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Phase II of the Mid-Atlantic Power Pathway 03-23-2011

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)  
SCOPING MEETING FOR PHASE II OF THE  
MID-ATLANTIC POWER PATHWAY (MAPP) TRANSMISSION PROJECT  
MARCH 23, 2011

Location:

Cambridge-South Dorchester High School

2475 Maple Dam Road

Cambridge, Maryland 21613

(866) 448 - DEPO

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

2 (BEGAN AT 7:02 P.M.)

3 MR. BOREN: Good evening. On behalf of the  
4 Department of Energy (DOE) Loan Programs Office, I  
5 would like to welcome all of you tonight.

6 This is the Environmental Scoping Meeting for  
7 Phase II of the proposed Mid-Atlantic Power Pathway  
8 (MAPP) transmission line project. The project is being  
9 proposed by Pepco Holdings, Incorporation  
10 (PHI).

11 Let the record show that the public scoping  
12 meeting began at 7:02 on March 23, 2011. My name is  
13 Doug Boren and I am the DOE National Environmental  
14 Policy Act (NEPA) Document Manager for Phase II of the  
15 MAPP project. Greg Netti, sitting beside me, is from  
16 Ecology and Environment, which is DOE's third-party  
17 contractor assisting with the preparation of the  
18 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Sharon Thomas,  
19 also with DOE, is at the sign-in table where you came  
20 in. There is also a team from Ecology and Environment  
21 here tonight.

22 We are here tonight because the Department of

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1 Energy Loan Programs Office is considering a federal  
2 loan guarantee to PHI for Phase II of the proposed MAPP  
3 project. The loan guarantee program was established by  
4 the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Title 17 of the Act  
5 identified discrete categories of projects that are  
6 eligible for loan guarantees. These categories include  
7 advanced transmission and distribution technologies  
8 that constitute new or significantly improved  
9 technologies.

10 In order to receive a loan guarantee from the  
11 Loan Programs Office, applicants and projects need to  
12 meet certain financial and technical criteria. The  
13 financial criteria help us meet our statutory  
14 requirement that the federal government have a  
15 reasonable assurance of repayments. These are loans  
16 guarantees. These are not grants.

17 There are also criteria to ensure that the  
18 technology is not only new or significantly improved,  
19 but that it is also commercially viable. Phase II of  
20 the MAPP project would incorporate new smart grid  
21 technology that includes a high-voltage, direct-current  
22 system; microprocessor-based relays; digital fault

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1 recorders, and phasor measurement units. The smart grid  
2 technology to be incorporated by the MAPP project would  
3 promote the transmission of energy over the line more  
4 efficiently.

5           DOE is the lead federal agency for the NEPA  
6 review of the project and the lead agency for the  
7 preparation of the EIS. We have requested the U.S.  
8 Army Corps of Engineers to participate in the  
9 preparation of the EIS to satisfy their NEPA  
10 responsibilities under Section 404 of the Clean Water  
11 Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. We  
12 also expect the Environmental Protection Agency to be a  
13 cooperating agency.

14           The purpose of tonight's meeting is to  
15 provide each of you with an opportunity to give us your  
16 environmental comments on Phase II of the proposed MAPP  
17 project. We are here tonight to learn from you. It  
18 will help us the most if your comments are as specific  
19 as possible regarding the potential environmental  
20 impacts and reasonable alternatives of the proposed  
21 project. Your comments will be used to help determine  
22 what issues we need to cover in the

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1 EIS.

2           If you wish to speak tonight, please be sure  
3 to sign the speakers' list at the sign-in table. If  
4 you do not wish to speak tonight but would like to make  
5 a written comment, you can pick up one of the handouts  
6 at the sign-in table and write your comments and submit  
7 them this evening or send the written comments to us.

8           On March 4, 2011, we issued a Notice of  
9 Intent to prepare an EIS for this project. The scoping  
10 comment period officially ends on April 4, 2011. We  
11 will take comments throughout our review of the  
12 project; however, we ask that you provide comments as  
13 soon as possible in order to give us time to analyze  
14 and research the issues.

15           During our review of the project, we will  
16 assemble information from a variety of sources  
17 including the applicant; you, the public; other state,  
18 local, and federal agencies; and our own independent  
19 analysis. We will analyze this information and prepare  
20 a draft EIS that will be distributed to the public for  
21 comments.

22           If you want a copy of the draft EIS, you can

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1 submit a written comment to DOE requesting a copy. It  
2 is very important that any comments you send include  
3 the DOE/EIS number for the project. The EIS number is  
4 in the Notice of Intent, but let me also give it to you  
5 now so you can write it down. It's DOE/EIS-0465.

6           One more time: That's DOE/EIS-0465.

7           If you decide to send us a comment letter,  
8 please put the EIS number on it, and this will insure  
9 that we get your comments.

10           After the draft EIS is issued, you will have  
11 45 days to review and comment on it. We will schedule  
12 a public comment meeting similar in format to this one  
13 sometime within the 45-day comment period on the draft  
14 EIS. At that meeting you can give us your comments on  
15 the draft EIS orally. Alternatively, you may provide  
16 comments in writing. At the end of the 45-day comment  
17 period, we will use your comments and any new  
18 information that we have about the project to finalize  
19 the EIS.

20           After the final EIS is issued, DOE will use  
21 the information in the EIS to issue a Record of  
22 Decision. The Record of Decision announces and

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1 explains DOE's decision and describes any commitments  
2 for mitigating potential environmental impacts.

3           Before we start taking comments tonight from  
4 you this evening, I will give you a brief presentation  
5 about the NEPA process, and the applicant will make a  
6 short presentation about the project proposal.

7           A copy of the NEPA process presentation is  
8 available on the sign-in table. This is just a quick  
9 outline of the presentation. I will go over the NEPA  
10 process for an EIS, and I have some additional  
11 information with websites where you can follow up.

12           The first step in the EIS process is the  
13 Notice of Intent. The Notice of Intent was published  
14 March 4th. The Notice of Intent states the need for  
15 the action and provides preliminary information on the  
16 EIS scope including the alternative actions to be  
17 evaluated and environmental impacts to be analyzed.  
18 With the release of the NOI, it starts the scoping  
19 process. This is the period in which DOE requests  
20 comments from the public on the scope of the EIS; for  
21 example, alternatives to be evaluated, environmental  
22 impacts to be analyzed, resource areas to consider, and

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1 possible issues. It is important to ID the issues now  
2 before we draft the EIS. This process lasts 30 days  
3 with at least one public scoping meeting.

4           The next step in the EIS NEPA process is the  
5 draft EIS. DOE considers the scoping comments to  
6 prepare the draft EIS. The draft EIS includes a  
7 comparison of various alternatives including the no-  
8 action alternative. When the draft EIS is released to  
9 the public, the public may comment on the draft EIS.  
10 The comment period lasts at least 45 days. As  
11 previously stated, we will have a meeting similar to  
12 this one in order to take comments on the draft EIS.

13           The next step in the EIS NEPA process is the  
14 final EIS. DOE considers all timely public comments on  
15 the draft EIS and incorporates responses into the final  
16 EIS. At this time DOE will identify the preferred  
17 alternative.

18           The final step in the NEPA process is the  
19 Record of Decision. In the Record of Decision, DOE  
20 will announce and explain our decision and describe any  
21 commitments for mitigating potential environmental  
22 impacts. The Record of Decision is at least 30 days

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1 after the final EIS.

2           This next slide is just an overview  
3 illustrating the EIS process, highlighting the  
4 opportunities for public input. Just to familiarize  
5 yourself, we are in the first process for public input  
6 at the scoping period. This is a preliminary list of  
7 some of the resources we plan to include in the scope  
8 of the EIS.

9           We plan to include impacts to aquatic  
10 resources, including water quality and oysters, impacts  
11 to wetlands and floodplains. DOE will conduct a  
12 floodplain assessment in accordance with DOE  
13 regulations. We will evaluate the impacts to  
14 biological resources to include threatened and  
15 endangered species and forested areas, coastal zone  
16 management, cultural issues, land use issues, and any  
17 cumulative impacts.

18           This is just a simple slide to let you know  
19 how to provide comments. Comments are due April 4,  
20 2011. You may submit oral comments or written comments  
21 today. You may e-mail written comments to the e-mail  
22 address MAPP-EIS@hq.doe.gov or you may mail written

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1 comments to me at the Department of Energy. Here's just  
2 some websites for some additional information that may  
3 be obtained on the project and on DOE's NEPA process as  
4 well as my contact information. If you have any  
5 questions after this meeting, you can contact me.

6 Now I'd like to introduce Mr. Jubic, who will  
7 give a brief presentation on the proposed MAPP project.

8 MR. JUBIC: Good evening, everyone. My name  
9 is Bob Jubic. I'm the Project Manager for the Mid-  
10 Atlantic Power Pathway, and I want to thank you all for  
11 coming out tonight and providing your input about the  
12 project.

13 As Mr. Boren indicated, I'm just going to do  
14 a very high-level overview of the project. We've had a  
15 number of meetings in Dorchester County. I think we've  
16 gone into a lot more detail previously than what we're  
17 going to go into tonight. But tonight's more about  
18 getting comments from you than going into detail about  
19 the project. So I'll move on here.

20 Just high level, the portion of the project  
21 we're talking about tonight starts at Chalk Point, a  
22 substation in Prince George's County, and ends over in

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1 Sussex County at the Indian River Power Plant at a  
2 substation there.

