toxic emissions will poison the air in  
 5 the surrounding communities of Quincy Point, North  
 6 Weymouth and Germantown causing related illnesses,  
 7 raising health care costs, and loss of property  
 8 values. Our citizens should not be subject to nor  
 9 have to pay for this industry power play and  
 10 environmental desecration. We are in a crisis. We  
 11 are in a crisis, a global warming crisis.

12 James Hansen, NASA scientist, has called  
 13 for reducing the famous two-degree centigrade target  
 14 proposal warning to a lower one degree because of  
 15 the destructive impact of global warming is  
 16 exceeding all projections. He has clearly shown us  
 17 that the world must reduce emissions 6 percent a  
 18 year starting no later than 2020 to avoid a global  
 19 catastrophe. This is the significant tipping point  
 20 beyond which we will not be able to return to safe  
 21 levels with greenhouse gas.

22 The best alternative for our desperately  
 23 needed transition to a low-carbon future is  
 24 short-term reliance on imported liquid natural gas

1 and hydropower while our energy efficiency and  
 2 renewable resources continue to expand.

3 Finally, for this compressor station,  
 4 known by industry performance to be a fire and  
 5 explosion risk, to be sited under the highly  
 6 flammable Fore River Bridge in proximity to  
 7 flammable fuel storage tanks and a power station  
 8 would be a criminal act. I urge the Energy  
 9 Facilities Siting Board to say no to all aspects of  
 10 the Atlantic Bridge project.

11 MR. SHEA: Thank you.

12 James English and then Ellen English.

13 MR. ENGLISH: My name is James English.  
 14 I live in North Weymouth. The only reason I'm up  
 15 here speaking is because I signed the wrong list.  
 16 My wife probably will not be speaking. Since I am  
 17 up here, I would like to talk a little common sense.  
 18 The only reason that plant is being put where it is  
 19 being put is because of a cost reason. That's the  
 20 only reason. They could move it 30 miles either  
 21 way. It wouldn't make any difference. It's in a  
 22 neighborhood. It's not the richest neighborhood but  
 23 it is a good neighborhood.

24 I want to tell you something. I fill

1 the birdbath every night. And all these good  
 2 environmental regulations. I'm going to tell you.  
 3 I put fresh water in every night. Many mornings I  
 4 come out and it has a red substance in it. I would  
 5 assume it is an oxide of some type. I have a light-  
 6 colored house. It often has specks of soot on it.  
 7 So much for the environmental controls.

8 I did look at the plans. It seems to be  
 9 an air-over-liquid cooling system, which means you  
 10 have fans cooling and all that megawatt of energy  
 11 that you are using. Fans. That sound will carry  
 12 across that water with nothing to stop it. Not like  
 13 some of the pictures of the other sites where they  
 14 had trees as a barrier to the neighborhoods. If we  
 15 are lucky enough to have a good day where the  
 16 traffic isn't heavy on that bridge, you can hear  
 17 someone over on the island speaking across the  
 18 water. If you put a farm of high-energy fans out  
 19 there, you won't ever hear them again.

20 Thank you very much.

21 MR. SHEA: The next person who is on is  
 22 Cissy White. After her is Diane Rello.

23 MS. WHITE: Christine Cissy White, 16  
 24 Caldwell Street. I've lived in North Weymouth for

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1 almost 16 years. I'm not originally from the South  
 2 Shore. It is my home now. I love taking my  
 3 daughter and kids to the beach in the summer and the  
 4 fireworks. I love having neighbors who help each  
 5 other shovel, share sugar.  
 6 I don't want to leave Weymouth. I have  
 7 concerns about this gas compressor, the safety, the  
 8 location, the possibility of an emergency, flooding,  
 9 limited resources of the town, terrorism, the gas  
 10 lines so close to the coast.  
 11 We are not a wealthy community. We  
 12 don't have extra resources of fire and police. But  
 13 we are a tight-knit community. I don't want to  
 14 repeat what all the elected officials have already  
 15 said. I do want to know if there will be a meeting  
 16 to let us know what to do to stop this, what other  
 17 communities have done to successfully block this.  
 18 Is the Fore River Against the  
 19 Compression Station basically the best place to  
 20 share information and efforts to stop this? Who has  
 21 the power to stop this from happening? It's not  
 22 clear to me if we even have the power to stop this.  
 23 It seems terribly undemocratic and I ask for your  
 24 help.

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1 MR. SHEA: Thank you. The next speaker  
 2 is Diane Rello. After her it is Mary J. Christofi.  
 3 MS. RELLO: Diane Rello. I have a  
 4 residence in Quincy. But I also represent a family  
 5 since 1962 being in the Town of Weymouth, North  
 6 Weymouth, with a cancer rate that is probably not  
 7 even registered anywhere. My father was with fossil  
 8 fuels all my life. I breathed it, washed his  
 9 clothes, my mother did. She's dead. She's dead.  
 10 I'm going to turn. I don't mean  
 11 disrespect to you, but I want to speak to the people  
 12 that I've been speaking to that are responsible for  
 13 the product and services that will come to our town  
 14 if they choose to do it. I've talked to the Calpine  
 15 Industries. I've talked to Governor Baker's office.  
 16 I have talked to one of the members of Spectra. I  
 17 respect that they are humans, but I also understand  
 18 their incompetence to understand the safety of any  
 19 human here involved and being hurt. I do understand  
 20 safety and health and security of every human. I do  
 21 belong to the human race -- unfortunately,  
 22 sometimes -- and I do belong to my own world.  
 23 I ask all Weymouth residents to make  
 24 this meeting a rocket of information for everyone

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1 that is affected by fossil fuels that have harmed in  
 2 the past and will harm in the future. Look at  
 3 California with the oil spill. Look at the  
 4 explosions that have happened. Open your eyes and  
 5 most of all look in your home and look at the  
 6 products you use. You are part of the problem.  
 7 I spoke to the Calpine Industries. That  
 8 gentleman was very nice to inform me if the  
 9 governors of the six states feel they have a need,  
 10 then you will have the project. If we don't create  
 11 the need, we won't have to deal with the project.  
 12 Now I'm going to face all of you and ask  
 13 you to check in your house and check off if you use  
 14 National Grid. National Grid has given you the  
 15 opportunity to sign with solar energy. If you have  
 16 the opportunity to use alternative energy but you  
 17 choose not to, you create the need. So do not be  
 18 hypocritical to the human beings sitting here who  
 19 have gone on a journey to create a cleaner fuel.  
 20 I just want to tell you that fossil fuel  
 21 is not clean. You can't drink it or ingest it  
 22 without being harmed, and it will harm everything  
 23 underneath you. We don't need long environmental  
 24 reports to understand that you can't drink it, touch

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1 it. You can smell it. It is not clean. It will  
 2 not nourish you or nourish anything around you. It  
 3 does provide warmth in the winter. My father  
 4 evidenced that.  
 5 My father dealt with problems with oil  
 6 burners in all the homes he possibly could, and he  
 7 came home and brought the dangerous, toxic chemicals  
 8 to my family, and my mom is dead. My sister has had  
 9 both breasts removed. I have lung damage. My  
 10 brother was sick. He delivered fossil fuels. If  
 11 you trust my vision, write to Governor Baker who  
 12 overlooks this staff who talks to the federal  
 13 government to say no.  
 14 I'm going to turn now to Spectra.  
 15 Spectra, I respect that you're here. I respect that  
 16 you want to bring a product and service to our town  
 17 and to our community. I know that you are very  
 18 innovative and that you love people and care. But  
 19 as far as the competency of the dangers and the  
 20 safety that you are providing to us, it doesn't  
 21 exist in your product. You do not bring health.  
 22 You do not bring security. You bring a few people  
 23 who continue to use the product of gas energy some  
 24 warmth maybe or some energy. So I ask you and plead

1 to you on the death of my mother to please bring us  
 2 energy solar, wind, water, with MWRA.  
 3 14 plants from the Calpine Energy is  
 4 geothermal. Everybody, get on your page and look up  
 5 Calpine industry geothermal energy. It won't  
 6 explode. That's a good one. I don't know the  
 7 chemicals they are going to use to run their  
 8 machines to give you that energy. It will be  
 9 dangerous for our water supply and our ocean around  
 10 us. I can tell you this. The same wattage that gas  
 11 is producing in this plant here will also be the  
 12 same wattage with the geothermal. With a little bit  
 13 of investment, maybe Spectra will get on board and  
 14 give us that energy.

15 Please, Spectra, I think you have the  
 16 power right now to end this insanity of all these  
 17 meetings and all the people here, that you do have  
 18 the power to change your mind and not go forward  
 19 with the project. Do it now. We welcome you with  
 20 solar or turbine. But don't create death in your  
 21 quest. There is other energy to be used safely so  
 22 that you don't have cancer. It's toxins in the  
 23 water. If you have cancer, you have toxin and  
 24 environmental poisoning, and you might want to stop

1 doing it.  
 2 So everybody here, get your conscience  
 3 out, start today, start tomorrow, lower your need of  
 4 this energy source and you will lower the need of  
 5 someone bringing a poisonous product to your  
 6 neighborhood. That's all.

7 MR. SHEA: Thank you. Mary Christof.

8 MS. CHRISTOFI: Christofi.

9 MR. SHEA: Spell it for the

10 stenographer.

11 MS. CHRISTOFI: Mary Christofi, C h r i  
 12 s t o f i. I have been in the area for 25 years. I  
 13 live at 127 Birchbrow Ave., one street over from --  
 14 I forget. It is really close to that area where  
 15 they want to put the new -- I'm nervous -- the new  
 16 plant, the compressor station.

17 First I was going to come up here and  
 18 talk. I did a lot of research on Spectra. I think  
 19 we know the problems they have had, explosions,  
 20 leakage, everything. It is ridiculous. Anyways, I  
 21 just wanted to mention that North Weymouth, the Fore  
 22 River system supports one of the largest smelt runs  
 23 in Massachusetts Bay with approximately 10,000  
 24 square miles of available spawning substrate. This

1 allows moderate fishing for the area for residents  
 2 and other people. I would like to ask the Board if  
 3 they can see if they can turn down Spectra and  
 4 Algonquin's request for the compressor station and  
 5 instead find other means of generating energy. As  
 6 stated previously, we need geothermal energy and  
 7 something that will not blow us up.

8 MR. SHEA: Thank you. The next speaker  
 9 who signed up is Geof Potter, followed by Christa  
 10 Dunn.

11 MR. POTTER: Geof Potter from the North  
 12 Weymouth Civic Association. We have a volunteer  
 13 group that represents about 300 residents and  
 14 businesses in North Weymouth. We just basically  
 15 want to go on record saying we are opposed to the  
 16 compressor station at this location. We don't have  
 17 any problem with Spectra. We don't have any problem  
 18 with the ultimate goal that they are trying to  
 19 reach, but we do not want it in North Weymouth. I  
 20 have this written down. Most of the things have  
 21 been said.

22 There are too many households too close.  
 23 There are too many things that we are dealing with  
 24 that are negative to the neighborhood. The sewage

1 pumping station, 500 million gallons of sewage a  
 2 day. If something happened to that, where would  
 3 that go? Into the harbor into the river? At the  
 4 Citgo terminal they store hundreds of thousands of  
 5 gallons of fuel oil, gasoline, jet fuel, solvents,  
 6 all kinds of things that are already terrible for  
 7 the neighborhood. It can't be good.

8 There's not one benefit to our  
 9 community. There's dozens and dozens of negative  
 10 impacts. We ask that you as a state board see the  
 11 risks inherent in the plan and add your voice in  
 12 opposition. Spectra needs to act responsibly. Our  
 13 living conditions are more important than their  
 14 profits. We don't want them to build the station.

15 MR. SHEA: Thank you. Ms. Christa Dunn  
 16 followed by Rachael Brennan.

17 MS. DUNN: My name is Christa Dunn. I  
 18 live at 56 Holbrook Road in North Weymouth very  
 19 close to the proposed site. I emailed your office  
 20 this week and you got back very promptly, and I  
 21 appreciate that. Thank you very much.

22 I'm extremely concerned about the idea  
 23 of a compressor station in such a densely populated  
 24 area. I'm the parent of two very young kids. My

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1 biggest concern is air quality. We already have  
 2 seven other potentially hazardous industrial things  
 3 within a very small area down there. They tell us  
 4 that this station will only give off small amounts  
 5 of fumes. What if our children are breathing those  
 6 small amounts of fumes every single day for 20  
 7 years? I don't want my kids to be a guinea pig to  
 8 find out is it safe for 20 years. I don't think any  
 9 kid should be a guinea pig to find out if it's safe  
 10 to live that close.