3           What happens is we tie into an existing  
4 right-of-way where we'd be replacing existing  
5 structures and adding a new AC circuit into an existing  
6 -- onto an existing area that has an AC circuit. We go  
7 into a converter station in Calvert County. There are  
8 actually two converter stations in Calvert County. One  
9 converter makes a direct tie over to a converter  
10 station over in Wicomico County. The other converter  
11 makes a direct tie to a converter station over in  
12 Sussex County. So they are two independent systems.

13           What happens at a converter station is we  
14 take the AC, alternating current, and change it to  
15 direct current. The direct current allows us to go a  
16 long distance underwater and it also adds a lot of  
17 controllability onto the transmission system. So the  
18 dotted red and white line you see here (indicating),  
19 those are DC lines. And then once we get to a  
20 converter station, we switch back to AC and tie into  
21 the substations that feed the local grid. Same thing  
22 over in Indian River; the same thing occurs again.

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1           As far as the need for the project, PJM,  
2 which evaluates the transmission system and determines  
3 when there are issues on the grid, identified a number  
4 of what they call voltage violations. And basically  
5 what occurs is, I highlighted the lines that they  
6 indicated. There's actually a black line right here  
7 (indicating). It's actually part of the MAPP project.  
8 These particular lines are identifying if those lines  
9 would fail during high energy-use periods, that the  
10 shaded area from southern Maryland up through  
11 Washington, D.C., Baltimore, up all the way up into  
12 northern New Jersey, the entire peninsula could have a  
13 brownout or a blackout situation occur. So by  
14 installing this particular line, the MAPP line, that  
15 would address those voltage violations and prevent that  
16 from occurring.

17           I'm just going to walk through county by  
18 county and what the layout is for each county.

19           In Calvert County, I mentioned that we  
20 started with a 500 kV AC line. It goes for nine miles  
21 within an existing cleared right-of-way. What we're  
22 doing in that right-of-way is taking out existing

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1 structures and putting another set of structures in  
2 that can handle two circuits. There's already one  
3 circuit there. We have to add a second circuit. We  
4 enter the converter station site. There's two  
5 converters at this location. They take up about 18  
6 acres -- 14 to 18 acres, and there's also a switching  
7 station where the AC lines tie into the switching  
8 stations and then go into the converter station. That  
9 takes 12 to 16 acres.

10           After we go into the converter station, we  
11 come out with DC lines, and there's about two miles of  
12 DC line buried within an existing Baltimore Gas &  
13 Electric right-of-way.

14           And then we turn and head down under a  
15 roadway to get to the bay in a community called Western  
16 Shores. This is just an overview of what's happening  
17 in Calvert County.

18           Again, we start in the Chalk Point  
19 Substation, we cross the Patuxent River, follow an  
20 existing right-of-way all the way down to the proposed  
21 converter station location. This is all overhead.

22           And then we switch to DC and go underground

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1 for about two and three-quarter miles until we get to a  
2 take-off point where we enter the bay. This is the  
3 proposed converter station location. Again, what  
4 happens is we tie into the existing AC system and then  
5 we leave with the DC system.

6 We then enter the Chesapeake Bay and go up  
7 the Choptank River. It's about 16 miles. This is all  
8 DC line. Sixteen miles across the Chesapeake Bay and  
9 23 miles up the Choptank River. It's two three-foot  
10 wide trenches that -- where the cable is installed, and  
11 those trenches are about 80 feet apart from each other  
12 and they are buried about six feet deep. This is just  
13 a photograph of what it would look like.

14 We leave the bay -- enter the bay here along  
15 Western Shores, go up the Choptank River and land at  
16 Goose Creek in Dorchester County.

17 In Dorchester County, we go about one mile  
18 underground until we get to the east side of Route 16.  
19 There's two two-foot-wide trenches basically burying  
20 the DC cable underground.

21 We then enter a transition station on the  
22 eastern side of Route 16 where the lines are then

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1 transitioned to -- from underground to overhead. And  
2 then for 12 miles of new right-of-way through  
3 Dorchester County, there would be overhead lines that  
4 go across the Nanticoke River. Again, this is a  
5 picture of the layout.

6           We land at Goose Creek, go underground until  
7 we're east of 16 and then go overhead across -- north  
8 of the Route 50 bridge into Wicomico County. In  
9 Wicomico County we have two miles of overhead DC lines.  
10 We then enter the gateway converter. There's only one  
11 converter station in Wicomico, and that is a five-acre  
12 switching station, again, which then drops down into  
13 the converter station. And the second DC line  
14 continues onward up to Sussex County. This is just a  
15 picture of what happens here.

16           So we cross the Nanticoke River, enter into  
17 the converter station; one line ends there and the  
18 other line continues on for another five miles across  
19 Wicomico to the Maryland/Delaware state line. This  
20 location, this is existing right-of-way, cleared right-  
21 of-way, but again, we're taking the existing poles down  
22 and replacing them with poles that can carry two

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1 circuits. This is the layout of the gateway converter.  
2 The lines are coming in. One line drops off into the  
3 converter station. The other line continues on up into  
4 Sussex County.

5           In Sussex County, still one DC aerial line  
6 and we're double-circuiting. There's already an  
7 existing 230 kV line in that right-of-way, so that's  
8 going to remain. But the structures are not big enough  
9 to carry the DC line, so we have to take the poles down  
10 in that right-of-way and install a larger set of poles  
11 and double-circuit it for 21 miles within that existing  
12 right-of-way. The right-of-way is already cleared;  
13 we're just replacing structures.

14           And then we enter a converter station that's  
15 about six miles out west of Indian River Power Plant.  
16 And the same statistics on the size of the converter  
17 station.

18           From the converter station, we then have six  
19 miles along existing cleared right-of-way. We're  
20 adding a 230 line to Indian River, and we're adding  
21 another one mile line that taps into a nearby 230 line  
22 and making a connection into that. So what we're doing

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1 is after we cross the state line from Wicomico County,  
2 we're coming along the existing right-of-way.

3           We enter the converter station and switch  
4 back to AC power. There we go six miles up to the  
5 Indian River Power Plant. And then it's probably hard  
6 to see here, but there's a one-mile connection.

7           This is an existing transmission line going  
8 by. We tap into that transmission line and make an  
9 interconnection into the converter station. And this  
10 is a blowup diagram of where the converter station  
11 would be. Here's the line coming in from Wicomico  
12 County, DC line; AC line going out, another AC line  
13 going down making another path.

14           If you want additional information about the  
15 project, we do have a website and we have an e-mail  
16 address. You can also e-mail questions to us and we'll  
17 be glad to answer them.

18           Thank you.

19           MR. BOREN: I would like to point out to the  
20 audience that there are PHI representatives here as  
21 well, and they will be available after the meeting to  
22 answer any questions you may have about the project

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1 specifics.

2           We will now begin the important part of the  
3 meeting: Receiving your comments. When your name is  
4 called, please step up to the microphone and state your  
5 name for the record. Your comments will be transcribed  
6 by a court reporter to ensure that we get an accurate  
7 record of your comments. We will initially limit  
8 comments to five minutes to ensure that everyone that  
9 would like to speak has the opportunity. What I'll do  
10 is I'll give you a little hand signal at four and a  
11 half minutes so you can wrap it up. If you do not  
12 finish your comments in the initial five minutes, we  
13 will annotate your name on the list, and once everyone  
14 has spoken, we will call you up again. We will stay  
15 here until everyone has said what they need to say.

16           And with that, Greg? The first names?

17           What we'll do is, we'll call off the first  
18 person -- as we go, we'll call off the name on the  
19 list, and then Greg will also say the second name to  
20 the on-deck. We'll go through that so we'll know who's  
21 coming up to hopefully -- it looks like we have about  
22 33 commenters tonight.

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1 MR. NETTI: The first speaker tonight will be  
2 Mayor Russ Brinsfield, and he'll be followed by Chief  
3 Sewell Winterhawk.

4 MAYOR BRINSFIELD: I intentionally came in  
5 late, so I would be late on the sign-up list. I'm not  
6 so sure how coming in late and being on the sign-up  
7 list I ended up first. I don't know if that's a good  
8 omen or not, but we'll take it.

9 My name is Russell Brinsfield. I'm Mayor of  
10 Vienna and have been a long-time resident of Dorchester  
11 County, actually most of my life.

12 Unfortunately, if this project is approved,  
13 no matter what route is selected, the town of Vienna  
14 and the surrounding community will be  
15 disproportionately negatively impacted forever.

16 Vienna occupies a special place on the  
17 Nanticoke River in its relationship to the long,  
18 straight, and narrow Vienna meander. As a result,  
19 views looking both north and south provide breathtaking  
20 views of working landscapes relatively unencumbered by  
21 human activities.

22 The town was formally founded in 1706, but

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1 the region is first mentioned by Captain John Smith  
2 during his exploratory efforts on the Nanticoke as far  
3 as back as 1608. Like many rural villages, Vienna has  
4 struggled to maintain its identity over time. However,  
5 in recent years, a determined effort has evolved by the  
6 town's citizens to save, restore, and enhance our  
7 cultural, historic, and environmental legacy for future  
8 generations. As a result of that, the town put  
9 together a vision plan for long-term growth.

10 Let me quote from this vision statement found  
11 in that document: "Vienna is envisioned as a gateway  
12 to the Nanticoke River and its landscapes and to serve  
13 as a model community with respect to its heritage and  
14 natural environment while planning progressively for  
15 its future."

16 The MAPP project initiative as currently  
17 proposed violates every principle envisioned in that  
18 statement. From the bridge, we will forever have our  
19 viewshed north of the beautiful Nanticoke encumbered.  
20 Whether you approach Route 50 from the north -- or you  
21 approach Vienna from the north, from the east or the  
22 west on Route 50, or if you approach Vienna from the

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1 south on 331, the lines will be visible no matter what  
2 direction you go. Therefore, in my view, there is no  
3 way to quantify the socioeconomic impact this project  
4 will have on Vienna, but I would argue that reasonable  
5 people could conclude that it will not be positive.

6           So what does Vienna and the surrounding  
7 citizens want? First, an independent third-party  
8 verification of the needs for this line. Second, if  
9 verified the need exists, then we want the line buried,  
10 not only under the bay -- not the Choptank River -- but  
11 also the 12 miles across Dorchester's working  
12 landscapes.

13           And I know the experts will argue the  
14 unreasonable costs, and I admit that it would be more  
15 expensive. But my response is the following: What  
16 about the quality of life for those of us that will be  
17 unwillingly committed to looking at these obscene  
18 structures into perpetuity?

19           Please don't marginalize the impact that this  
20 will have to the average citizen in Dorchester County.

21           Thank you.

22                           (APPLAUSE)

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1 MR. NETTI: Our next speaker is Chief Sewell  
2 Winterhawk. He'll be followed by Libby Nagel.

3 CHIEF WINTERHAWK: My name is Chief Sewell E.  
4 Winterhawk Fitzhugh. I am the Tribal Chief of the  
5 Nause-Waiwash band of Indian people.

6 You sit in the midst of our homeland. We  
7 have met with the MAPP people and we have told them  
8 before this will not work. My counsel advised me last  
9 Friday night to please attend this meeting and try to  
10 have our voice heard again.

11 We have several concerns. Number one, the  
12 last active Indian reservation in the State of Maryland  
13 and the last traditional Native American village in the  
14 State of Maryland stands where they want to come ashore  
15 at Waiwash, or what you would call Goose Creek or  
16 Locust Neck or Green Point. That land was not fully  
17 taken away from the native people until after the Civil  
18 War. We know that there are burials there. We know  
19 that there are holy sites there. And we know that with  
20 the development that has been going on, people have  
21 been robbing these sites. Now the government wants to  
22 come in and finish and obliterate it forever. That

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1 will not do. They are following a path that takes --  
2 the old Chicone Path that runs from the great Chief's  
3 Village of Chicone just north of Vienna, Maryland, to  
4 Waiwash with a break off that went to Cabin Creek.  
5 There are three freshwater springs that fed these  
6 communities that may be disturbed forever.

7           Dorchester County has a wonderful history.  
8 Before John Smith got here, we had already been here  
9 for 13 generations. We are asking you to consider the  
10 cultural damage that will forever destroy and alter one  
11 of the last places in Maryland and that is an  
12 indigenous, continuous community place that goes back  
13 as far as any memory, legend, or story. We have worked  
14 very actively in trying to preserve our culture. We  
15 have worked very actively in teaching our children and  
16 other children of Dorchester County the beauty that  
17 they sit in.

18           You may not believe that the land that we  
19 stand on is sacred. You may not believe that the land  
20 that you stand on is the sacred mother. Whether you do  
21 or not, she is the only thing we have. You destroy it,  
22 you destroy it for all future generations. We ask you

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1 to reconsider this. Because the next thing, they're  
2 going to run this path and they're going to run right  
3 through the Chicone Reservation, right through it. And  
4 then they're going to cross the river and destroy the  
5 views and enter the third reservation and build a  
6 station there. We are being violated again.

7 I ask you all to please consider: It's time  
8 to stop violating a cultural history that goes way back  
9 before the Europeans even came onto this land.

10 I hope I have not offended anyone.

11 Thank you.

12 (APPLAUSE)

13 MR. NETTI: Our next speaker is Libby Nagel.  
14 She'll be followed by Richard Klein.

15 MS. NAGEL: My name is Libby Nagel. I'm a  
16 lifelong resident of Dorchester County. I am chair of  
17 the Dorchester Citizens for Safe Energy. I represent  
18 over 1,000 residents in this county who are concerned  
19 about this proposed Mid-Atlantic Power Pathway project  
20 of extra high-voltage transmission lines. We are also  
21 part of a coalition of 37 nationwide, statewide, and  
22 local organizations that have concerns about this

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1 project.

2           The following are the alternatives and issues  
3 we believe should be addressed in the Environmental  
4 Impact Statement. DCSE recommends that, as a minimum,  
5 the following alternatives. No action, no MAPP. The  
6 ESI (sic) must determine if this project is needed to  
7 maintain affordable, reliable electric service on the  
8 Delmarva or to facilitate offshore wind energy. The  
9 benefits should be balanced against the negative  
10 effects of MAPP.

11           If there is a genuine need, we would then  
12 recommend that the following less costly and harmless  
13 alternatives should be given first consideration:  
14 Upgrading existing Delmarva transmission facilities to  
15 meet the need; increase Delmarva electrical generating  
16 capabilities; route MAPP around the head of the  
17 Chesapeake Bay to the northern route on existing  
18 transmission right-of-ways; place MAPP entirely  
19 underground if need be.

20           The special economic issues of this matter  
21 are agriculture, irrigations, interference with any  
22 other type forms of irrigation that farmers may have,

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1 aerial chemical applications which is crucial to the  
2 time period of some of the farmers' crops; interference  
3 with radio computer-controlled chemical equipment --  
4 sprayers have computers -- loss of revenue from hunting  
5 leases, and construction of this transmission line  
6 would bring to the top of the ground low productive  
7 soil, which is not going to be able to have anything  
8 planted in it.

9           Also, could this transmission line right-of-  
10 way serve as a conduit for trespassers onto farmers'  
11 land? Who's going to be responsible for them? Who  
12 would carry insurance if somebody got hurt? Who would  
13 protect the farmer? Commercial forestry. The impact  
14 statement needs to address that.

15           In Dorchester County, farming is first in  
16 this county, seafood is second, and agriculture. Those  
17 are the three economic drivers in this county.

18           Electricity rates. Would it drive up the  
19 cost of the electricity on the Delmarva peninsula, or  
20 will Delmarva residents be paying for this plus three  
21 other major transmission lines within the PJM area?

22           Job loss needs to be considered into this

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1 impact statement. Property value loss. If somebody's  
2 house is right next to this line, what is it going to  
3 do to their property? Would they ever be able to save  
4 their home? Some of these people have their life  
5 savings invested in this. They're living the American  
6 dream.

7           The seafood industry, as I stated -- big, big  
8 economic driver in this county. The watermen already  
9 are fighting lots of other state and federal issues.  
10 They need to be considered in this. We're going to put  
11 them out of business. Sea level rise needs to be  
12 addressed in this. Where will this county be in the  
13 year 2,100 with the sea level rise? Will poles still  
14 be standing here?

15           Tourism is also a big economic driver in this  
16 county. We need to consider that.

17           You also need to have in here the impact to  
18 the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, the Chesapeake  
19 Bay, the Choptank River, the Little Choptank, the  
20 Nanticoke. General ecosystem impacts, wetlands,  
21 forests. Delmarva endangered fox squirrels need to be  
22 taken into this consideration.

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1 Cultural heritage assets: Harriet Tubman,  
2 John Smith Park, Handsell, and as you've just heard,  
3 our Native American Indians.

4 The health of the people, the residents of  
5 Dorchester County: The air quality, the  
6 electromagnetic fields from this project, pesticides  
7 and well contamination from spraying the right-of-ways.

8 We ask that you do not rubber stamp this.  
9 Dorchester County has to endure this forever.

10 Thank you.

11 (APPLAUSE)

12 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Richard  
13 Klein. He'll be followed by Beth Ann Lynch.

14 MR. KLEIN: Good evening. My name is Richard  
15 Klein. I'm President of Community Environmental  
16 Defense Services. We were retained by Dorchester  
17 Citizens for Safe Energy about two and a half years ago  
18 to help them resolve their concerns about the project.

19 That was my boss who just spoke. One of the  
20 many issues that Libby didn't have a chance to get to -  
21 - and if she would have gone through all the issues  
22 that were on that list, she would have gone over about

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1 10 people's time. But the one that I'd like to talk  
2 about that Libby didn't get to is the proposal to put  
3 MAPP underneath 16 miles of the Chesapeake Bay and 23  
4 miles of the Choptank River. Let me start off by  
5 saying that is precedent-setting. There is no place on  
6 the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland or Virginia where a  
7 transmission line crosses from one side to the other.  
8 As far as we can tell, the only thing that's beneath  
9 the bay from one side to the other are some telephone  
10 cables. This is a truly precedent-setting proposal  
11 that PHI has made.

12           We're concerned about the immediate impact of  
13 putting the two transmission line cables under the bay.  
14 We're even more concerned about what utilities are  
15 going to follow that route, because we all know, once  
16 this first one is done, that's going to become the  
17 route of choice for all future utilities. But just  
18 this first installation could have some pretty  
19 devastating impacts upon the bay.

20           We're not saying deny. What we are saying is  
21 use this Environmental Impact Statement process to do  
22 what we've been leaning to have done for the last two

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1 and a half years: To convene a panel of leading  
2 Chesapeake Bay scientists to take a hard look of  
3 whether or not you can put a transmission line beneath  
4 the bay and the Choptank without doing excessive harm.  
5 If you can do that, then where is the best place to put  
6 it, and how you should you put it? That's what we're  
7 asking for.