11 My last point is that they tell us that  
 12 the risk of a fire or explosion is very small.

13 Okay. In my opinion any risk dictates that you use  
 14 extreme caution in where to put it. Any risk. And  
 15 in our location we have nearly 1,000 homes within a  
 16 little half-mile radius of this thing, a thousand  
 17 homes, not to mention businesses, not to mention a  
 18 \$224 million bridge, a multimillion dollar bridge  
 19 that we are paying for. In that area any risk is to  
 20 big for us. If something does go wrong in this  
 21 area, it would be absolutely catastrophic. So I  
 22 implore you to recommend, to tell Spectra they  
 23 should choose another much less populated site.  
 24 Thank you.

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1 MR. SHEA: The next speaker is Rachael  
 2 Brennan followed by Sandra Peters.

3 MS. BRENNAN: Rachael Brennan. I'm not  
 4 sure if you guys were here for the FERC meeting. My  
 5 comment then was that Spectra has lied to us a lot  
 6 about there have been no explosions. But I found 25  
 7 explosions that have happened since 1994 and even in  
 8 the last seven to eight years. Today on the slide  
 9 they showed you, they were very clear, this pipeline  
 10 is not designed for the LNG gas expansion being  
 11 piped through Canada to Nova Scotia to sell  
 12 overseas. And immediately three months later:  
 13 Spectra, they just rent the pipe. People pass  
 14 through gas for whatever purpose they like. They  
 15 are very tricky, and they are liars and out and out  
 16 (inaudible).

17 So in my research, I found an  
 18 alternative. This would be a fantastic spot for  
 19 wind. I will read to you from the document. In  
 20 this project area the windiest sites best suited for  
 21 wind tend to be located along shorelines which are  
 22 challenging to access, densely populated, and highly  
 23 valuable for other uses. That's a description of  
 24 North Weymouth right there. It comes from the

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1 Atlantic Bridge Spectra resource report 10.7.  
 2 Beyond all of that. Hi, my name is  
 3 Rachael. I'm a mother, a wife, a homeowner here in  
 4 Weymouth. I have an adorable three-and-  
 5 a-half-year-old daughter, and I play the ukulele  
 6 badly but getting better. I am a person. I have  
 7 value. I do not deserve to be a guinea pig for  
 8 this, nor does anybody else in this room or anybody  
 9 else in North Weymouth. I would appreciate it if  
 10 you would please look in this room and see the  
 11 people, not the numbers, not the dollars but the  
 12 people. Thank you.

13 MR. SHEA: The next speak is Sandra  
 14 Peters followed by Rosemary Thibodeau. I remind  
 15 speakers to spell their last name.

16 MS. PETERS: Thank you to the  
 17 Massachusetts Siting Board for holding this meeting.  
 18 I'd like to ask if James -- I didn't get his last  
 19 name from Spectra. Are those slides, will they be  
 20 made available?

21 MR. LUSKAY: We will provide them to the  
 22 Siting Board.

23 MS. PETERS: My name is Sandra Peters.  
 24 I live at 57 Weybosset Street. I come before you as

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1 a private citizen stakeholder. Let it also be duly  
 2 noted, if you read the Weymouth news, that I was  
 3 ones a dues-paying member of the International  
 4 Brotherhood of Teamsters, IBT, lest any comments I  
 5 make tonight be taken out of context or  
 6 misconstrued.

7 There are a whole host of reasons I'm  
 8 against the gas compressor station at the proposed  
 9 site. Not the least of these is as a private  
 10 citizen stakeholder my home is located within a  
 11 half-mile radius of the proposed gas compressor  
 12 station plant, .3 miles to be exact. I'm directly  
 13 downwind of the prevailing wind pattern. There's a  
 14 large body of water, Kings Cove, comprising the  
 15 majority of that distance, .22 miles, or roughly  
 16 two-thirds of the distance. There are minimal land  
 17 masses for buildings to act as buffers between my  
 18 property and the proposed gas compressor. It is a  
 19 well-known fact that sound is amplified when it  
 20 passes over bodies of water.

21 Most of the homes, mine included, were  
 22 summer cottages. The walls are thin and often have  
 23 more windows than wall face. I have 22 windows in a  
 24 943-square-foot home. Currently our neighborhood at

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1 Weybosset Street sees, smells and hears the  
 2 industrial activity at the Fore River basin. The  
 3 current noise level from industrial activity has  
 4 increased during the last two years to the point  
 5 where it disturbs our sleep. There's a loud humming  
 6 noise. I must add, this is totally unrelated to the  
 7 Fore River Bridge construction. It is possibly  
 8 coming from Twin Rivers or maybe the MWRA.

9           The currently illegal odor from  
 10 industrial activities at the shipyard constitute  
 11 nuisance conditions which have unreasonably  
 12 interfered with the enjoyment of our residential  
 13 property and the operation of our businesses. I  
 14 have personally tried to resolve the odor issue for  
 15 close to nine years with no remedy from the state or  
 16 any local municipal authorities. If the current  
 17 environmental regulations are not being enforced,  
 18 what faith do we have that the system will protect  
 19 us from any future violations that this proposed  
 20 compressor site will likely engender?

21           It is reasonable and prudent to conclude  
 22 that property values will be negatively impacted by  
 23 any new significant industrial activity at this  
 24 location. We have collectively rode out the

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1 mortgage prices that drove our home prices down. I  
 2 personally have been under water for nearly eight  
 3 years. Just when it finally looks like things are  
 4 on an uptick, when I have a glimmer of hope for the  
 5 first time, Spectra comes along and wants to build a  
 6 gases compressor directly upwind. There is a high  
 7 probability that I will have little to no equity  
 8 when I sell my home if I can sell it at all.

9           At the first Spectra open house on  
 10 January 29, 2015 I was told by Spectra officials  
 11 there would be mitigation money. Exactly two weeks  
 12 ago a Spectra spokesperson here vehemently denied  
 13 that there is any mitigation money on the table at  
 14 all. He was rather disrespectful to me when I asked  
 15 why Spectra suddenly changed their position and had  
 16 no answer.

17           In a press release May 6, 2015, Spectra  
 18 Energy announced that the board of directors  
 19 declared a quarterly cash distribution of an  
 20 increase of 1.25 over the previous year. This is  
 21 the 30th consecutive quarter that Spectra Energy has  
 22 increased their quarterly cash distribution. So  
 23 there doesn't appear to be a cash-flow problem.

24           It is fair to say at this point in time

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1 the applicant has made no significant efforts to  
 2 eliminate or minimize any adverse effects the  
 3 project might have on landowners, especially the  
 4 approximately 1,000 that live within the half-mile  
 5 radius.

6           With respect to environmental issues at  
 7 that same FERC meeting, that same Spectra  
 8 spokesperson also denied that the proposed site  
 9 involved any wetlands. He said that his  
 10 environmental consultants had confirmed that. I beg  
 11 to differ. There are wetlands near the proposed  
 12 site as evidenced by this phragmites australis I  
 13 currently hold in my hand. It grows in marshes and  
 14 swamps and banks of streams and lakes and around  
 15 streams; source, 2012 national wetlands plant list,  
 16 USDA.gov fact sheet. Historical maps of that  
 17 peninsula called Ferry Point clearly show the  
 18 presence of a large body of water in the middle of  
 19 the land mass. I hope the historical commission  
 20 might have some insight.

21           Will Spectra and FERC consider and  
 22 respect municipal ordinances, specifically a  
 23 Weymouth wetlands protection ordinance? If you  
 24 consult the federal Fish and Wildlife information

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1 planning and conservation system, commonly known as  
 2 IPaC, an online tool, you will see the following  
 3 wetlands species listed for this area. Roseate  
 4 terns, an endangered species; red knot, a threatened  
 5 species; piping plover, a threatened species.  
 6 Moreover, I know for a fact that piping plovers  
 7 forage at this site in the fall.

8           There are birds nesting in a wetland  
 9 area there today. Other wetland species birds nest  
 10 and forage throughout the area throughout the year.  
 11 Species vary year round, whether permanent, seasonal  
 12 or migratory. It is not clear to me how a simple  
 13 sampling performed under an abbreviated  
 14 environmental assessment is adequate to fully  
 15 document the year-round avian population at this  
 16 location as well as within a .5-mile radius of this  
 17 site. Moreover, how does this compressor station  
 18 application address the Migratory Bird Treaty Act?

19           Building a gas compressor here is likely  
 20 to jeopardize the continued existence of a species  
 21 listed as threatened or endangered or destroy or  
 22 adversely modify its critical habit. The Endangered  
 23 Species Act requires federal agencies, FERC, to  
 24 ensure that any actions they authorize or carry out

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1 are not likely to do this. I will let other people  
 2 speak to the river herring.

3 By way of this testimony I hereby  
 4 respectfully request that FERC seriously consider  
 5 the use of an independent third-party environmental  
 6 assessment entity to conduct the environmental  
 7 impact statement or environmental assessment, an  
 8 entity whose past existing or targeted client list  
 9 is not primarily the oil and gas industry. The  
 10 current environmental consultants involved with both  
 11 Spectra and FERC may have a bias towards approval of  
 12 this permit application and a clearly demonstrated  
 13 conflict of interest as noted by the Natural  
 14 Resource Group's main clients being predominantly  
 15 the gas and oil industry.

16 This compressor is located on the water,  
 17 a flood zone prone to hurricanes and northeasters.  
 18 Water impacts anything mechanical. What percentage  
 19 of standards devised by any agency which governs the  
 20 mechanical safety operation of a gas compressor  
 21 and/or chemical emissions take into consideration  
 22 the impact of a body of seawater nearby on  
 23 mechanical operation or air emissions? How about  
 24 hydrate formation of the emissions?

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1 Safety. This compressor will not be  
 2 manned 24/7. They will be relying on computer  
 3 monitored operations to provide safety? We all know  
 4 how many things have gotten hacked recently.

5 Quincy Fire Department is designated as  
 6 a first emergency responder, yet a vertical lift  
 7 drawbridge with prolonged openings separates them  
 8 from the proposed site. It appears that the next  
 9 closest emergency responder would be Weymouth Fire  
 10 Station Number 1. If they were responding to an  
 11 emergency at the compressor, this would leave the  
 12 Weymouth community particularly vulnerable since we  
 13 are down one fire station and the fire department is  
 14 already understaffed.

15 I'm not in favor of this compressor, but  
 16 if things happen and it goes through, is Spectra  
 17 willing to consider building and training and  
 18 supporting a special emergency response facility  
 19 located on premise manned by the Weymouth Fire  
 20 Department, union labor IAFF local 1616, for the  
 21 safety and benefit of the Weymouth residents?

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: They already said no.  
 23 MS. PETERS: Security. Others have  
 24 identified a list of all the current volatile

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1 industrial chemicals in this location as well as the  
 2 bridge. Is the Department of Homeland Security a  
 3 stakeholder in this proposed project? If not, may I  
 4 respectfully request that FERC engage this  
 5 department to thoroughly investigate and assess the  
 6 potential national security risks associated with  
 7 building a gas compressor at this location. It is a  
 8 known fact that on at least one occasion, September  
 9 2012, seven months before the Boston Marathon  
 10 bombing, that Tamerlan Tsarnaev visited the Quincy  
 11 mosque located less than a mile away just outside of  
 12 the 0.5 mile notification zone. This entire Fore  
 13 River basin location screams soft target.

14 In deciding whether to authorize  
 15 construction of major new natural gas facilities,  
 16 FERC balances the public benefits against the  
 17 potential adverse consequences. With respect to  
 18 siting a gas compressor at this location, I believe  
 19 it is fair to say that this man-made Homeland  
 20 Security factor and/or any natural or biohazard  
 21 disaster pose a significant potential to have an  
 22 adverse effect not only on economic interests but  
 23 also on our personal safety. I do not see how any  
 24 benefit could outweigh these risks.

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1 In summary, I'm opposed to this for all  
 2 of the above reasons. Thank you for allowing me to  
 3 speak.

4 MR. SHEA: The next speaker is Rosemary  
 5 Thibodeau, followed by Jarrett Dozier. Spell your  
 6 last name for the stenographer.

7 MS. THIBODEAU: Rosemary Thibodeau,  
 8 T h i b o d e a u. I've been a lifelong resident of  
 9 the area. I grew up on Birchbrow Avenue around the  
 10 corner from where I am now, and I've been at this  
 11 house for 58 years, 111 Kings Cove Beach Road. I've  
 12 been living between the Fore River Shipyard, the  
 13 Hingham Shipyard and the Bradley fertilizer plant.  
 14 We've breathed asbestos, and other poisons and the  
 15 odor from the Procter & Gamble and the Boston Edison  
 16 plant, and now the site of the present MWRA plant,  
 17 now the suggested site for the compressor station.  
 18 Coal dust had to be wiped off the babies' faces and  
 19 hopefully not breathed into their lungs.