8           The reasons why we are concerned about the  
9 transmission line, this is how it's going to be  
10 constructed along the 39-mile route. First, there's  
11 going to be a grapnel anchor that will be dragged  
12 through the sediments along the entire 39 miles two  
13 times, one for each cable. That grapnel anchor will  
14 dig down at least three feet in the bay sediments to  
15 remove any large objects. That will be followed by the  
16 jet plow that's used to install the transmission cables  
17 to a depth of six feet. There will be a three-foot  
18 trench and then three feet of disturbance on each side  
19 of that trench for the skids for the jet plow. That's  
20 nine feet of disturbance for two cables, 18 feet times  
21 39 miles. That's 85 acres of direct disturbance to the  
22 Chesapeake Bay bottom. The concern is that that won't

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1 be the end of the impact of the transmission cables  
2 upon the Chesapeake Bay.

3           During the installation, sediment will be  
4 resuspended. Habitat, such as for oysters -- which  
5 Gibby Dean can talk about that better than I can --  
6 habitat will be destroyed. There's also a likely  
7 possibility that a lot of pollutants in the Chesapeake  
8 Bay bottom would be released, not just from the initial  
9 disturbance, but the cables will be heating to 158  
10 degrees Fahrenheit. There are some bay scientists who  
11 think that that could start circulation currents within  
12 bay sediments that would release even more cables.

13           The trouble is that the indirect impacts  
14 could be even greater. There was a paper that came out  
15 in 2009 that said that similar cables emit an  
16 electromagnetic field which alters the behavior of some  
17 fish species, not all. But it alters the behavior of  
18 some fish species out to 1,000 feet from the cable.  
19 Then we would go from 85 acres of direct impact to as  
20 much as maybe 9,500 acres of indirect impact on bay  
21 fisheries. No one knows if the indirect impact is  
22 negative or positive, but certainly it's a cause for

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1 concern and something that should be a focus of the  
2 study of the impacts of this.

3           Again, we've been calling for convening an  
4 independent panel of leading bay scientists to take a  
5 hard look at this precedent-setting action. Today we  
6 sent a letter to Governor O'Malley that was signed by  
7 12 organizations, including a number of those that are  
8 represented here this evening, calling upon the  
9 governor to convene this panel of bay scientists so  
10 they can support your efforts to come up with the best  
11 environmental impact analysis possible.

12           I'm not opposed to the MAPP project, because  
13 I don't know enough about the MAPP project to be  
14 opposed to it, to be for or against it. I sincerely  
15 hope that you all will come up with the information  
16 that I and many others need to figure out whether this  
17 is something that is good for us or bad for us or is  
18 aptly held to be constructed.

19           The last thing I'd like to say is, it's not  
20 just concern about fish that we're worried about. The  
21 Cross Sound cable was put across Long Island Sounds  
22 about five years ago. It's an HVDC cable just like

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1 this one is -- a single cable, not two of them. Two  
2 years after that cable was installed six to nine feet  
3 below Long Island Sound, it was exposed, presumably by  
4 wind-driven currents. And I can imagine a storm period  
5 out there on the Chesapeake Bay, one dark and stormy  
6 night when one of Mr. Dean's commercial fishermen's out  
7 there, they're not sure where they're at, they put down  
8 an anchor that's dragged through the soft sediments of  
9 the Choptank or the bay, and God forbid that you snag  
10 some exposed transmission line.

11           So there's a lot more at risk here than just  
12 fish and crabs.

13           Thank you.

14                           (APPLAUSE)

15           MR. NETTI: Our next speaker is Beth Ann  
16 Lynch. She'll be followed Tom Bradshaw.

17           MS. LYNCH: I just have a quick comment. I  
18 have two questions that have occurred. But in reading  
19 some of the information on your website, on the DOE  
20 website, it's stated that the federal loan guarantee  
21 program is for eligibility -- eligible energy projects  
22 that employ innovative technologies. And then it went

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1 on to say that these should avoid, reduce, or sequester  
2 air pollutants.

3           And I'm wondering, the origin of the MAPP is  
4 from coal-fired power plants, which produce air  
5 pollutants. So if we have increased coal-fired power  
6 plants to the west, this will increase the emissions of  
7 greenhouse gases, respiratory irritants, air pollution  
8 and further degrade the airshed over the Chesapeake  
9 Bay.

10           Now, a couple weeks ago, Governor O'Malley  
11 stated that the Chesapeake Bay has about a \$1 trillion  
12 value, and that came out of the University of Maryland.  
13 So I'm wondering if we want to degrade that any more by  
14 increasing the coal-powered plants.

15           Now, I have two questions and I don't know if  
16 you can answer them, but I'd like them on the record:  
17 Can the Army Corps of Engineers issue a permit before  
18 the EIS is completed? And does the Army Corps of  
19 Engineers' permit satisfy the MAPP loan guarantee  
20 requirements?

21           Thank you.

22                           (APPLAUSE)

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1 MR. BOREN: Our next speaker is Tom Bradshaw  
2 and he will be followed by Lin Spicer.

3 MR. BRADSHAW: Good evening. My name is Tom  
4 Bradshaw. I would like to first thank you, Mr. Boren,  
5 and your staff for being here tonight to hear our  
6 concerns. I'd like to thank all the county residents  
7 who take their time to come to these meetings to learn  
8 and voice their opinions.

9 I am a lifelong resident of Dorchester County  
10 and a District V Representative on the County Council.

11 As a member and past president of the Vienna  
12 Heritage Foundation, I am here tonight to talk to you  
13 about the impact MAPP would have on heritage tourism.  
14 We all know manufacturing jobs are at a premium. We  
15 have lost these jobs in Dorchester to other areas in  
16 our country and to countries overseas.

17 One major asset we have here in Dorchester is  
18 the rich natural beauty of the landscape and the  
19 significant cultural and historic resources that go  
20 along with it. County, state, and federal agencies are  
21 working hand-in-hand to preserve our heritage resources  
22 and to use them as promotional tools to create jobs and

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1 promote tourism in our county.

2           Tourism means money - money for food,  
3 lodging, fuel, attractions, and yes, tax revenue to  
4 help our struggling economy. Tourism money funneled  
5 into our small businesses means more jobs. More jobs  
6 means more folks keeping their heads above water,  
7 spending their earnings, creating more revenue all the  
8 way around. Heritage tourism in Dorchester County is  
9 growing through implementation of Heritage Trails and  
10 through initiatives of the Park Service with the  
11 Harriet Tubman National Park and Captain John Smith  
12 National Historic Water Trail.

13           Though some of these initiatives are still  
14 works in progress, people come to visit our county and  
15 to see and experience what has been our history and  
16 heritage for more than 300 years. Our heritage tourism  
17 initiatives focus on the fact that our landscape has  
18 remained virtually undisturbed since the Europeans came  
19 to settle here.

20           Another point of distinction for this  
21 industry is our people who continue to earn their  
22 living by working the land and our waters, very much

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1 the same way their ancestors did. It seems second  
2 nature to us, but to many having grown up in cities or  
3 areas without major waterways, this is amazing. Through  
4 the Harriet Tubman State and National Park and the John  
5 Smith National Water Trail, visitors to our county not  
6 only see but can experience what Tubman and Smith did.  
7 The undisturbed landscape gives our visitors the full  
8 impact of these historically significant events.  
9 Combined, it is estimated that these two attractions  
10 will realize an economic increase to our county of  
11 \$16.3 to \$31.3 million per year.

12           If MAPP is allowed to proceed as planned, it  
13 will impact culturally sensitive areas. The power line  
14 route currently shows it making landfall in Dorchester  
15 County at Goose Creek near the town of Secretary, which  
16 is in the heart of the former Choptank Indian  
17 Reservation. Where it crosses the Nanticoke River at  
18 Vienna is close to the former Nanticoke Indian  
19 Reservation. The massive poles and lines will  
20 devastate the once pristine view for our visitors, not  
21 to mention our own folks.

22           Once this happens, we can never go back. I

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1 believe that this will essentially ruin our chances of  
2 economic recovery in Dorchester County. The tourism  
3 experience will be reduced to nothing more than a  
4 snapshot.

5           There are other alternatives to MAPP, such as  
6 going along the I-95 corridor on existing power lines,  
7 around the head of the bay, going underground, or by  
8 building and even upgrading existing generation  
9 facilities here in America.

10           We are suffering enough with the government  
11 agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency,  
12 the Maryland Department of the Environment, and the  
13 Department of Natural Resources, just to name a few,  
14 regulating our farmers and watermen out of business.  
15 MAPP would have an even greater negative impact on our  
16 already fragile economy.

17           I would like to leave you with this one last  
18 thought: In 2008 the voyage of Captain John Smith was  
19 retraced in a shallop, just as Smith and his crew did  
20 in 1608. Vienna was one of the many stops on their  
21 voyage. Vienna hosted the John Smith 400 event in  
22 celebration of the voyage with roughly 2,500 people in

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1 attendance. It was a delightful event. At a stop  
2 further along in this voyage, the crew held a Q&A much  
3 like they did in Vienna, and the question was asked,  
4 "Of all the places you have been thusfar on this  
5 voyage, what do you think is most like what Smith would  
6 have seen 400 years ago?" They answered, "Vienna and  
7 the Nanticoke River."

8 Thank you.

9 (APPLAUSE)

10 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Lin Spicer.  
11 He'll be followed by Grady Wilson.

12 MR. SPICER: Good evening. My name is Lin  
13 Spicer. My family and I farm in the Church Creek area.  
14 The original route would have brought the MAPP  
15 transmission line directly across our farm. I'm  
16 concerned that if the Choptank route that's proposed  
17 now proves to be damaging to the commercial fishing  
18 industry and the environment, that PHI may try to go  
19 back to the original route. I'm particularly concerned  
20 about how transmission line construction might serve as  
21 a pathway for invasive plants or trespassers onto our  
22 property which interfere with our efforts to keep the

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1 farms profitable.

2 I'd like to see the EIS address that the  
3 transmission line would facilitate the entry of  
4 trespassers onto farms and the spread of invasive  
5 species onto farms.

6 Thank you.

7 (APPLAUSE)

8 MR. NETTI: Next up is Grady Wilson to be  
9 followed by Alan Girard.

10 MR. WILSON: My name is Grady Wilson. My  
11 question is, Dorchester County residents, what are you  
12 going to do to ensure them that the lines will not  
13 impact their health and safety? You can answer that  
14 now or wait until your study comes out, or --

15 Going to wait until it comes out? Okay.

16 Thank you.

17 (APPLAUSE)

18 MR. NETTI: Next up is Alan Girard, and he'll  
19 be followed by Rick Price.

20 MR. GIRARD: Thank you. Alan Girard with the  
21 Chesapeake Bay Foundation. I'm also a resident of  
22 Cambridge, Maryland, here in Dorchester County, 202

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1 Choptank Avenue.

2           As I was thinking about the process that's  
3 before you here, drafting the EIS for this project, I  
4 was reminded about the open bay dumping. About 10  
5 years ago, you know, there was a debate about what to  
6 do with the 18 million cubic yards of dredge spoil  
7 proposed to be dredged out of Baltimore Harbor to keep  
8 shipping lanes open and openly dumped in the Chesapeake  
9 Bay in a deep trough just north of the Chesapeake Bay  
10 Bridge.

11           You know, the Corps of Engineers was the lead  
12 federal agency on drafting the Environmental Impact  
13 Statement for that project, and there was a finding of  
14 no significant impact, despite the fact that the EIS  
15 notes there is a likelihood that 10 percent of the  
16 sedimentation will erode after the dumping occurs in  
17 the deep trough. Now, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
18 commented on the Corps' draft EIS and they criticized  
19 the draft saying, "It was filled with errors,  
20 omissions, inconsistencies, and apparent bias." So  
21 you've got this federal agency charging this federal  
22 agency with, you know, the accusations that I just

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1 read.

2           So meanwhile, the good Governor Glendening in  
3 Maryland and the General Assembly act to ban open bay  
4 dumping on their own and life moves on. Now, you know,  
5 I'm not saying that we're going to get into a situation  
6 like that with this process. I'm hopeful that we  
7 won't. At the same time, the Bay Foundation does still  
8 have concerns.

9           We have concerns whether the impacts will be  
10 adequately evaluated, particularly the cumulative long-  
11 term impacts of the 33 water quality natural resource  
12 and habitat parameters that you'll see in our letter.  
13 We've got concerns about an absence of a thorough  
14 review of alternatives, particularly the no-action  
15 alternative, the alternative to deal with supply issues  
16 from renewable sources, and the head-of-the-bay  
17 alternative. And finally we've got concerns about what  
18 this project -- this federal action says about the  
19 overall bay restoration efforts.

20           You know, every county in Maryland now is  
21 working to reduce its pollution loads to the Chesapeake  
22 Bay. In Anne Arundel County it's estimated that close

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1 to \$2 billion of both public and private investment  
2 will be required to address impacts to just the water  
3 bodies within its jurisdiction. Meanwhile, the state  
4 is calling for no new increase in loads from growth and  
5 development. So you've got all that happening -- you  
6 know, required by the Environmental Protection Agency,  
7 a federal agency, to help clean up the bay, yet we  
8 stand to risk losing to those gains that we plan to  
9 make through the bay cleanup process through this  
10 project.

11           So in this context, any increase is  
12 significant. Whether it's a 10 percent increase or a  
13 one percent increase in pollution, we believe any  
14 increase is significant. I think the people here in  
15 this room don't want that and the bay can't stand that.  
16 So we strongly encourage you to please address these  
17 concerns in a meaningful way.

18           Thank you.

19                           (APPLAUSE)

20           MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Rick Price  
21 and he'll be followed by Bill Malkus.

22           MR. PRICE: Good evening. I want to thank

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1 the Department of Energy for hosting tonight's hearing  
2 here in Cambridge and also to everyone in our county  
3 who came out to attend.

4 My name is Rick Price and I'm a neighbor of  
5 Dorchester County. I live in North Dorchester and I  
6 currently serve on the Dorchester County Council.

7 I want to offer a few points with regard to  
8 the Environmental Impact Statement. First, before  
9 anything happens, that it should be included whether  
10 there is a genuine need for this to accommodate  
11 affordable and reliable electric service in this area.

12 Second, to consider upgrading existing  
13 Delmarva transmission electrical transmission  
14 facilities.

15 Third, increasing Delmarva electric  
16 generating capabilities.

17 Forth, placing greater emphasis on a route  
18 north of here above the Chesapeake Bay on existing  
19 transmission right-of-ways if a need is determined.

20 Fifth, potential effects on emergency  
21 communications that are used by our responders here in  
22 the county.

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1 Sixth, to route the entire MAPP project  
2 underground.

3 And last, but certainly among the most  
4 important, that our two biggest livelihoods have much  
5 at stake with this.

6 Thank you very much.

7 (APPLAUSE)

8 MR. NETTI: Next up is Bill Malkus and he'll  
9 be followed by King Burnett.

10 MR. MALKUS: My name is Bill Malkus and my  
11 family and I farm about 3,200 acres, some of which we  
12 have farmed for over a hundred years.

13 Two items that I want to cover are irrigation  
14 systems and the effect this can have on irrigation  
15 systems. These systems roughly cost somewhere between  
16 \$50,000 and \$100,000, depending on the size of them.  
17 And that seems like a lot of money, but they are  
18 necessary when you have the inputs that we are putting  
19 into these crops to put them in the ground. We can't  
20 afford to lose them to dry weather. The impact that  
21 this system will have is the irrigation systems not  
22 being able to make a full circle, because they'll run

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1 into the poles at some point out in the field. Which  
2 then it makes your system much more expensive. If you  
3 bought a system that made a full circle to cover 200  
4 acres, all of a sudden, you can only make a half of a  
5 circle. The same cost system is twice as high, because  
6 you're only covering a half a system, but you've got  
7 all that ground that you thought you were going to  
8 cover. And they could, you know, maybe route the thing  
9 around the existing systems, but there are new systems  
10 going in all the time. So we need to have the thing  
11 underground if it comes at all.

12           The other thing I want to cover is spraying.  
13 There are, of course, two types of spraying. You can  
14 either spray with a plane or spray with a ground rig.  
15 And a lot of the -- the ground rigs are -- have, like,  
16 90- or 120-foot booms on them. So if you get near one  
17 of these poles, you're -- it's harder to judge your  
18 distance out to the end of that boom when it's 45 or 60  
19 feet away from you. And you -- once you swing over,  
20 you're doubling up on your spray, which adds expense.  
21 Plus, we don't want to do that for environmental  
22 reasons. So that's a concern.

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1           The other one is aerial, which we've -- we  
2 and a lot of farmers use integrated pest management,  
3 which means we have scouts out in the field every week  
4 looking, and they know what bugs we have out there that  
5 we need to control. We don't spray, we don't spray, we  
6 don't spray until all of a sudden they reach what's  
7 known as the economic impact level. At that point,  
8 you've got to do something fast. The only way to do it  
9 is with a plane. The plane has enough problems dipping  
10 and diving. I wouldn't want to be riding with them. I  
11 know that. They, then, will have these wires to deal  
12 with. And they fly using GPS. And I know a lot of our  
13 equipment has GPS, which we receive a signal from a  
14 satellite. And we have had plenty of incidents where  
15 we have gone under these wires and we've lost our  
16 signal and you don't -- then the piece of equipment  
17 doesn't know where it is. Once you get out from under  
18 them, it takes a while to reload and pick that system  
19 up. You can't stop and sit there and wait for it. So  
20 it's just going to be a problem.

21           So we can get rid of a lot of issues. If  
22 it's necessary, put it underground and underwater.

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1 Thank you.

2 (APPLAUSE)

3 MR. NETTI: Next up is King Burnett and he'll  
4 be followed by Barry Johansson.

5 MR. BURNETT: My name is King Barnett and I  
6 live on an historic corner and have for over 40 years  
7 near Mardela Springs just across the river in Wicomico  
8 County.

9 You've already heard a great deal tonight  
10 about the need for this project. It is the heart, I  
11 think, of the EIS or at least a part of it. You say,  
12 well, that's not an environmental issue, the need. But  
13 in order to evaluate alternatives to this project, I  
14 think you have to look at the need and how that could  
15 be met in other ways, if there is a need. We're told  
16 that we need redundancy. We have enough power. We have  
17 enough power for quite awhile.