20 The MDC, which is now the MWRA, digging  
 21 up the road and beach property for a sewer trunk  
 22 line that was run under the water to Quincy; this  
 23 lasted for two years. It consisted of blasting in  
 24 the channel and pile-driving around my home. It

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1 looked like the Berlin Wall, much damage.  
 2           The odor of sewer gas is so noxious we  
 3 had to have the house checked twice by plumbers to  
 4 be sure it wasn't an inhouse problem. We couldn't  
 5 sit out when the wind was blowing from the west,  
 6 which in the summer is mainly the west or southwest.  
 7 Three years ago we had the pleasure of the MWRA  
 8 returning to the scene and digging up the road  
 9 again. After they finished, the entire neighborhood  
 10 was gagged by sewer odor that was inside the homes  
 11 and outside. More finger-pointing as to who was at  
 12 fault, MWRA, town or, of course, your own problem.  
 13           Going backwards, the Blizzard of '78  
 14 through waves over the house across the street. Two  
 15 people that lived there had to be taken out by the  
 16 fire department. Every house along the road had  
 17 water and many cars were lost. This is an example  
 18 of what a hurricane in the cove could do.  
 19           The picture that the Spectra company  
 20 shows of the area is so enlarged that all you see is  
 21 open land at the very back of the building.  
 22 However, directly around and along the MWRA building  
 23 is Kings Cove, not the Fore River. Fore River runs  
 24 up and under the bridge towards Braintree. Kings

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1 Cove is a small area of water and there are  
 2 approximately 25 homes that are direct abutters to  
 3 the cove and would be in danger of the noise, the  
 4 odor, and the fear of living so close to the  
 5 compressor site, not to mention the 1,000 residents  
 6 within a half mile.  
 7           In the past few years we have been  
 8 lucky. We've seen swans in the cove, blue heron and  
 9 snowy egrets. My neighbor took a picture of the  
 10 bald eagle. Blue jays, finches and cardinals and  
 11 robins have returned. This may not seem too  
 12 exciting to others, but having seen the bird  
 13 population down to only sparrows and pigeons, and of  
 14 course the seagulls, it is exciting to see these  
 15 birds back.  
 16           What will happen if the compressor  
 17 station is built? We have had so many cases of  
 18 cancer in the area that I stopped counting. My  
 19 house taxes are high because there is a view.  
 20           North Weymouth is the second settlement  
 21 in Massachusetts. The site was at Kings Cove at the  
 22 bottom of Hunt's Hill. Kings Cove should be deemed  
 23 historical, not hysterically destructible. How much  
 24 more should a residential area endure? This would

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1 never happen where the CEO of Spectra lives. Please  
 2 do not allow this to happen. Thank you.  
 3           MR. SHEA: Thank you. Is Mr. Dozier  
 4 here? Perhaps not. The next speaker is Stephen  
 5 McCluskey followed by Jonathan Rusk.  
 6           MR. TRAINOR: Mr. McCluskey and I live  
 7 in the same neighborhood. He had to step out. He  
 8 and I have a lot of the same views on this. I told  
 9 him that I would speak on his behalf or our behalf  
 10 and on behalf of our neighborhood.  
 11           MR. SHEA: Could you state your name.  
 12           MR. TRAINOR: David Trainor, 20 Rosemont  
 13 Road, North Weymouth. I'm nervous.  
 14           MR. SHEA: Thank you.  
 15           MR. TRAINOR: We fought a lot of things  
 16 over the last few years, including a bridge that a  
 17 lot of people didn't like that's going up. We  
 18 fought other things. A lot of people don't like the  
 19 way 3A is going. Now we are fighting another  
 20 project here with the gas compressor. It is  
 21 ridiculous that they are considering to put a  
 22 compressor station so close to so many other  
 23 industrial projects and also so close to a  
 24 residential neighborhood.

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1           One of our main concerns is safety. And  
 2 on top of that there are so many homes in that area.  
 3 I've lived here for six years. I'm concerned that  
 4 if I want to raise a family here I'm not going to  
 5 feel comfortable with that. Another concern is if I  
 6 want to raise a family somewhere else, I'm going to  
 7 have to sell my home. The problem that creates is  
 8 who is going to want to buy my home if I decide to  
 9 move out of the area? In the last six years I've  
 10 spent thousands of dollars, countless hours  
 11 preparing the home, making it valuable with the  
 12 thought of some day raising a family there and  
 13 eventually growing out of the home, moving into  
 14 another home. I can't see that paying off if the  
 15 station is built.  
 16           I will finish my comments. I said this  
 17 in the last meeting to Spectra directly to them.  
 18 There's no chance on Earth you're going to build  
 19 this station. I would tie myself to a fence down  
 20 there. It will be over my dead body.  
 21           MR. SHEA: The next speaker is Jonathan  
 22 Rusk followed by Sue Harden.  
 23           MR. RUSK: Jonathan Rusk. I'm a North  
 24 Weymouth resident, fairly new. I just wanted to say

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1 that I oppose the compressor station and I  
 2 appreciate any help that you guys could give us on  
 3 the Siting Board. I just want to state a few  
 4 reasons why.

5 The location, I don't think it is a good  
 6 choice. There's too many people, residents, hard-  
 7 working people who come home and want a little  
 8 quiet. Even with 3A it does get quiet in the middle  
 9 of the night at 3:00 a.m. or 4:00. It is a very  
 10 nice neighborhood. The community is great. I feel  
 11 we don't deserve it. We don't deserve the noise and  
 12 pollution. I don't think that little kids should be  
 13 breathing it in. The other stuff, the power plant,  
 14 you can see it constantly, it is just going up in  
 15 the air. More is not better. That's enough.

16 Also, I'm an electrician. A 7,700  
 17 horsepower motor is loud, very, very loud. Half  
 18 that size, a generator is enough to drive an entire  
 19 building in a power outage. You can hear it for  
 20 three miles. It is not going to be quiet. They can  
 21 put something around it, but you will still hear it.  
 22 That's the main reason why.

23 Like the gentleman before me said, I  
 24 bought a house that needed work. I kind of wanted

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1 to see equity. I don't see that happening. I want  
 2 to move my life along. I don't feel that this is a  
 3 situation that's going to be helpful to that to  
 4 people here in Weymouth and the surrounding area. I  
 5 can't see a good reason. There's an awful lot of  
 6 construction personnel and engineers that can come  
 7 up with a better place for this. There's one of the  
 8 world's best dredging companies right in Weymouth  
 9 shipyard. They could build it underground or put it  
 10 somewhere else. That's all I have to say.

11 MR. SHEA: Thank you. Sue Harden  
 12 followed by David Tandy.

13 MS. HARDEN: My name is Sue Harden.  
 14 There are so many wonderful things we could be  
 15 talking about here. All of this kind of talk about  
 16 renewable energy. I live in Quincy. The solar sign  
 17 in Quincy, you may have seen the sign as you go  
 18 through. We are at 174 kilowatts as of today.  
 19 That's the great thing. I found the statistic today  
 20 in the paper that in Massachusetts in 2014 there  
 21 were 88,372 clean energy workers in Massachusetts  
 22 and 5,985 companies doing clean energy. These are  
 23 the great things that are going on. These are the  
 24 things that will tell us we don't need Spectra's

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1 pipeline.

2 This is yesterday's news from Canada.  
 3 Canada Newswire, May 26. It's not the Spectra.  
 4 This one is Pieridae USA. They got the approval  
 5 from the United States Department of Energy to do a  
 6 long-term multicontract authorization to export  
 7 natural gas to Canada for end use in Canada and  
 8 export through, LNG from countries that the USA has  
 9 entered into free trade agreements, in other words,  
 10 Europe. I've really got to ask you if you don't  
 11 believe that a fourth grader could answer this  
 12 question. Why would you call something the Atlantic  
 13 Bridge?

14 Some of my comments I would like to  
 15 focus on the executive board of environmental  
 16 justice. I happen to have personal pride that this  
 17 was done as part of a citizens group that worked  
 18 with state agencies to develop it. It should have  
 19 gone into effect already. It was supposed to go  
 20 into effect 60 days after it was promulgated by  
 21 Governor Patrick and that was in November. However,  
 22 there's a lot that has to be done with the state  
 23 agencies to get it going.

24 What I like is the first comment.

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1 Article 97 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
 2 of Massachusetts provides that the people shall have  
 3 the right to clean air and water, freedom from  
 4 excessive or unnecessary noise, and the natural  
 5 scenic and historic and aesthetic quality of their  
 6 environment. Does that say it all?

7 Later in that same executive order it  
 8 states that an environmental justice population is  
 9 being unfairly and negatively impacted by  
 10 environmental policies and overburdened by a higher  
 11 density of known contaminated sites and by air and  
 12 water pollution. It is right there. This has the  
 13 force of law. If this isn't a case for this, I  
 14 don't know what is.

15 I would like to make a request to our  
 16 Siting Board here specifically that a health impact  
 17 assessment be done under the environmental justice  
 18 policy and that an environmental justice community  
 19 analysis be done. We have argued, we have talked  
 20 about all of the horrific environmental impacts that  
 21 people in this beautiful Fore River basin with all  
 22 of its wildlife have faced and that we have an  
 23 environmental justice policy in this state. We need  
 24 to work to make sure that it is applied and it is

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1 used to help us out here. I think that is what we  
 2 can proactively do, that all the communities  
 3 surrounding here look at the environmental justice  
 4 issues and then we have something to hold on to  
 5 that's very valid. Thank you very much.

6 MR. SHEA: Thank you. The next speaker  
 7 is David Tandy, followed by Nancy Pendergast  
 8 Cameron.

9 MR. TANDY: I'm David Tandy, vice chair  
 10 of the Fore River Watershed Association in Quincy.  
 11 I would like to thank you, the Board, for looking  
 12 into this for us. As a member of the association,  
 13 I'd like to concur with the problems that you have  
 14 heard of, especially the environmental problems. We  
 15 have been studying this for decades now and we know  
 16 the basin is very much stressed out. I don't think  
 17 it can take any more industrial activity. But also,  
 18 I'm bothered by the airborne problems that this  
 19 plant will produce. Thank you.

20 MS. PENDERGAST CAMERON: Good evening.  
 21 My name is Nancy Pendergast Cameron. I live at 169  
 22 Pilgrim Road in North Weymouth. I'm also on the  
 23 Historic Commission for the Town of Weymouth.  
 24 Weymouth was founded in 1622. We are approaching

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1 our 400th anniversary, and it is important for us to  
 2 retain areas that were explored by the first  
 3 settlers, such as the area around Kings Cove and  
 4 here in North Weymouth.

5 Secondly, the noise, the compressor  
 6 station won't make that much noise. Just so that  
 7 you know, we get noise from the jets at Logan as it  
 8 crosses over the water. So if the jet is that far  
 9 away and carries the noise to us in North Weymouth,  
 10 I'm sure the compressor station will just add its  
 11 own cacophony of sound.

12 Finally, I have four stepchildren and 13  
 13 grandchildren within the area in Weymouth and Quincy  
 14 that are within the heavy impact area for the  
 15 compressor station. You could wipe out our entire  
 16 family with one major hurricane hit to this area,  
 17 which I hope will never happen.

18 Finally, in 1967 an oil spill occurred  
 19 in Fore River itself. It has only been in the last  
 20 10 to 15 years that lobstering, mussels, et cetera,  
 21 have come back. We don't want to see a repeat of  
 22 that type of occurrence. Thank you.

23 MR. SHEA: The next speaker is Michael  
 24 Lang.

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1 MR. LANG: This is something to read  
 2 tonight.

3 MR. SHEA: Followed by Lou Falletti.

4 MR. LANG: My name is Michael Lang, the  
 5 environmental coordinator for the East Braintree  
 6 Civic Association. I live at 74 Cotton Ave. in  
 7 Braintree. First of all, I've worked on a lot of  
 8 these projects for 35 years now. My own vision of  
 9 this and interpretation is that this is a shell  
 10 game. One of the things I'd like you to do, I was  
 11 looking through documentation on your Siting Board.  
 12 You have the ability to consolidate cases. Spectra  
 13 is segmenting this project. There are three  
 14 different projects going on. One is the AIM  
 15 project, one is the Northeast project, and one is  
 16 the Atlantic Bridge. And other groups have asked  
 17 for the same thing, that you consolidate these  
 18 projects and take them as one.

19 MR. SHEA: We can consolidate petitions  
 20 that are within our jurisdiction. We don't have  
 21 jurisdiction over this project. Jurisdiction over  
 22 this project rests with FERC exclusively.

23 MR. LANG: I understand that. If this  
 24 is in front of you right now, the other two projects

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1 which are for the same pipeline will be in front of  
 2 you. I'm saying you can consolidate them and take  
 3 them as one. We have also asked FERC to do the same  
 4 thing, to consolidate these projects, along with 12  
 5 other groups along the pipeline. I mean, just  
 6 consider it, if you would, please.

7 I was looking at this presentation that  
 8 the man from Spectra made. Two of the facilities  
 9 that he talked about needing gas were actually in  
 10 Canada. There are two other projects in Maine.  
 11 These people already have gas. The Maritimes  
 12 pipeline was put in so that we could get gas from  
 13 Canada. So I mean, these folks already have gas.  
 14 Maine also has gas right now.

15 Additionally, the power plants right now  
 16 are being built to be dual-fuel facilities. They  
 17 run on either gas or oil. It is not a fact that New  
 18 England needs gas. It's a matter of they don't have  
 19 Spectra gas is what they want. Spectra wants them  
 20 to use their gas.

21 It is funny, when I was sitting there  
 22 listening to people -- I've read all of these  
 23 documents. One of the documents I've read back  
 24 years ago, back a ways, stated that Algonquin is

1 concerned because any pipes, any gas that runs from  
2 north to south doesn't pay a levy to Algonquin. Any  
3 gas coming from south to north pays a levy. I'm  
4 thinking to myself, is this possibly the reason they  
5 want to get rid of that piece of pipeline and  
6 reverse the pipe? That's probably part of it. All  
7 my statements are in that packet I gave you. This  
8 one isn't because I just, I am not thinking as fast  
9 as I used to.

10 The other thing, there was a lady that  
11 spoke about environmental justice. Quincy on the  
12 other side of the river is an environmental justice  
13 area. Weymouth is actually an environmental justice  
14 community. The documents are in there.

15 Other people have mentioned all the  
16 different facilities in this area. They asked how  
17 did this happen? How does one community get all of  
18 these projects? This is the reason right here.  
19 This is a study that was done in 2001 by two  
20 university professors. It is called Unequal  
21 Exposure to Ecological Hazards, Environmental  
22 Injustices in the Community in the Commonwealth of  
23 Massachusetts. What it says is that certain  
24 communities within Massachusetts will be dumped on

1 because they haven't got the power or the money to  
2 fight them. This community is one of those  
3 communities. So we depend on regulatory agencies  
4 like yourself to handle these inequities.

5 The man from Spectra mentioned that the  
6 gas would be vented; in times of high pressure they  
7 vent gas and at maintenance times they vent gas. It  
8 is absolutely insane that they put it beside a  
9 bridge. The bridge has a higher elevation. Any gas  
10 that is vented will reform around the bridge.

11 We also have a meteorological event that  
12 is called coastal zone inversion. What it does is  
13 that the coastal environment settles over the land  
14 environment and it keeps anything, all the pollution  
15 from going up. You will find that this gas will  
16 form around the commuters sitting on the bridge  
17 waiting to go over it. In California they call this  
18 the valley effect. The idea that this will  
19 dissipate into the air is insane.

20 Another thing that they didn't mention  
21 is that this new bridge that we have, the idea for  
22 making a bigger bridge is to allow for 1200-foot  
23 supertankers to come through with gasoline. This  
24 facility that they are building will be within

1 explosion range of these supertankers. You are  
2 talking about 1200-foot supertankers going down the  
3 river and having this explode in that area. If you  
4 look at the documents I gave you with the maps, you  
5 can see what I'm talking about.

6 The mayor and other folks mentioned that  
7 every one of these facilities by itself is a  
8 disaster waiting to happen. Each one is a volatile  
9 facility. The mayor mentioned that each one is  
10 sequential. If you should have an accident with the  
11 station, the potential is there to have it go from  
12 one facility to another going down the road. I  
13 talked to our fire department, and they mentioned  
14 that they couldn't possibly handle anything like  
15 that.

16 Another thing that wasn't mentioned was  
17 a utility tunnel that runs underground in that area  
18 that services communities south of the bridge. That  
19 was never mentioned. If perchance you should have a  
20 problem there, that would be taken out too.

21 By the way, I know I didn't mention, all  
22 of these facilities that the mayor mentioned, these  
23 are all regional facilities. There's the MWRA  
24 regional pump station; there's a pelletizing plant

1 that handles all the sewage for the MWRA. We have  
2 two power plants that provide a lot of power to the  
3 grid there. The Citgo depot is the largest depot on  
4 eastern Massachusetts. That provides all the gas  
5 and heating oil for the region. If perchance there  
6 is a disaster down there, you blast all your  
7 regional facilities down there. That's going to  
8 take months or years to redevelop and take over.

9 That's the thing I was going to say. I  
10 was going to use something cutesy to make it light.  
11 My mother mentioned that you never put all your eggs  
12 in one basket. That's what they did, the state put  
13 them all in one basket down in Fore River.

14 You also don't want to put all your gas  
15 on one pipeline. In this day and age of terrorism,  
16 why would you do that? That's insane. You don't  
17 want one pipe taking care of the whole region. It  
18 just doesn't make sense. That's pretty much what I  
19 had to say. I thought I would be here longer.

20 MR. SHEA: The next speaker is Lou  
21 Falleti? I don't see anyone responding to that  
22 name. Kaitlyn Pedotti followed by Fay Strigler.

23 MS. PEDOTTI: Speaking for Kaitlyn  
24 Pedotti. She is my wife. She is an RN. She had to

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1 go to work. Stephanie Pedotti, 81 Kings Cove Beach  
 2 Road, North Weymouth. It is directly across the  
 3 small cove of the proposed site of the Spectra  
 4 compressor station. My wife grew up in Quincy. My  
 5 family and I, as well as my neighbors that I have  
 6 spoken to about this matter, are adamantly opposed  
 7 to the construction of this compressor station. My  
 8 concerns are pollution and the subsequent health  
 9 effects, noise, home values, and concerns specific  
 10 to this proposed location.

11 Let me first address the air pollution  
 12 and health. Compressor stations are known to emit  
 13 harmful fumes. There are several people on our  
 14 street and I am sure on other streets on the  
 15 surrounding streets that have young families or  
 16 planning families in the future. While no one  
 17 should have to suffer from the effects of air  
 18 pollution, but we especially want to protect  
 19 pregnant women and children. Developing fetuses are  
 20 quite vulnerable to environmental toxins, especially  
 21 in the first trimester.

22 Another concern is the noise, especially  
 23 during a blowdown. A relatively quiet environment  
 24 is crucial for sleep. Sleep is important for all of

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1 us but especially for us that work the night shift,  
 2 my wife the nurse, and those having babies and small  
 3 children.

4 We are also concerned about our home  
 5 values. Several of us on our street have said that  
 6 if Spectra goes forward with building this  
 7 compressor station, we will be moving, not just  
 8 moving but moving out of Weymouth. Let me be clear  
 9 that we don't want to move, but the health and  
 10 safety of ourselves and our families must come  
 11 first. If we are all trying to sell our houses at  
 12 once, will that be good for any of us? We don't  
 13 want to live next to a compressor station. Who  
 14 would?

15 The proposed location would also prove  
 16 detrimental if a fire or explosion were to happen.  
 17 The Fore River Bridge is under construction and is  
 18 costing hundreds of millions of dollars to replace.  
 19 One explosion, it would all be gone.

20 Also, unlike the planned construction to  
 21 replace the bridge, this would be sudden and  
 22 unexpected leaving communities with no alternative  
 23 routes except for going miles out of the way on  
 24 already overcrowded roadways.

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1 Also, this is very close to the area of  
 2 Quincy known as Germantown. Germantown is an  
 3 environmental justice area due to its high minority  
 4 and low-income population. Not only this, it is the  
 5 site of public housing. For the vast majority of  
 6 residents of public housing, it would be difficult  
 7 to impossible for them to just move somewhere. This  
 8 would leave them with little choice but to live in  
 9 very close proximity to the compressor station with  
 10 all of the potential health hazards and risks of  
 11 explosion.

12 Please understand that we, the residents  
 13 of the Fore River area are not willing to take on  
 14 the risk of health hazards due to pollution or risk  
 15 of explosion or almost certain increase of noise and  
 16 decrease of home values just so Spectra can increase  
 17 their profit. It is not okay and is completely  
 18 unethical and we will keep fighting this. Thank  
 19 you.

20 MR. SHEA: Fay Strigler, followed by  
 21 Reverend Estelle Margarones.

22 MS. STRIGLER: Hi. My name is Fay  
 23 Strigler. I live in Quincy, 94 Elm Ave. I've lived  
 24 there about 30 years. Thanks for the chance to

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1 speak. The representative from Algonquin called the  
 2 Fore River basin, Germantown and Quincy Point an  
 3 industrial area. Well, there are 90,000, more than  
 4 90,000 people in Quincy and more than 50,000 people  
 5 in Weymouth. We are more than an industrial area.  
 6 We are a population.

7 This compressor station proposed for  
 8 Weymouth and Quincy will be in a more densely  
 9 populated area than any other compressor station  
 10 that we have heard of. Given the toxins that may be  
 11 released and the noise like a jet engine, that puts  
 12 an awful lot of people in harm's way, unless we say  
 13 no to it.

14 We should be doing other things. We  
 15 should be conserving energy. It has taken me two  
 16 hours to get warm here. It would be good to figure  
 17 out how to turn down the AC. I'm warm now.

18 The other thing is that we should be --  
 19 if we need more energy, and it sounds like we really  
 20 don't, we should do something about the gas leaks  
 21 that waste 20 percent of the gas that we get. I  
 22 heard a Harvard physicist the other day talk about  
 23 how in this country -- not just in Weymouth and  
 24 Quincy -- that we only use 39 percent of the energy

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1 that we create. We waste 61 percent of it. That's  
 2 a lot of energy wasted. We should be doing  
 3 something about the gas leaks. And we should be  
 4 investing in solar and wind, clean energy that  
 5 doesn't run out.

6 The representative from Algonquin said  
 7 earlier that his company supports solar and wind.  
 8 What's the proof that that's true? Give us some  
 9 proof. Build a wind turbine in Fore River. I ask  
 10 the Siting Board to speak against building this  
 11 compressor station. It's just undemocratic. Thank  
 12 you.

13 MR. SHEA: Reverend, you are next.

14 REVEREND MARGARONES: Good evening. My  
 15 name is Reverend Margarones. I live at 25 Sea  
 16 Street in North Weymouth, and my church and home are  
 17 just a mile over the Fore River Bridge. I'm a local  
 18 church pastor, but tonight I represent only myself  
 19 as a resident of Weymouth.

20 I'm deeply troubled by the implications,  
 21 broad and far-reaching implications that a  
 22 compressor station would have. From a theological  
 23 perspective, humans are entrusted with stewardship  
 24 of the Earth. That means we are to be caretakers of

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1 the Earth.

2 Look in Genesis. In the beginning God  
 3 created the universe and God saw that it was good.

4 In September 2010 a gas pipeline rupture  
 5 and the fire that followed caused eight fatalities,  
 6 injured more than 60 people, destroyed 38 homes, and  
 7 damaged 70 others. This happened in San Bruno  
 8 California. We have a fantastic fire department  
 9 here in Weymouth. I do question whether we have the  
 10 amount of firefighters and the equipment to respond  
 11 appropriately. I'm not comfortable with that.

12 Then God commanded, let the water be  
 13 filled with many kinds of living beings and let the  
 14 air be filled with birds. Let the Earth produce all  
 15 kinds of animal life, and God saw that it was good.

16 Compressor stations are irritatingly  
 17 loud. My research station shows that the 55  
 18 decibels will be similar to about half the volume of  
 19 a lawn mower about 3 feet away. A man who lives  
 20 3,000 feet from a compressor stations said: You lay  
 21 in bed and you can hear this thing running. It  
 22 sounds like a truck in the driveway.

23 Last summer in Pennsylvania the State  
 24 Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

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1 began to track the environmental impact of  
 2 compressor noise on animals and people in that area.  
 3 It's my understanding that the wind and the water at  
 4 the proposed site are factors on the noise level.

5 And then God said now I will make human  
 6 beings and they will be like us and resemble us.  
 7 They will have stewardship over the fish, the birds  
 8 and animals. So God created human beings, male and  
 9 female, blessed them and said: I am putting you in  
 10 charge. God looked at everything he made and indeed  
 11 it was good. It was very good.

12 According to Spectra's website, from  
 13 2009 to 2013 Spectra Energy's natural gas pipelines  
 14 have received 22 enforcement actions from the  
 15 Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety  
 16 Administration, including warning letters, notices  
 17 -- notices of probable violation most in compliance  
 18 orders, and that doesn't include offshore pipelines.  
 19 The Spectra website says: Our goal is zero  
 20 incidents, no incident is acceptable. I agree. No  
 21 incidents are acceptable, nor violations. We are  
 22 dealing with human lives. We are dealing with the  
 23 environment. God gave us the stewardship. I  
 24 entreat the Siting Board and FERC to be good

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1 stewards, good caretakers of the environment and  
 2 community. Thank you.