18 I remember 35 years ago they had the Power  
19 Plant Siting Act and they were going to put a power  
20 plant out in Church Creek, and they said we needed, you  
21 know, to have another plant. It's 35 years later and  
22 we haven't needed one. And, you know, I'm not an

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1 expert in, you know, all these grids and how this power  
2 flows, and none of us are. So I think you had a really  
3 great suggestion tonight from Mayor Brinsfield and from  
4 two county commissioners that we really need some  
5 independent workers -- and I doubt that's your field of  
6 expertise, either, you know -- to look at this, to look  
7 at the alternatives.

8           There's lots of alternatives. Part of the  
9 question is the cost of these alternatives. You could  
10 have another power plant; you could have another line  
11 from the north, you could have another line coming in.  
12 You actually -- you say we need redundancy. Well,  
13 maybe someone else needs the redundancy, and we have  
14 that power from that power plant. There's lots of them  
15 up there. I mean, you know, you can always say you  
16 need redundancy. You know, you're in a vicious circle  
17 here. You know, how do you answer that? The real need  
18 here looks likely, truthfully, manufacturing.

19           Here, we get alternative power now coming in  
20 from offshore. And they say, well, you know, here's  
21 some redundancy. We're getting more -- oh, well,  
22 that'll maybe be too much power; we've got to ship it

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1 out. You know, every argument or every question you  
2 ask, they have something else. We need somebody in  
3 here to answer this, to give you advice.

4           Now, the second thing, and this is what  
5 really got my attention, I guess, to this project, you  
6 know, is this converter station over in Wicomico County  
7 near Mardela Springs. It's, you know, quite a large --  
8 take a look at the size of this. This will be one of  
9 the largest commercial facilities in the whole county,  
10 you know, a huge piece of land, and it's  
11 agriculturally-zoned property. This is not a -- it's  
12 an industrial use in an agricultural area. As a matter  
13 of fact, it's one of the most scenic areas in our  
14 county.

15           The areas they've been talking about over  
16 here in Dorchester County are really pristine and  
17 really nice, you know, really nice, and you've heard  
18 some comments tonight. But, you know, for us and --  
19 you know, it's something that really -- a nice weekend  
20 is to drive through these areas. And I hope you'll do  
21 it here in Dorchester County and also ride over there  
22 to where that converter station is to go and

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1 substation. Part of it's seven stories high, 65 feet.  
2 That's a seven-story building. They say, well, it will  
3 just look like a big barn. I don't know any seven-  
4 story barns. You know, it's really -- you can imagine  
5 building this thing is going to tear up the road  
6 completely, the little rural road going in there. You  
7 know, how deep do you have to put the footings to have  
8 this stand up? It's a very low area right near the  
9 river. It has no other commercial or, you know,  
10 industrial uses there. Just a few scattered houses and  
11 beautiful fields and farms.

12           So what I think -- you know, what is all the  
13 impact of building that? You know, you have a huge  
14 amount of storm water. You have a stormwater pond.  
15 Where's that -- you know, how is all of this going to  
16 work? You can always -- you know, an engineering study  
17 can take care of everything.

18           In real life I'm a lawyer and, you know, I've  
19 seen experts, you know, lots of them. I've hired them.  
20 But this is going to change that whole area forever.  
21 Can you imagine putting up a seven-story building,  
22 300,000, 400,000, 500,000 square feet. Now, how big it

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1 is, nobody really knows yet. You can see these  
2 drawings and they're, you know, not to scale  
3 completely, you know. Well, it's only part of the  
4 building that's seven stories high, and not all of it.  
5 You know, as if that makes a difference. But this is  
6 going to encourage other kinds of uses of that sort.

7           You know, a building like this should go in  
8 an industrial/commercial area. It shouldn't go where  
9 you can get the cheapest land in the lowest, most  
10 environmentally sensitive area in the county.

11           Thank you.

12           (APPLAUSE)

13           MR. NETTI: Next up is Barry Johansson and  
14 he'll be followed by Mike Pretl.

15           MR. JOHANSSON: My name is Barry Johansson. I  
16 live in Wicomico County and I'm the President of the  
17 Wicomico Environmental Trust.

18           In Wicomico County, there's really been very  
19 little discussion about MAPP, and there has been no  
20 discussion since -- that I'm aware of and very little  
21 in the -- if anything at all in the media about the  
22 converter station. Wicomico as a community has not had

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1 an opportunity to learn about the converter stations  
2 and how they may harm our fragile ecosystems. We do  
3 know that all types of pollutants and runoff will be  
4 discharged. We don't know how much. We haven't seen  
5 studies. Again, we want to encourage expert study in  
6 this so that the citizens of our county can look at  
7 what's proposed.

8           King had mentioned there's no stormwater  
9 drainage. Well, it appears to me the stormwater  
10 drainage is going to be the Nanticoke River and Barren  
11 Creek, which are very close to the converter station.  
12 And where does the -- where does this go? This goes  
13 into our bay, which we all know what kind of shape our  
14 bay is in.

15           I think we need an opportunity to study this  
16 issue and we need people who -- with the expertise  
17 really to evaluate every aspect of the project. And  
18 from our county's point of view, certainly we need to  
19 look at what it means to have a converter station in an  
20 area that has been used agriculturally and so close to  
21 the river and the Barren Creek.

22           I hope that everything you've heard tonight

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1 will be taken very seriously, and that things will be  
2 stopped until there's an opportunity to study and there  
3 won't be any more action.

4 Thank you.

5 (APPLAUSE)

6 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Mike Pretl.  
7 He'll be followed by Kirk Rodgers.

8 MR. PRETL: Thank you. I'm Mike Pretl. I  
9 came over with Mr. Burnett and Mr. Johansson from  
10 Wicomico County.

11 I won't repeat everything they've said.  
12 Certainly it is true that there is a process issue that  
13 people in our county have not been given an opportunity  
14 to respond, because we've not had any opportunity to  
15 know about it. We just sort of found out about it from  
16 Mr. Klein, actually; otherwise, we'd probably still be  
17 in the dark about what they want to do in Wicomico  
18 County.

19 We have attempted to set up a meeting with  
20 the company. We were called first. They were coming  
21 to meet with us, and then they recalled. They were too  
22 busy and they couldn't do so. Hopefully, we'll rectify

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1 that and we have some assurances that maybe we can have  
2 a public meeting so that there will be some public  
3 attention, media attention given to it.

4           Let me say, I live in Riverton which is on  
5 the Nanticoke River, a few miles from where the  
6 converter station is to be built. I'm here in several  
7 capacities. One, as a private individual in the  
8 vicinity. And secondly, I'm an attorney and a board  
9 member for at least three of these organizations: the  
10 Wicomico Environmental Trust, as Mr. Johansson is, and  
11 the Friends of the Nanticoke River, and also the Lower  
12 Shore Land Trust which owns some land under easement in  
13 that area. And all three of them -- well, I had  
14 entered my appearance in the Public Service Commission  
15 proceeding and hope to participate, all on behalf of  
16 some or all of those organizations.

17           We do come late to the dialogue because we  
18 haven't been filled in. It apparently wasn't until  
19 November that the final layout or the final direction  
20 of this thing was determined.

21           We have basically, as you've heard, three  
22 major concerns or objections. One is need, and I'm not

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1 going to go into any great detail. I probably will  
2 submit written remarks after this, but let me just  
3 summarize. First is need. Second is the lines across  
4 the river, elevated lines. And third is the gateway  
5 converter station.

6 First, with respect to the need for  
7 additional capacity, as Mr. Burnett pointed out, they  
8 are conceding that this is an issue of redundancy. We  
9 don't need the power now. And this is sort of a safety  
10 net, which is fine. We all like to have safety nets,  
11 but when you spend a billion dollars for something that  
12 you don't need just because -- just because your car  
13 may fail someday, you don't go and buy another car just  
14 to have it sit in your garage until it becomes  
15 necessary.

16 At the same time, we have both a national and  
17 a -- no one has mentioned this before. We have both a  
18 national policy and a state energy policy which favors  
19 reducing our dependency on coal and reducing our  
20 dependency on electrical energy. This sends the wrong  
21 message to our citizens here. We're telling them to  
22 cut back on their use of energy, especially dirty

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1 energy. At the same time, we're building additional  
2 transmission so we can bring more and more energy in.

3           Also, our organization, Wicomico  
4 Environmental Trust is concerned -- our chief focus has  
5 been through the years on growth and what we call  
6 sprawl, residential growth in the agricultural areas of  
7 the county. And we're concerned that this merely is  
8 going to aggravate and encourage additional sprawl. It  
9 makes people feel that growth is coming and we're going  
10 to have lots and lots of power so we can build where we  
11 want.

12           Other people will provide experts, hopefully,  
13 independent experts on the energy growth in the area,  
14 and I'll mention in a minute my own experience with  
15 that.

16           Secondly, I want to talk about this second  
17 issue which is the overhead lines. And we did meet  
18 with the PHI people here in Cambridge a month or so  
19 ago, and they gave us the whole spiel about their 46-  
20 or 43-mile continuous line across the bay and up the  
21 river, and what have you, underwater. And then they  
22 told us they can't put the line under the Nanticoke

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1 River underwater. That has to be overhead, which  
2 doesn't seem to me to make a whole lot of sense. They  
3 have all this fantastic engineering that they're  
4 boasting about that they could put 46 miles underwater,  
5 but they can't put 1,000 yards or whatever it is  
6 underwater, because it's too deep or it's too short to  
7 do so. Well, frankly, I mean, if there's a will,  
8 there's a way. And if they're willing to spend the  
9 money, I'm sure that engineers could come up with ways  
10 that they could bury that line.