3 MR. SHEA: Thank you. The next speaker  
 4 is Rachel Wencek followed by Margaret Bellafiore.

5 MS. WENCEK: Rachel Wencek. I live at  
 6 246 North Street in North Weymouth. I wanted to  
 7 thank you for coming and having this board meeting  
 8 after the FERC meeting.

9 I just wanted to say that this is a very  
 10 terrible location for a compressor station. I've  
 11 looked at a couple of the other sites, stations  
 12 along the pipeline. All the sites are landlocked  
 13 sites, Oxford and Morristown, New Jersey are all  
 14 inland. So far I haven't heard from any of the  
 15 Spectra representatives or seen in any documents  
 16 that they have any information on ocean effects on  
 17 compressor stations, ocean waves, flooding,  
 18 hurricanes, saltwater damage, variable winds,  
 19 flooding and wetlands that are in the area.

20 I also wanted to make a note also about  
 21 the bad location. The Oxford, Connecticut  
 22 compressor station is located on about a hundred  
 23 acres of land. Whereas the one on the proposed site  
 24 is only 10 acres of land. The Oxford, Connecticut

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1 has a population of a little over 12,000 people  
 2 while Weymouth has almost 54,000 people, and Quincy  
 3 has over 93,000 people. So it is a very densely  
 4 congested area.

5 I know the representative from Spectra  
 6 showed Morristown, New Jersey as being a very  
 7 congested populated land. But that land is also  
 8 right by the airport which is surrounded by trees.  
 9 Of course this area, not so much trees; and noise  
 10 and pollution can spread further here with the  
 11 ocean.

12 In conclusion with everything, the  
 13 noise, just all the radon, butane, benzene released  
 14 in the air and the amount of people here compared to  
 15 the other stations, it's just a bad location. Thank  
 16 you.

17 MR. SHEA: Thank you very much.  
 18 Margaret Bellafore followed by Chris Primiano.

19 MS. BELLAFIORE: Margaret Bellafore.  
 20 I've lived on 49 Caldwell Street for 46 years. I'm  
 21 a member of Sustainable South Shore and also Mothers  
 22 Out Front. Both of these are environmental groups.

23 I particularly just want to focus on one  
 24 of the slides presented by Algonquin. There was a

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1 slide that mentioned there would be some emissions.  
 2 And it mentioned VOCs. So that stands for volatile  
 3 organic chemicals. I'm not going to read the whole  
 4 study. I'm going to give it to you so that it can  
 5 be part of my submission. It's a study called  
 6 Summary on Compressor Stations and Health Impacts.  
 7 It is February 24, 2015. So that's pretty recent.  
 8 It was done by Southwest Pennsylvania Environmental  
 9 Health Project.

10 On Page 8, one of the VOCs, which is  
 11 benzene, this is one of the things they found.  
 12 Short-term exposure can cause eye and respiratory  
 13 tract irritation, headaches, dizziness, visual  
 14 disorders, fatigue, loss of coordination, allergic  
 15 skin reactions, nausea and memory impairment. That  
 16 was short-term.

17 Long-term exposure effects include loss  
 18 of coordination and damage to the liver, kidney and  
 19 central nervous system. Some VOCs such as benzene,  
 20 formaldehyde and styrene are known or suspected  
 21 carcinogens. So these will be coming out of the  
 22 compressor. We don't know how much or whether it  
 23 fluctuates. But we have the 950 homes or more in  
 24 the radius, a half-mile radius that will be exposed.

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1 The compressor will be running 24 hours a day, seven  
 2 days a week. They will be exposed.

3 Also, there's a second group that will  
 4 be exposed. Those are the drivers and the  
 5 passengers, the 32,000 drivers that are crossing the  
 6 bridge daily. And also the people, I can speak for  
 7 myself, that are in the 950 homes, they will be  
 8 going across the bridge too. You go for doctor  
 9 appointments, shopping, visiting friends. You are  
 10 constantly back and forth over the bridge. Lots of  
 11 exposure. I'm really concerned with that and would  
 12 like the Siting Board to request a health impact  
 13 study. I know there will be an environmental study,  
 14 but what we need is a really strong impact study of  
 15 how these VOCs affect humans. There's lots, lots  
 16 more I could read to you about formaldehyde and all  
 17 kinds of impacts.

18 The other thing I was thinking, and Mike  
 19 mentioned this too, about that inversion, that  
 20 valley effect; all the car emissions are also  
 21 similar to this chemical stew that's already there  
 22 with all the other smokestacks. We add the  
 23 compressor, it's like we have made a witch's brew.

24 MR. SHEA: The next speaker is Chris

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1 Primiano. He will be followed by Eenaeye.  
 2 MR. PRIMIANO: Good evening. Chris  
 3 Primiano. As you heard from so many people tonight,  
 4 there's absolutely no community support for this  
 5 project. This area is not conducive for a gas  
 6 compressor station due to its potential hazards both  
 7 environmental and economic. There are too many  
 8 residents, nearly a thousand households, in the  
 9 immediate area. Too many risks, too many health  
 10 factors, too many risks for our children in such an  
 11 area.

12 Beyond that, the obvious risk is housing  
 13 values in this area. We are challenged enough with  
 14 our housing values in Weymouth and Quincy. This  
 15 project cannot be allowed to be placed here. This  
 16 project should be killed on the basis of the  
 17 negative impact on our community. Thank you for  
 18 conducting this hearing tonight.

19 MR. SHEA: Thank you.  
 20 MS. EYE: Eenaeye.  
 21 I'm a concerned resident. My husband  
 22 and I just bought a house near Wessagusset  
 23 Elementary School in the hopes of raising our family  
 24 in the beautiful North Weymouth area. To hear that

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1 the compressor station may be built so close by, not  
 2 just to our family but all the other families on  
 3 either side of the river is very disappointing.  
 4 Per the Energy Facilities Siting Board  
 5 website, it stays you are charged with ensuring a  
 6 reliable energy supply for the Commonwealth with a  
 7 minimum impact on the environment at the lowest  
 8 possible cost.  
 9 Is this energy supply truly for the  
 10 Commonwealth? From what I understand, we have more  
 11 than enough natural gas. And all this compressor  
 12 station is going to do is send the excess gas to  
 13 Canada to be sold to other countries.  
 14 As for the minimal impact on the  
 15 environment, that's very subjective. People who  
 16 live in the surrounding areas know that it will  
 17 always be an environmental hazard. It is a gas  
 18 compressor station. Need I say more?  
 19 The first mission is to assist consumers  
 20 in obtaining reliable, efficient and sustainable  
 21 energy services at a reasonable cost through  
 22 appropriate regulatory and market means. If both  
 23 FERC and the Siting Board's mission state that you  
 24 want to assist in sustainable energy services, then

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1 say no to the compressor and have the land be made  
 2 for real sustainable energy such as wind or solar.  
 3 Deny Spectra this opportunity.  
 4 If, however, this project should move  
 5 forward, it will be obvious that FERC and Spectra  
 6 are more concerned with future profits than future  
 7 impact on the environment and the families in the  
 8 local communities.  
 9 MR. SHEA: Gary Peters followed by Cathy  
 10 Torrey.  
 11 MR. PETERS: Gary Peters. I'd like to  
 12 say thank you for the prompt response to my email.  
 13 I reside at 34 Bluff Road here in Weymouth. I've  
 14 been here for 31 years. I'm a former town official.  
 15 I have served on numerous boards, including the  
 16 board of health. I've served as a member, secretary  
 17 and vice chairman. I represented the board when the  
 18 Edgar Station Power Plant was sited here, EFSB 98-7.  
 19 I still have interested party status which we got in  
 20 that project. I'm a registered environmental health  
 21 specialist holding memberships in the Mass.  
 22 Environmental Health Association, the National  
 23 Environmental Health Association, and the  
 24 International Risk Consulting Engineers.

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1 I believe what you're looking tonight  
 2 for is input relative to the scope that you will be  
 3 putting forth relative to the FERC environmental  
 4 assessment. To that extent I believe this project  
 5 needs a proper vetting. I honestly believe in  
 6 working with you. You are the folks to do it.  
 7 You've done a terrific job with the power plant  
 8 siting in Weymouth and across the pond in East  
 9 Braintree.  
 10 I believe the following areas of concern  
 11 must be addressed in the scope of this environmental  
 12 assessment. A soil analysis for all aspects for the  
 13 project. This particular parcel has been a dumping  
 14 ground. You will find primarily coal slag and fly  
 15 ash. But it has also been burdened by a number of  
 16 different releases that have still yet to be  
 17 categorized. When we built the power plant, there  
 18 were rumors about potential spills. Those were  
 19 confirmed, polychlorinated biphenyls and other  
 20 things that are well documented that slowed the  
 21 process down and cost millions of dollars in fees  
 22 for the proponent and other interested parties.  
 23 The point is this is an unknown soil  
 24 situation that these folks would like to dig up and

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1 put this facility in. It's going to require some  
 2 real investigation on your part.  
 3 The fish habitat protection in the Fore  
 4 River, a lot has been written about that. We host  
 5 the largest run of fish in that area. It's just a  
 6 wonderful resource on its way back. We need to  
 7 protect it.  
 8 Water quality analysis before, during  
 9 construction, and operation of the proposed facility  
 10 is a must. Air quality impacts, especially as it  
 11 relates to public health. I'll get into that at the  
 12 end of my comments.  
 13 Noise is a separate issue from air  
 14 quality. The background, ambient, additional  
 15 burdens, compliance. One of the more important  
 16 things. Who has the regulatory authority to step in  
 17 when it gets out of line? It has been an issue at  
 18 the last few sitings here. We need to determine  
 19 that from the get-go. There will always be  
 20 construction and operational nuisances. That's why  
 21 we need a good definition relative to that.  
 22 Cumulative impacts from all the  
 23 environmental point sources from this project,  
 24 public safety, and the public health analysis. In

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1 case of equipment failures, any public health  
 2 impacts from the siting. We still have census  
 3 tracts which we can demonstrate statistically  
 4 significant elevations of lung cancer, emphysema,  
 5 and so forth, that needs to be plugged into the  
 6 equation. So any additional burden needs to be  
 7 factored in.

8 A lot of people mentioned Clean Harbors.  
 9 That's a project I was against. We have been good  
 10 neighbors. I'm against this project. I was against  
 11 that one and we won.

12 My concerns go primarily along the lines  
 13 of health reasons. So when Phil Johnson, back in  
 14 the days when the Clean Harbors incinerator was  
 15 defeated, he quoted lung cancer rates in Quincy's  
 16 Germantown were 55 percent above the normal, from 82  
 17 to 86. And North Weymouth had lung cancer rates 72  
 18 percent above normal. He went on to reference a  
 19 number of other things along public health lines.  
 20 That's the message I wish to deliver to you tonight.

21 I believe the public health impacts of  
 22 this facility are there. They are real and we will  
 23 be able to demonstrate it as we comment on the  
 24 environmental assessment.

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1 I thank you for coming out tonight.

2 MR. SHEA: Thank you. The next speaker  
 3 is Cathy Torrey, followed by Angel Montanez.

4 MS. TORREY: Cathy Torrey, 14 Riverbank  
 5 Road, North Weymouth. Thank you for being here  
 6 tonight.

7 Last week when we had the other hearing  
 8 we heard some information that this project would  
 9 create many jobs for our area and the people. In  
 10 fact, that's not true. Because it is in the federal  
 11 domain, only 50 percent of the workforce has to be  
 12 local and they don't even have to be union.

13 When I watched the power plant being  
 14 built, many a night I would be stuck waiting as cars  
 15 came out. I watched no Massachusetts license  
 16 plates; but I saw plates from Texas, Louisiana,  
 17 Virginia, Tennessee. I'm afraid the same thing will  
 18 happen for this project as well, a short type of  
 19 employment that affects our surrounding communities  
 20 forever.

21 The other piece I'd like to address is  
 22 the historical area. As Weymouth begins to prepare  
 23 for her 400th birthday, this area needs to be  
 24 protected and not exploited. We need to be

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1 sensitive to areas that native peoples and early  
 2 settlers used. Our cultural integrity needs to be  
 3 valued in Weymouth. A bone was thrown to Weymouth  
 4 when the power plant was built. A small park was  
 5 installed in the basin. This project makes this  
 6 park virtually useless. Thank you.

7 MR. SHEA: Sir, would you please spell  
 8 your name. After you it will be George West.

9 MR. MONTANEZ: Angel Montanez, M o n t a  
 10 n e z, captain. I watched the presentation a little  
 11 while ago. They showed various areas where they  
 12 have these compressor stations set up. What I  
 13 noticed about these facilities is the ability to  
 14 attack it from different perspectives if something  
 15 happened.