11 As Mayor Brinsfield and others pointed out,  
12 the view from the Vienna Bridge looking north is  
13 probably the most scenic view in this part of the state  
14 and it would be spoiled by having overhead lines on  
15 that side of the bridge, spoiling that vista.

16 Thirdly, the converter station. Frankly,  
17 this is -- if it's needed at all, this is the wrong  
18 location. I was given a copy of the option sheet,  
19 apparently, that the company provided. The first  
20 option was put it in Vienna. Frankly, I don't want to  
21 pick on my friends in Dorchester County and Mayor  
22 Brinsfield, but it doesn't make any sense at all to

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1 move it across the river to a pristine area that's  
2 completely undeveloped, as King pointed out, an  
3 agricultural area, when you have a space here that is  
4 developed for a power plant, of all things. And the  
5 power plant that's not in current use or not in much  
6 use, that was the first choice. We were told that was  
7 the first choice for where they wanted to site the  
8 converter station. But because Entergy wouldn't sell  
9 to them, at least at the time because there was some  
10 political opposition, they decided to bump it on our  
11 side of the river in a place where it clearly doesn't  
12 belong.

13           As Mr. Burnett pointed out, this is going to  
14 be taller than virtually any building in the county.  
15 When we met with PHI people, they told us, "Well, we  
16 sent a balloon 65 feet in the air, and guess what? You  
17 couldn't see it from the road." So that convinced them  
18 that this will not be visible from the road. And  
19 frankly, if any of you feel that you're not going to be  
20 able to see a 65-foot building from Route 50, then I'm  
21 going to sell you a bridge or two, because it's a  
22 disbelief.

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1           Anyway, on a personal note -- and this is  
2 sort of in the nature of True Confessions, and I'll  
3 finish. I've been a lawyer for more than 40 years. The  
4 first 10 years of my life I was with a major law firm  
5 in Baltimore and I represented public utilities,  
6 electric companies, before the Public Service  
7 Commission. I represented Potomac Edison Company of  
8 Western Maryland, and I handled rate cases for that. I  
9 wrote testimony. I handled a half-dozen major cases  
10 with the PSE. And at that time we represented dirty  
11 energy. Nobody called it dirty energy at the time. We  
12 boasted about building generating plants right in the  
13 middle of the coal field, where we could sell energy  
14 cheap.

15           At that time, the big thing -- you haven't  
16 heard this for some time -- was all-electric houses.  
17 That was going to be the wave of the future, that  
18 everybody was going to have all electric. Get rid of  
19 your furnace, because you're not going to need it  
20 anymore. We're going to have all electricity. And,  
21 frankly, we dealt with PJM and we dealt with the PJM  
22 projections.

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1           And I challenge anyone in this room to go  
2 back and look at what they were projecting 25 or 30 or  
3 35 years ago when I was handling those cases, what they  
4 were saying the energy needs were going to be today in  
5 2010 or 2012, and you'll find that they were projecting  
6 all sorts of things that never came true.

7           So, you know, I can't say they're being  
8 dishonest, but they're certainly biased in favor of the  
9 use of electricity. That is the be-all and end-all. I  
10 think that we need at least to exercise healthy  
11 skepticism in reviewing the PJM projections.

12           As some of you know, the transmission lines  
13 which were going to be built in Western Maryland, that  
14 application has now been withdrawn by Potomac Edison  
15 Company, because they found the PJM projections didn't  
16 meet their needs and that there wasn't going to, in  
17 fact, be a need for that line. I don't know whether a  
18 similar retrenchment will be made with respect to MAPP  
19 before too long. I think that, again, we need to take  
20 a hard look at it and we should force them to show  
21 that, in fact, there will be a need.

22           Thank you very much.

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1 (APPLAUSE)

2 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Kirk Rodgers  
3 and he'll be followed by Roger Lash.

4 MR. RODGERS: I'm a retired environmentalist.  
5 I'm also the third-generation manager of my family's  
6 timberlands and forest lands here on the Eastern Shore,  
7 which are concentrated here in Dorchester County. I'm  
8 also a member of the recently created Sustainable  
9 Forestry Council which reports to Governor O'Malley.

10 I'd like to briefly outline what I think are  
11 some of the probable impacts of the MAPP project on the  
12 forests of Dorchester County. And for the sake of  
13 time, I'm only going to mention four.

14 First is permanent loss of up to 400 acres of  
15 forest land, depending on the final route selected. In  
16 talking to some of the colleagues here, it seems that  
17 the current route is close to 300, a large portion of  
18 which are forested wetlands.

19 Second item, fragmentation of forest land  
20 holdings creating economically unprofitable and  
21 environmentally undesirable parcels.

22 Third item -- and this references my friend

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1 Lin Spicer's comment -- the lines will create pathways  
2 for the spread of invasive species. I would  
3 particularly note Phragmites, which we're all familiar  
4 with here in this county.

5 Finally, and perhaps most importantly,  
6 negative impacts on the water quality of the Chesapeake  
7 Bay due to the loss of ecosystem services provided by  
8 forests.

9 Let me elaborate just briefly on these  
10 points. The Sustainable Forestry Act, which is Senate  
11 Bill 549, was approved by the Maryland General Assembly  
12 in 2009. It states in its preamble that one of its  
13 fundamental purposes is to, "Promote forest land  
14 retention within the bay watershed." It further states  
15 that retaining and expanding forests is critical to the  
16 success of restoring the bay, because forests are the  
17 most beneficial land use for protecting water quality  
18 due to their ability to capture, filter, and retain  
19 water, as well as to absorb pollutants from the air.

20 Maryland is losing forests at the rate of  
21 6,000 acres per year. Further losses occasioned by  
22 transmission line right-of-ways are clearly an issue of

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1 state concern. This matter was specifically discussed  
2 in a recent meeting of the Sustainable Forestry Council  
3 attended by Sandi Patty, whom many of you know,  
4 representing DNR.

5           It was pointed out that other utilities are  
6 explicitly not exempted from the provisions of the  
7 Sustainable Forestry Act. It was noted in the  
8 discussion that scrub and grass vegetation, which is  
9 what is the right-of-way after you clear the forest,  
10 has much less value in terms of the ecologic services  
11 provided and the benefits to the bay that I mentioned.

12           Transmission line rights-of-way often  
13 fragment large forest stands. The original routes  
14 would have come through the most productive area of  
15 forests in one of our tracts here in Dorchester County  
16 that totals about 1,700 acres, creating some uneconomic  
17 parcels that would be cut off from the main body of the  
18 forest. Such small parcels are particularly vulnerable  
19 to development, may constitute, as well in the process,  
20 environmentally undesirable suburban sprawl. They are  
21 bite-sized pieces, making them particularly vulnerable.

22           Forest fragmentation is already very advanced

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1 in Maryland and constitutes one of the major obstacles  
2 to sound forest management. The average size of  
3 private forest landowners in the state is currently  
4 less than 17 acres. Anything which contributes to  
5 further fragmentation is both economically and  
6 environmentally undesirable.

7           In the case -- as in the case of agriculture,  
8 transmission line rights-of-way facilitate the spread  
9 of invasive species, as I mentioned, notably  
10 Phragmites, which can invade adjacent forests. It  
11 competes with and often destroys native plant species,  
12 especially in forests and wetlands and has the  
13 potential to degrade forests by denying light to tree  
14 seedlings. Phragmites, as we know, is already a major  
15 problem in the county and anything that aggravates that  
16 problem is clearly environmentally negative.

17           Finally, because forests do not enjoy the  
18 same legal protection as wetlands, so far as  
19 environmental impact is concerned, they are frequently  
20 the easy targets for transmission lines. Forest land  
21 may be relatively cheap and may be acquired more  
22 easily, but its potential loss or degradation deserves

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1 careful consideration in any future environmental  
2 impact analysis of the MAPP project.

3 Thank you.

4 (APPLAUSE)

5 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Roger Lash  
6 and he'll be followed by Gibby Dean.

7 MR. LASH: Good evening. My name is Roger  
8 Lash, and I'm a property owner in Ocean City, Maryland.  
9 But that's not the real reason why I'm here; that's the  
10 selfish reason why I'm here.

11 I'm the business manager for the  
12 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local  
13 Unit No. 24 which represents all the unionized workers  
14 on the Eastern Shore. We're the invisible entity that  
15 you never see. When the electricians are working,  
16 you're not usually on our jobs. You don't see what we  
17 do, but we have our faces here tonight.

18 And if they could, please stand and be  
19 recognized, the members of IBEW Local 24.

20 As a property owner on the Eastern Shore, I  
21 can't believe I'm the first one speaking on behalf of  
22 the MAPP tonight. I see an increased demand. When the

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1 economy was booming, Ocean City rebuilt itself. And  
2 counties west of Ocean City are building and building  
3 and building, and we've seen it. And you know what?  
4 Nobody likes building. No one does. If you own  
5 property here, you don't like to be impacted. No one  
6 likes increased continuing demand, but we know that the  
7 building continues, and it's going to continue whether  
8 we like it or not. We're going to need to provide  
9 electricity to it efficiently. So there's going to be  
10 an increased continuing demand here whether we like it  
11 or not.

12           Our infrastructure is in terrible shape  
13 nationwide, not just here on the shore. So we are  
14 going to need to do this. By the end of 2014, three  
15 units at Indian River are coming down. Did everybody  
16 know that? So we'll be relying on energy from other  
17 areas, mostly from the north.