16 When I think about this facility here, I  
 17 say to myself as an expert in fire fighting and  
 18 things like that, how would I approach a facility  
 19 like that if something should happen there? What  
 20 would be my way in and out? It needs to be looked  
 21 at. You need to get first responders to say how  
 22 would I go in there and mitigate an issue at that  
 23 facility there. Again, you look at all the other  
 24 gas compressor places, you can attack it from

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1 different angles, upwind, downwind.

2 From my personal experience, the wind is  
 3 blowing offshore. If you attack it, you are going  
 4 to going into the fire and it will be coming at you  
 5 blazing like you wouldn't believe. It is a concern  
 6 to me that I think that's one of the subjects that  
 7 you should really look at and help the first  
 8 responders if it does go through, how they will be  
 9 able to mitigate that whole situation, especially if  
 10 they try to get help from Quincy. They are not  
 11 going to be able to get over that bridge. A  
 12 boundary area will be blocked off. There's going to  
 13 be some serious damage there.

14 MSRAM stands for Maritimes Security Risk  
 15 Analysis Model. I would like you to look that up.  
 16 I sit on the committee. What we do is we plan the  
 17 sector of Boston on hard targets, LNG terminal,  
 18 Rows Wharf. This would be a target for terrorists.  
 19 Ms. Peters was talking about terrorist threats.  
 20 That's what I do, plan for those things and help  
 21 local and state and federal officials understand the  
 22 consequences or the kill should something happen in  
 23 that area, how we plan for it. How many thousands  
 24 are going to be killed, hundreds going to be killed.

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1 I happen to live in that area next door to where  
 2 they are going to build the facility. I'm scoring  
 3 this thing. I'm going to get everything conceivably  
 4 on the planet down here to help mitigate a problem  
 5 here.

6 I would have everybody look at MSRAM and  
 7 see what it is about. It is about your consequences  
 8 and risk analysis. I'm struggling for words because  
 9 I want to get my point. If you look at the word  
 10 "risk" and all the things you talk about, you all  
 11 think you know what risk is and you probably do; but  
 12 this is a big risk that you are taking here.  
 13 There's the potential of losing something of value.  
 14 When everybody here comes here and are emotionally  
 15 drained and says they have lost a quality of life  
 16 knowing that the facility is going to be put there,  
 17 they have lost. You're taking a risk and subjecting  
 18 these people -- you've put them in a place -- when  
 19 you I "you," I mean the whole thing. You've taken  
 20 these people who are hard working and they are  
 21 wondering if something is going to happen there. Is  
 22 there going to be a terrorism bomb? These answers  
 23 could be discovered and shared with these people to  
 24 put some of those thoughts to rest from the cancer-

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1 causing agents.

2 But again, be very transparent in  
 3 covering the whole spectrum. I wrote a quote here:  
 4 You drive our intelligence, policies, operations and  
 5 preparedness plans, and the way we organize, a  
 6 strategic matrix that covers threats and  
 7 consequences. That's what I would like to see  
 8 developed so that when I pick it up, I don't have to  
 9 spend four hours here. I can look at something, and  
 10 I think I'm smart enough to read it, and realize  
 11 whether or not you've covered your bases. From what  
 12 I see, the bases aren't covered right now. Thank  
 13 you.

14 MR. SHEA: George West, followed by Mary  
 15 J. Christofi.

16 MS. CHRISTOFI: I spoke.

17 MR. WEST: My name is George West. I  
 18 was sloppy there. 77 Lovell Street in North  
 19 Weymouth. Others have spoken to the dense  
 20 population in North Weymouth, the abundance of  
 21 industry in the area, and potential catastrophic  
 22 events. I wanted to speak about concerns over  
 23 quality of life, property values, health hazards,  
 24 noise, gas smells.

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1 Others have spoken about the property  
 2 values. North Weymouth is a beautiful area, ocean  
 3 views for a hard-working residential community. If  
 4 this is built, people won't want to move here.  
 5 Property values will go down. People will be  
 6 trapped here. If they move they will lose money.  
 7 Some people will be under water and can't move and  
 8 be stuck living with this.

9 Noise is a common complaint if you look  
 10 up compressor stations online. We don't want to  
 11 have to keep our windows shut continuously. We want  
 12 to be able to open our windows and hear the birds  
 13 when we do. Gas odors are another common complaint  
 14 around compressor stations. Nobody wants to open  
 15 the window and smell the fresh scent of natural gas.

16 Nobody here has come out in favor of  
 17 this. Really, the reason being is that there's no  
 18 benefit to Weymouth for this. But yet we assume all  
 19 the risks of this project. So what if this is  
 20 built? What abatements will the company offer to  
 21 Weymouth? Can we be ensured of the maintenance over  
 22 time of the project? Maybe it is state of the art  
 23 when brand new when it is built, but how do we  
 24 ensure that 25, 30 years or beyond what's going to

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1 happen? How is it going to be maintained and will  
 2 it be safe at that time? What if it is not? What  
 3 recourse as a community do we have? And we still  
 4 bear those risks.

5 Having this near us, what will this do  
 6 to insurance costs on the property? If those go up,  
 7 who is going to pay for that? Will the company  
 8 offer property price supports for the people who  
 9 have lost values in their homes? Will they provide  
 10 special windows for noise mitigation? Will they pay  
 11 for additional staff and training for the North  
 12 Weymouth Fire Department or Quincy Fire Department  
 13 to service this area and potential risks that it  
 14 involves?

15 I want to review Spectra's presentation  
 16 earlier with some of the slides. One of the reasons  
 17 for not constructing in another area was listed as a  
 18 construction of access roads proximate to developed  
 19 residential neighbors. We aren't just an access  
 20 road. We are a residential neighborhood that will  
 21 be directly next to it.

22 The other thing they said was the noise.  
 23 Somebody mentioned this earlier, but it was a 55  
 24 decibel maximum and they say 65 decibels for

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1 traffic. I'm assuming that that is peak traffic.  
 2 And at other times there is a noise, and that's when  
 3 people are sleeping. That can contribute to a  
 4 health hazard for people, not sleeping properly.  
 5 They also say that gas would be released  
 6 in the air and that it was lighter than air. I'm  
 7 not crazy about that. The other thing they said was  
 8 mercaptan, which is heavier than air would stick  
 9 around for a while. My wife looked up the MSDS, the  
 10 material safety data sheet which is filed for all  
 11 chemicals. The MSDS for mercaptan states that  
 12 health hazards listed under mercaptan: It affects  
 13 the central nervous system depression. Physical  
 14 hazards are that it is extremely flammable, vapor  
 15 may cause a flash fire, contact with water may  
 16 generate flammable or toxic gases.  
 17 Symptoms; mild symptoms are irritation,  
 18 cough and nausea. More severe symptoms can be heart  
 19 disorders, kidney damage, liver damage, brain damage  
 20 convulsions or coma. I don't think anybody wants  
 21 any of those.  
 22 Just a quick Internet search of  
 23 Spectra's safety. Most of the safety is regulated  
 24 by the United States Department of Transportation

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1 Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety  
 2 Administration or the PHMSA. They seem to lack  
 3 inspectors and leave much of the inspections up to  
 4 the companies. Even with that, just a few things.  
 5 In June of 2011 Spectra was cited for 17  
 6 inadequacies of pipeline safety operations and  
 7 procedure, including continuing pipeline  
 8 surveillance, emergency plans, and welding  
 9 procedures.  
 10 In 1989 the EPA fined them \$15 million,  
 11 and they spent about 400 million in cleanup costs  
 12 for discharge of PCBs at 89 sites from Texas to New  
 13 Jersey. In 1994 there was a pipeline explosion in  
 14 Edison, New Jersey, about 2,000 evacuated, 300 lost  
 15 their homes, and one person died of a heart attack.  
 16 I'm sure they were sure they wouldn't have an  
 17 explosion there either.  
 18 The PHMSA also fined them \$95,500 for  
 19 four years of delayed repairs and maintenance,  
 20 failing to properly test shutoff valves, failing to  
 21 adequately test transmission line valves, failure to  
 22 follow its own procedures and policies for  
 23 inspecting pipelines. So when they tell us they  
 24 have all these policies and procedures in place,

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1 they have been fined for not following their own  
 2 procedures.  
 3 This is not a company with a safety  
 4 history that I want to trust. Spectra is a  
 5 business. They will value their profits and  
 6 interests of their shareholders. As we are not even  
 7 customers, I don't see them valuing their place  
 8 here.  
 9 MR. SHEA: Thank you. The next person  
 10 is Bonnie Main followed by Brian Wilkins.  
 11 MS. MAIN: I'm Bonnie Main from Evans  
 12 Street, 213 Evans Street. Every house on my street  
 13 in 41 years has been touched. I lost my lung seven  
 14 years ago from environmental stuff. They said it  
 15 was strep and staph, and the doctor says it is what  
 16 you are breathing. You live near the water. Well  
 17 kiss my foot. I died April 1st, 2008 and I'm back.  
 18 And I'm back with a vengeance. I've lost three  
 19 babies living in North Weymouth. I'm not moving.  
 20 I've been there 41 years. I love North  
 21 Weymouth. I was 90 days in the hospital. And they  
 22 said you're never going to be normal. I was never  
 23 normal to start with. Because I'm a nasty little  
 24 girl. I get upset when people bother me. And 90

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1 days in a bed on all kinds of medicines, and my son  
 2 says you can't drive, you can't work any more, you  
 3 can't do your live shows. Anybody here who knows  
 4 me, I'm the snake lady, from Creepy Crawly &  
 5 Company. I'm still doing those shows, 39 years.  
 6 They said you'll never do that again. You have to  
 7 move. I'm not moving. We have lost value. I don't  
 8 care. I'm going to die in that house and they will  
 9 take me out and I'll pass it on to my kids.  
 10 It isn't right. I was a normal snake  
 11 lady, a normal woman. It took about a year to erode  
 12 my lung. The doctor who brought me back said I  
 13 don't know how many times you're going to die, girl.  
 14 You have a couple of months. I'm here. When I  
 15 heard this crap was happening, it can't happen  
 16 again. Our children are important. We are  
 17 important.  
 18 I went up and down Evans Street. So  
 19 many people -- my next door neighbor who sat besides  
 20 me, he finally went home. He lost his wife at 39  
 21 from cancer. And this is not fair. The people  
 22 across the street, he lost his wife. The guy across  
 23 the street lost his wife. Everybody on Evans  
 24 Street, and it is all coming down.

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1 I live in a white house and I have to  
 2 wash it off every year because of this black stuff  
 3 we are breathing in. The man who talked about the  
 4 birdbath. My birdbath, I can't even put my dogs in  
 5 the backyard with a dish of water. Within an hour  
 6 it is dirty. Where is it coming from? How are you  
 7 going to add to my life? You can't give me back a  
 8 lung. But I have a voice to say: No more. We have  
 9 had it. How many more have to be crippled or die?  
 10 It's not right. We are not getting the  
 11 gas. It is going to Canada. Let the Canadians  
 12 worry about it. I've sat here since 7:00 o'clock  
 13 tonight. I had a hard time walking up the hill.  
 14 They are asking are you all right? I said yes, I've  
 15 got enough air to say: No more. Let's say it  
 16 audience: No more. No more.  
 17 We are people. Would you have it in  
 18 your backyard, sir?  
 19 MR. SHEA: Thank you.  
 20 MS. MAIN: Would you live with one lung?  
 21 MR. SHEA: My backyard is so small.  
 22 Anyway, it's not a back and forth type of thing, but  
 23 I do appreciate your comments.  
 24 MS. MAIN: It's not worth it.

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1 MR. SHEA: The next speaker is Brian  
 2 Wilkins followed by Richard Ramponi.  
 3 MR. WILKINS: Brian Wilkins, 56 Gilmore  
 4 Street. I live right around the corner from the  
 5 snake lady. My kids see her all the time. She  
 6 stays in the neighborhood and entertains a lot of  
 7 people. Short and sweet. With this thing going in  
 8 the neighborhood, if there's any chance of something  
 9 happening, you can't replace my kids or anybody that  
 10 dies. I don't want to be part of a neighborhood  
 11 that was found to be a big mistake putting something  
 12 in that involves so many people. Most of these  
 13 compressors are in 150-acre lots. There's too much  
 14 stuff in our neighborhood. We don't need it. We  
 15 would appreciate your help getting it out of here,  
 16 not getting it out of here but keep it from causing  
 17 more heartache and everything else.  
 18 MR. SHEA: Thank you. Richard Ramponi  
 19 followed by Frank Burke.  
 20 MR. RAMPONI: My name is Richard  
 21 Ramponi. I'm a former Weymouth selectman and a  
 22 65-year resident of the North Weymouth community.  
 23 Just to think of how long I've been around, Senator  
 24 Hedlund reminded me this evening that it was 31

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1 years ago this week, May 29, 1984, to be exact,  
 2 Selectman Richard Ramponi made a motion successfully  
 3 adopted by the Weymouth Board of Selectmen making  
 4 Peg Goudy the first female board chair in Weymouth  
 5 history. You've come a long way.  
 6 Needless to say, I've seen a lot of  
 7 things happening in North Weymouth over the years,  
 8 some good, some not so good. I strongly believe  
 9 that the siting of a gas compressor station in the  
 10 North Weymouth area would be a huge mistake putting  
 11 the residents and businesses of North Weymouth at  
 12 risk of sustaining a major calamity in the future,  
 13 possibly resulting in serious health hazards,  
 14 property damage, personal injury and death.  
 15 Recent studies indicate the  
 16 possibilities for health, safety or environmental  
 17 harm resulting from natural gas compressor stations  
 18 are many and serious. Some of these, as you know,  
 19 include explosions and fires, leaks and spills,  
 20 fugitive emissions of volatile organic compounds,  
 21 VOCs, and nitrogen oxides, NOx, as well as other  
 22 potential exposure threats. While all of these  
 23 types of hazards have been well documented  
 24 nationwide, the most prevalent by far is the

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1 intentional or accidental release of VOCs and NOx.  
 2 All possible threats need to be  
 3 considered by you in allowing compressor stations to  
 4 operate, especially when in close proximity to  
 5 homes, places of employment, as well as  
 6 environmentally sensitive locales such as near water  
 7 resources or agricultural production areas.  
 8 I firmly believe that the risks of  
 9 locating a gas compressor station in the area of  
 10 North Weymouth in close proximity to residential  
 11 dwellings and just feet from an ocean ecosystem far  
 12 outweigh any cost-saving benefits in trying to  
 13 ensure a reliable energy supply for residents of the  
 14 Commonwealth.  
 15 I would like to just give you a small  
 16 partial list of recent compressor explosions and  
 17 fires in the United States, some involving injuries  
 18 and fatalities. I'm sure the proponents of this  
 19 compressor station would be aware of these because  
 20 some of them happened in Texas.  
 21 Crosstex Pipeline, Godley, Texas,  
 22 November 18, 2008; Energy Transfer Partners, Madison  
 23 County Texas, January 17, 2013; Copano Energy in Jim  
 24 Wells County, Texas, September 6, 2012; Williams

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1 Energy, Lanthrop, Pennsylvania, March 29, 2012; the  
 2 Bill Barrett Corporation, Carbon County, Utah,  
 3 November 22, 2012, two injured with severe burns.  
 4 Artemas Compressor Station, Mann  
 5 Township, Bedford County, Pennsylvania, run by the  
 6 Houston-based Columbia Gas Transmission Company,  
 7 November 3, 2011; Pinon Compression Station, run by  
 8 BP, Durango, Colorado, June 25, 2012, one killed two  
 9 injured; and finally Falcon Natural Gas Compressor  
 10 Station, Jonah Field, Wyoming, December 7, 2011.

11 I would like to add that although I  
 12 sympathize with labor interests, I do not believe  
 13 that the creation of a few short-term construction  
 14 jobs should be a consideration in such a serious  
 15 matter concerning the health, safety and well-being  
 16 of people living in the North Weymouth area.

17 I hope the Siting Board will carefully  
 18 consider the risks to the residents and taxpayers of  
 19 the Town of Weymouth and decide against allowing a  
 20 gas compressor station being constructed in North  
 21 Weymouth.

22 The bottom-line is that it is just not  
 23 the right place for this kind of facility to be  
 24 located. In my opinion, ladies and gentlemen, it is

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1 just a disaster waiting to happen. Thank you very  
 2 much for your time.

3 MR. SHEA: Frank Burke, followed by  
 4 Wayne Matthews.

5 MR. BURKE: I'll be brief. Mr. Ramponi  
 6 and others have covered the ground.

7 We are here for the convenience of a  
 8 company. It is their convenience because it is an  
 9 industrial zoned spot convenient to the pipeline.  
 10 It is also economically beneficial to them. It's  
 11 not for the residents of North Weymouth, not for the  
 12 residents of Quincy, not for the residents of East  
 13 Braintree, not any residents. It is corporate, all  
 14 corporate. This might be a nice site, convenient,  
 15 let's put it here. Bingo.

16 Have you visited the site?  
 17 MR. SHEA: Yes, yes.  
 18 MR. BURKE: Have you visited the  
 19 neighborhood?  
 20 MR. SHEA: We haven't walked it. We  
 21 have driven in the area.  
 22 MR. BURKE: You have seen the pride  
 23 these people take in their homes.  
 24 MR. SHEA: Yes.

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1 MR. BURKE: When I listen to some of the  
 2 stuff -- I wasn't here for the presentation. When  
 3 they talk about how many homes are in the area, if  
 4 you go up to the site and you do a 360, you can see  
 5 all of the rooftops and the windows facing the  
 6 project. These are not just homes. They are  
 7 talking 975. Those homes have occupants. One, two.  
 8 My home had five. The previous owner there was  
 9 seven in my home. Those numbers grow. It is not  
 10 just a thousand homes. It could be 6 to 10,000  
 11 people of all ages. Elderly -- not quite elderly  
 12 but rapidly getting there -- to the youngsters  
 13 holding signs back there. This is the air that we  
 14 are polluting that those kids breathe. They go to  
 15 school 1.2 miles away. This is why this site is not  
 16 the place for this type of facility.

17 You get into noise. A lot of people  
 18 here probably remember when there were two turbines  
 19 by the back gate to the Edison station. They would  
 20 kick in at peak load during the summer. Just when  
 21 you want to enjoy the breeze coming off the water  
 22 with an open window, there's these two turbines that  
 23 will kick in. These what these are going to be  
 24 like, like having a jet engine running right next to

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1 your home and you shutter yourself in and hope that  
 2 the insulation will keep most of the noise out.

3 It will not work. This is not the place  
 4 for it, never was the place for it. If you want to  
 5 continue the process, I suggest you stop now and  
 6 talk to one person, Alan McKinnon. Ask him about  
 7 the hazardous waste. There was a gentleman here  
 8 tonight who said he would tie himself to a fence.  
 9 That's what happens when these people get riled.  
 10 Mr. Peters, a good friend of mine, never would have  
 11 gotten into this health stuff if it wasn't for the  
 12 hazardous waste. Gary likes to play music and enjoy  
 13 his family. He spends hours and hours and hours.  
 14 Now he has health credentials that are as long as my  
 15 arm because of projects that didn't belong.

16 We are not the richest community.  
 17 Educationally we have educated ourselves with each  
 18 and every project that they put in that Fore River  
 19 basin. We have learned more and more about our  
 20 environment, about what is good for us and what is  
 21 not good for us. This is not good for us. I don't  
 22 know what influence you have in the process. I know  
 23 you don't have jurisdiction. Whatever influence you  
 24 have, we are asking you to use that to stop this

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1 project and get them to relocate it.  
 2 Thank you very much.  
 3 MR. SHEA: Thank you. The next person  
 4 is Wayne Matthews.  
 5 MR. MATTHEWS: Frank Burke did a  
 6 wonderful job. He will be a tough act to follow.  
 7 My name is Wayne Matthews. I live at 33 River  
 8 Street. I am also president of the East Weymouth  
 9 Neighborhood Association. The East Weymouth  
 10 Neighborhood Association stands with our neighbors  
 11 in North Weymouth and the other abutting areas in  
 12 opposing this project. There are just too many  
 13 what-ifs. The risk to the economy, the environment,  
 14 and lives of the citizens is too high. Even a .01  
 15 percent chance of risk of fire or other disaster in  
 16 such a densely populated area is just too great. To  
 17 be honest, I can't even understand how this area was  
 18 even suggested for the project to begin with.  
 19 The East Weymouth Neighborhood  
 20 Association urges everyone involved with this  
 21 decision to please reconsider the location. To the  
 22 people: Keep fighting, don't waver; this is our  
 23 town, our homes and our lives. Thank you.  
 24 MR. SHEA: Jodi Purdy-Quinlan, followed

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1 by Mrs. Melanson.  
 2 MS. PURDY-QUINLAN: Jodi Purdy-Quinlan.  
 3 I'm speaking tonight as an environmental activist,  
 4 historical preservationist and a mom. For 35 years  
 5 I have devoted my life to the preservation of  
 6 Weymouth's historical, cultural, archaeological and  
 7 ecological resources, beginning with fighting Edison  
 8 when they proposed building a nuclear power plant at  
 9 the Edgar station site on the Fore River. I was 18  
 10 years old. I have been fighting the men and the  
 11 women ever since.  
 12 16 years ago I stood in this auditorium  
 13 as a member of Weymouth Historical Commission, the  
 14 president of the Abigail Adams Historical Society,  
 15 the past chairman of Weymouth's 375 anniversary  
 16 committee, and I was pregnant with my first child  
 17 via in vitro fertilization. I have had many  
 18 miscarriages over the course of my adult life. I've  
 19 been living with my husband, who I met on Route 3A  
 20 in North Weymouth. I was a teenager 37 years ago.  
 21 When I stood here 16 years ago, I asked the town to  
 22 purchase a five-acre site of woodlands and wetlands  
 23 that is part of the original settlement of  
 24 Wessagusset. The town meeting members

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1 overwhelmingly voted in favor of buying that open  
 2 space. It is a stone's throw from this site.  
 3 I got involved in the environment during  
 4 the first Earth Day when I went down to my local  
 5 playground, which is the land that I preserved, with  
 6 my friend and there were college kids cleaning the  
 7 brook. What are you doing? Cleaning the brook. It  
 8 is Earth Day. What's that? Following that I  
 9 started an antipollution club in the neighborhood  
 10 and my friends and I -- I would go around and force  
 11 my friends to go around and clean up things in our  
 12 neighborhood.  
 13 Here I am now, 53 years old, a mother of  
 14 two wonderful boys. One of them is a herpetologist.  
 15 We go down to the Wessagusset site and look for  
 16 snakes and salamanders. My 13-year-old gets  
 17 disappointed because there aren't that many. When I  
 18 was a little girl it was filled with salamanders and  
 19 snakes and tadpoles and frogs and all of those  
 20 wonderful things.  
 21 Wessagusset is the oldest settlement of  
 22 the Massachusetts Bay Colony. We go back to 1622.  
 23 I want to read to you who I really am. I'm not a  
 24 fighter. I'm not a politician. I care about

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1 people. I care about history. And I care about  
 2 culture. And I want to read this to you.  
 3 This is written in 1622, June 1622 by  
 4 Thomas Morton, one of our first settlers in New  
 5 England. He wrote a book called New English Canaan  
 6 published in 1637. Canaan means paradise. That's  
 7 what my ancestors saw 400 years ago.  
 8 "In the month of June 1622 it was my  
 9 chance to arrive in the parts of New England with 30  
 10 servants and provisions of all sorts fit for a  
 11 plantation. And while our houses were being built,  
 12 I did endeavor to take a survey of the country. The  
 13 more I looked, the more I liked. And what I  
 14 seriously considered of the beauty of the place with  
 15 all her fair endowments, I did not think that in all  
 16 the known world it could be paralleled.  
 17 "With so many goodly groves of trees,  
 18 dainty fine round rising hillocks, delicate fair and  
 19 large plains, sweet crystal fountains and clear  
 20 running streams that twine in fine meanders through  
 21 the meads making so sweet a sound, murmuring noise  
 22 to hear as would even lull the senses with delight  
 23 asleep, so pleasantly do they glide on the pebble  
 24 stones jetting most jocundly where they do meet and

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1 hand in hand run down to the Neptune's court to pay  
 2 the yearly tribute which they owe to him as  
 3 sovereign Lord of all the springs.  
 4 "Contained within the volume of the land  
 5 fowls in abundance, fish in multitude, and  
 6 discovered besides, millions of turtledoves on the  
 7 green boughs which sat pecking of the full bright  
 8 pleasant grapes that were supported by the lusty  
 9 trees whose fruitful hand did cause the arms to  
 10 bend. Which here and there, mine eye, was nature's  
 11 masterpiece, her chiefest magazine of all where  
 12 lives her store. If this land be not rich, then is  
 13 the whole world poor."  
 14 This is what Wessagusset is. It was  
 15 then and still is now. This is our home. This is  
 16 where we have chosen to raise our children. And I'm  
 17 going to end it now. After the Reverend gave her  
 18 talk, I thought that this would be nice way to end.  
 19 This is engraved in one of the stones at the  
 20 Wessagusset woodland conversation site.  
 21 "Great spirit, whose voice I hear in the  
 22 winds and whose breath give light to all the world,  
 23 hear me. I am small and weak. I need your strength  
 24 and wisdom. Let me walk in beauty and make my eyes

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1 ever behold the red and purple sunsets. Make my  
 2 hands respect the things you have made and my ears  
 3 sharp to hear your voice. Make me wise so that I  
 4 may understand the things you have taught my people.  
 5 Let me hear, learn the lessons you have hidden in  
 6 every leaf and rock. I seek strength not to be  
 7 greater than my brother but to fight my greatest  
 8 enemy, myself. Make me always ready to come to you  
 9 with clean hands and straight eyes so that when life  
 10 fades, as the fading sunset, my spirit may come to  
 11 you without shame. Shame on all of us who sit back  
 12 and allow our world to be destroyed."  
 13 I don't know about you, but I like it  
 14 right here. Life is good and we need to cherish it.  
 15 Thank you.  
 16 MR. SHEA: Thank you. I can't quite  
 17 read the next one but it is Mr. or Ms. Melanson.  
 18 Does that ring a bell with anyone? Perhaps they  
 19 left. The next person is Darren McGurran. After  
 20 that it will be John McDonough.  
 21 MR. MCGURRAN: I've been five years in  
 22 Quincy Point and three years in North Weymouth.  
 23 Today I came to this to understand what was going  
 24 on. My wife said I should go. As I was listening

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1 to the presentation and looking at it and listening  
 2 to what was said, I was thinking what's the  
 3 benefits? How do we balance this out with benefits  
 4 and drawbacks? There doesn't seem to be much  
 5 benefit for anyone in North Weymouth or Weymouth or  
 6 Quincy or Braintree for this. So then you kind of  
 7 go: Who does it benefit? How can we find this out?  
 8 We saw presentations from Spectra. They  
 9 also gave a presentation about three months ago  
 10 which is called their 10-K, their annual report they  
 11 give out to their investors. On their 10-K when you  
 12 look at it you begin to kind of get a different  
 13 picture. On Page 6 of the 10-K there's a map of the  
 14 pipeline that starts off with a quote to say: The  
 15 pipeline extends 7800 miles from the fields in the  
 16 Gulf region of Texas and Louisiana to Ohio,  
 17 Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. So the  
 18 production is in Texas, Louisiana and off the coast.  
 19 On Page 9 they talk about the Maritimes  
 20 and Northeast Pipeline which extends all the way up  
 21 into the Maritimes and extends all the way out to  
 22 the Canada export pipeline, which is on an island,  
 23 Sable Island, about a hundred miles off the coast of  
 24 Halifax, which is the terminus for potentially

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1 exporting all this natural gas over to Europe.  
 2 Being from Ireland, one of the things in  
 3 Europe is that the Europeans, especially Eastern  
 4 Europeans are very nervous about Russia who is  
 5 controlling a lot of the natural gas in Russia  
 6 coming into western Europe and the Ukraine. If  
 7 there's another source of this gas, it will be very,  
 8 very beneficial.  
 9 To get to the point where the extension  
 10 would benefit Spectra, when you do a 10-K there is a  
 11 whole section of risk factors. As they go through  
 12 this, they talk about if we do not complete the  
 13 expansion projects or make the necessary  
 14 acquisitions, our future growth may be limited.  
 15 They talk about things like inability to obtain  
 16 necessary rights-of-way or government approval,  
 17 including regulatory agencies.  
 18 They also talk about we may not be able  
 19 to secure renewals of long-term transportation  
 20 agreements that will increase volatility. They also  
 21 talk in this about how the price has come down in  
 22 the Northeast and we are exporting the gas out of  
 23 the Northeast. So it is not a case that we are  
 24 benefiting from this gas coming in here.

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1 The final question is: Why do we need a  
 2 compressor station? Gas has to be transported, gas  
 3 has to be compressed to transported. A compressor  
 4 station exists at various points along the way,  
 5 somewhere around a hundred miles, to compress the  
 6 gas so that it can go on the pipes further. We are  
 7 at the end of that pipeline before it heads off to  
 8 Canada. So we are benefiting by having the  
 9 compressor station to push this gas up from here.

10 The final question asked is, why  
 11 Weymouth? One of the things, if you think about it,  
 12 is that there's not going to be a lot of people  
 13 objecting to the right-of-way going through the bay.  
 14 If you go out from Weymouth out through the bay, you  
 15 won't have a lot of objections from the fish coming  
 16 in and complaining about what is going on here or  
 17 why is it going through our neighborhoods. It is  
 18 not benefiting us. It is hugely benefiting their  
 19 company by having it right there. I don't think --  
 20 there's no benefit for us in North Weymouth actually  
 21 having this here. It is just benefiting Spectra.  
 22 Thank you.

23 MR. SHEA: Thank you. The next speaker  
 24 is John McDonough. After that Linda DiAngelo.

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1 MR. McDONOUGH: John McDonough. I want  
 2 to start with a brief anecdote. Several years ago  
 3 we had a friend visit us from New Zealand who has  
 4 lived there 50-odd years. He knows something about  
 5 beauty. He walked all around North Weymouth,  
 6 Wessagusset Road, Webb Park. He came back and said  
 7 you live in a hidden paradise. I would hope you can  
 8 help us keep it that way.

9 I remind you that we have a half-dozen  
 10 schools in the area. Across the river there's Snug  
 11 Harbor Elementary, Broad Meadows Intermediate  
 12 School. In East Braintree, the Donald Ross  
 13 Elementary School. Back into Weymouth and we have  
 14 the Johnson Early Childhood Education Center, the  
 15 Wessagusset School and St. Jerome's. That's a  
 16 couple of thousand young school children that will  
 17 be close to this compressor.

18 My concern that I originally wanted to  
 19 address is that Spectra is not always forthcoming  
 20 and forthright in the description of their  
 21 operation. They have a compressor in Bradford  
 22 County, Pennsylvania. That has a thousand square  
 23 miles and population of 50,000. Compare that with  
 24 Norfolk County, half the area and nearly a million

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1 people. The nearest towns to their compressor are  
 2 Clearville, six or seven miles away, a population of  
 3 2300; another neighboring town is Adams, population,  
 4 334. You can see in the event of an explosion there  
 5 the number of people directly affected by it would  
 6 be minimal.

7 Several years ago they had a blowout  
 8 that carried over 200 gallons of used compressor oil  
 9 and turned it into an aerosol and spread it around  
 10 the countryside. It destroyed crops. It put a  
 11 blueberry farm virtually out of operation because  
 12 people stopped going there in subsequent years  
 13 because they were afraid of the oil that had gone  
 14 there. What Spectra said is that this is compressor  
 15 lubricating oil, which according to the MSDS is  
 16 essentially harmless. That's true as far as it  
 17 went. But this compressor oil was used. It was  
 18 contaminated by the gases that went through there.  
 19 So the compressor oil on an independent analysis  
 20 was, had lots of heavy metals and radon in it,  
 21 something that Spectra never acknowledged.

22 They got around to making a settlement  
 23 with the neighbors that it affected. They gave them  
 24 each a gift certificate of \$100 to a restaurant, and

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1 the neighbors accepted it. All I can say is that  
 2 the neighbors never heard of Jim Sokolove. I hope  
 3 you help keep North Weymouth the way it is.

4 MR. SHEA: Linda DiAngelo. Come and  
 5 speak. The next person is Tricia Pries.

6 MS. DiANGELO: Thank you very much for  
 7 hosting this evening. We appreciate your being  
 8 here. I'm Linda DiAngelo, a resident here in North  
 9 Weymouth for 55 years. I enjoyed the North Weymouth  
 10 community tremendously growing up. I've raised my  
 11 children here and plan to stay here. As you can  
 12 see, there's a passionate group of people, residents  
 13 in North Weymouth. And we have the support of the  
 14 entire town, I'm quite sure. I'm also the president  
 15 of the Back River Watershed Association, a river  
 16 that is joined, often called twin river, sister  
 17 river to the Fore River. It's only a half mile down  
 18 the road. That river is a particularly important  
 19 river to this area.

20 Of course the whole coastal area of  
 21 Weymouth, it is an historic place. We take great  
 22 pride in that. We have one of the most important,  
 23 productive estuaries of the whole Northeast region  
 24 here in the Back River. We have over 150 birds that

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1 migrate to the area. Many of those are protected  
 2 species and endangered species. We have 31 species  
 3 of native finfish. We have important restoration  
 4 going on all the time for our river. Our town has  
 5 done a very dutiful job of trying to improve our  
 6 river.

7           We also have shellfish beds we are  
 8 trying to reseed. And the culture and history in  
 9 this region is exceptional. But the people are even  
 10 more exceptional. I am calling out to thank  
 11 everyone who has come. I'm very proud to be a  
 12 resident here. I really appreciate those who have  
 13 done wonderful research, who have shown leadership  
 14 and courage. We are very, very concerned about the  
 15 impacts on human health risks as well as our  
 16 environment. We are very concerned about the marine  
 17 life. We are concerned about the wildlife. We have  
 18 wetlands throughout this area. We have very  
 19 productive salt marshes throughout the coast line.  
 20 And we intend to protect that.

21           The ACEC. Does anybody know what it  
 22 means, area of critical environmental concern, Back  
 23 River. Fore River has suffered enough. People in  
 24 North Weymouth have been the overburdened. You have

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1 heard it time and time again. I'm echoing those  
 2 sentiments. Please understand the risk to people is  
 3 far greater and far more important than the  
 4 convenience of this economic project that Spectra is  
 5 proposing with their station with the compressor  
 6 station. I am tired. I probably sound like a  
 7 broken record. I thank you for listening, and I  
 8 hope that you'll take this all under very serious  
 9 consideration. Thank you.

10           MR. SHEA: Thank you.

11           MS. PRIES: Good evening. Thank you.  
 12 Tricia Pries. I live in East Weymouth. I came here  
 13 with an open mind because we hear about energy costs  
 14 skyrocketing. Great. We will have a plentiful  
 15 source of natural gas to heat the area. Then I hear  
 16 that the gas is not intended for the area. I hear  
 17 that the company that's going to provide the  
 18 pipeline is not the best corporate citizen and seems  
 19 to have little regard to the environment and the  
 20 people who live in the area that the compressor  
 21 station will exist in. We have heard people talk  
 22 about the effects of the industrialization in the  
 23 Fore River basin. And as the people from Spectra  
 24 look at the numbers and say the risk is .00

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1 whatever, the presentation, that number means  
 2 something in terms of people. It can't be  
 3 disregarded.

4           It also seems that the benefit to  
 5 Weymouth is simply the taxes for the property. The  
 6 town is dealing with revenue. If Weymouth was  
 7 getting a levy, if that is the right term, or toll  
 8 on the amount of gas that was going through the  
 9 pipeline so that we could mitigate the risk, I would  
 10 say maybe we should consider this. I understand  
 11 that is not the case. So all we are is what? It is  
 12 outrageous. We heard from the Back River Watershed  
 13 Association, the Fore River Watershed Association  
 14 talking about the ecological importance of these  
 15 river basins.

16           As the president of the Whitman's Pond  
 17 Association, the spawning ground for one of the  
 18 largest herring runs in the state that goes up the  
 19 Back River, I'm finding it difficult to understand  
 20 how someone from a state level in Massachusetts  
 21 would entertain such a thought, because to get to  
 22 this point and spending all this time when  
 23 essentially all I can consider is you are  
 24 sacrificing a commercial fishing industry -- fish is

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1 a known healthy food source -- to accommodate an  
 2 energy company that doesn't seem to be a very good  
 3 environmental citizen. I've heard stories about  
 4 people having cancer in the neighborhood, mothers  
 5 with miscarriages. Now we are adding another source  
 6 that clearly will have a health impact.

7           We have heard about the coastal zone.  
 8 I'm not up on the technical specifications on that,  
 9 but the gases can get trapped due to the location  
 10 and weather patterns. I'm at a loss as to why we  
 11 are even here. Who is picking up the health care  
 12 costs as these people will require expensive health  
 13 care? All I can think about is all the dividends  
 14 going out to shareholders are really at the expense  
 15 of every American who is required to have health  
 16 care. This is not just a Weymouth issue. This is  
 17 every person who has to support the health care of  
 18 people who are stricken with illnesses due to a  
 19 corporate entity who is just looking at a number. I  
 20 ask you to seriously consider all of this and I  
 21 appreciate your time. Thank you.

22           MR. SHEA: Thank you. We have now come  
 23 to the end of all the people who signed up to speak.  
 24 I'd like to thank you all for speaking. I thank you

1 all for coming. I remind those, anyone who is  
2 considering written comments on the company's  
3 proposed project, all such comments must be filed  
4 with me no later than Friday, June 5th. My contact  
5 information is available on the back table near the  
6 entrance. If anyone has any further questions  
7 regarding the review process, we would be happy to  
8 address them after the hearing.

9 Thank you for attending the hearing  
10 which is now adjourned.  
11 (10:44 p.m.)

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I, David A. Arsenault, Registered Professional Reporter, and Certified Reporter in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, #100693, do hereby certify that the foregoing record is a true and accurate transcript of my stenographic notes taken on June 2, 1015 in the above-captioned matter.



David A. Arsenault, RPR