18           As you bring in dirty energy through this new  
19 line coming in across the bay -- dirty energy, dirty  
20 coal energy -- we're going to be exporting clean wind  
21 energy as the wind farms go out along our coast. Do we  
22 think about that? We are generating clean wind energy

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1 and transporting it west.

2 MAPP will protect against wide-scale  
3 electricity outages such as the blackout that occurred  
4 on Delmarva Peninsula in 1999. MAPP will complete a  
5 transmission loop on the Delmarva Peninsula eliminating  
6 the one-way, north-to-south-flow existing systems to  
7 protect against blackouts and brownouts. If you're  
8 looking for a blackout or a brownout, you won't be  
9 expecting that.

10 When the economy recovers, are we going to  
11 remain in a depression forever? No. When the economy  
12 recovers, what's going to happen? That development's  
13 going to come back. People are going to spend their  
14 money.

15 This is a beautiful place, one of the most  
16 beautiful places in this country. Everybody wants to  
17 come here, especially me and our retiring community.  
18 They're going to want to come here and settle here. So  
19 what's going to happen? We have a need for increased  
20 power.

21 Finally, and probably the main reason why I'm  
22 here, those faces that you saw over there wearing those

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1 black hats, MAPP will inject millions of dollars into  
2 the local economy and create jobs during construction.

3           Five months ago I was the director of the  
4 Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Program with over  
5 500 apprenticeship programs across our state. I saw  
6 the impact of what a depression does to us. My  
7 apprenticeship program has decreased by 1,000 people  
8 out of 10,000 in the state in a two-year depression.  
9 When this comes back, it's going to go north on us. We  
10 are probably going to gain between 300 and 500 new  
11 apprentices in all of our crafts. Where will they  
12 work? We're going to need to supply these people with  
13 places to work. The buildings and the structures are  
14 worth \$1.5 billion to our economy, and our children  
15 will be installing this. My apprentices will be  
16 installing this. We'll be able to hire new apprentices  
17 from this area to work on these projects. It will help  
18 them develop their careers, and that's our economic  
19 impact and that is big for this area.

20           Finally, information. Everybody's looking  
21 for information. We're building the building next door  
22 here. We know about putting in electricity. That's

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1 what we do. We are building a building right here, and  
2 why? Because we need it, because this building is  
3 aging. We need it just as our electrical systems are  
4 aging.

5 Let's proactively act now and not wait for a  
6 problem. And by the way, think about this: When you  
7 go home tonight and you open your kitchen door as you  
8 use your car keys, and you reach over and you turn that  
9 light switch on and the light comes on, it's automatic  
10 for all of us, right? What happens when that light  
11 doesn't come on?

12 Thank you very much.

13 (APPLAUSE)

14 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Gibby Dean  
15 and he'll be followed by Fred Pomeroy.

16 MR. DEAN: Good evening. My name is Gibby  
17 Dean. I'm president of Chesapeake Bay Commercial  
18 Fishermen's Association.

19 I hate to turn my back to the people, because  
20 I have a couple of questions I want to ask of them,  
21 something to think about.

22 First of all, where do we draw the line? Or

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1 better yet, are we even in a position to draw a line?  
2 The power is no longer with the people any longer. And  
3 I don't want to make this into a political rally by any  
4 means, but the power's in the government, both on the  
5 state and federal level and, on a lesser degree, the  
6 counties. It's not supposed to be that way. Whatever  
7 happened to government for the people and by the  
8 people?

9 (APPLAUSE)

10 If this MAPP project is to go forward, it should be  
11 your decision. It shouldn't be -- and no disrespect --  
12 a panel of people, whether on the state or federal  
13 level, that probably have never sailed down the  
14 Chesapeake Bay or certainly haven't been up the shores  
15 of the Choptank River and certainly haven't seen the  
16 pristine rural communities of not only Dorchester but  
17 Talbot County as well. It's just not supposed to be  
18 that way, people, and it's your fault and it's mine  
19 that we've allowed it to get to this degree. And now  
20 we've got this MAPP project. If the people don't want  
21 it, it shouldn't happen, period.

22 And let's not forget our Maryland State Seal.

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1 For those of you not familiar with it, there's a  
2 picture of a waterman on there and a picture of a  
3 farmer. Not one but both of these industries could  
4 possibly be negatively impacted by this MAPP project.

5 I want to narrow my comments down to the  
6 commercial fishing side. I don't have to tell you, our  
7 watermen's way of life has been continually threatened  
8 by regulations, been threatened by pollution issues,  
9 been threatened by natural causes. We've had major  
10 storms or diseases that affected our oyster industry  
11 such as Dermo and MSX. And I can go on and on and on,  
12 but now we're facing this MAPP project.

13 I won't be repetitive and go over about 39  
14 miles of high-voltage underwater transmission lines.  
15 That's farther than from here to Salisbury. It affects  
16 85 acres and potentially affecting 8,500 to 9,500  
17 acres. Now, you farmers know much better than I how  
18 big 8,500 or 9,500 acres is, but I know enough to know  
19 that it's a hell of a lot.

20 And also what we do know is that these  
21 transmission lines emit electromagnetic fields. They  
22 call them EMS. Now -- and I'm going by their

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1 literature now. These electromagnetic fields have  
2 known effects on native species such as eels, catfish,  
3 turtles, and possibly blue crabs. They go on to  
4 explain that it could have a small effect on such  
5 migratory species from the seabed up to three feet such  
6 as striped bass.

7           Now, did I say blue crabs and striped bass?  
8 Listen, that's the top two species harvested, not only  
9 commercially but recreationally in this entire state.

10           I'm skipping a lot of this, because it's  
11 already -- Richard, you did a great job of expressing  
12 our concerns.

13           Our association on two different occasions  
14 has not only discussed but voted to oppose this MAPP  
15 project. But we didn't do this, because -- there was  
16 no debate on whether or not it was necessary or not. We  
17 don't know. We have to go by what they tell us. Our  
18 vote of opposition was based on, number one, the route  
19 proposed, being the Chesapeake Bay/the Choptank River,  
20 and the unknown effects that it may have on our marine  
21 life; therefore, not only the commercial but the  
22 recreational interests.

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1           In closing, I'd just like to say, first of  
2 all, if it is found to be necessary, simple: Find  
3 another route, or just build another power plant east  
4 of here or north of here where those other two lines  
5 may be causing the power surge. But do not mess -- and  
6 I repeat -- do not mess with the one thing that sets  
7 Maryland apart from all other states in this country  
8 and defines our way of life, and that's the Chesapeake  
9 Bay and its tributaries. We respect it, we cherish it,  
10 and we ask that you do the same by not running these  
11 transmission lines across the bay and up the Choptank  
12 River.

13           Thank you.

14                           (APPLAUSE)

15           MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Fred Pomeroy  
16 and he'll be followed by Ted Cordrey.

17           MR. POMEROY: I'm Fred Pomeroy. I'm a  
18 lifelong resident of Dorchester County. I've been a  
19 waterman, a small farmer, and a school teacher. And  
20 I'd just like to start off by saying I'm honored to be  
21 here tonight with so many great representatives of my  
22 county.

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1 I think Dorchester County is, without a  
2 doubt, one of the most environmentally sensitive  
3 counties in the United States. I'm currently serving  
4 as President of Dorchester Citizens for Planned Growth,  
5 which is a nonpartisan, nonprofit citizens group.  
6 We're a 501(c)(3), and our mission is to protect and  
7 preserve and enhance the quality of life for residents  
8 of Dorchester County.

9 In saying that, I need to make clear that the  
10 people we're most concerned about are the people that  
11 we've heard from tonight, the people in the traditional  
12 occupations like fishing, like farming, like forestry.

13 One of our focuses as a citizens group is how  
14 can we promote sustainable development, development  
15 that's good over the long haul? And with all due  
16 respect to the union gentleman, a project like this  
17 would create some jobs and make some people some money,  
18 but I think it's not sustainable development.

19 Things like the cultural tourism, the  
20 ecotourism, the traditional occupations are  
21 sustainable. So I think if you weigh those out, then  
22 this project makes no sense for the Eastern Shore of

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1 Maryland. I think people have the common sense to  
2 realize that.

3 I'm just going to close with a personal  
4 anecdote that Mr. Burnett made me think of when we were  
5 talking. I've had a lifelong love affair with  
6 Chesapeake Bay. And back in the '70s, I was fishing  
7 crab pods on the western shore right by the Calvert  
8 Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, and I saw the impact that  
9 had on the shoreline, and I saw that that created a  
10 domino effect, because industrial installations always  
11 do. And it wasn't long before we had the LNG plant  
12 five miles below Calvert Cliffs. Now, you've got there  
13 a situation where you've got a potentially explosive  
14 LNG terminal within the range of a nuclear power plant.  
15 Well, I vowed that I would do whatever I could as a  
16 citizen to prevent an installation like that from  
17 coming to my home county. So when they proposed to  
18 build a nuclear power plant, as Mr. Burnett has  
19 actively told you, at Church Creek, I helped lead the  
20 opposition here about 35 years ago.

21 And what strikes more than anything else is  
22 the rhetoric from the promoters of the project. The

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1 rhetoric is: This is inevitable. We have to have  
2 this. There's a great need. They said that 35 years  
3 ago, that there was a great need for more electricity  
4 generation. Well, I had sense enough to know that we  
5 didn't need a 500-megawatt nuclear power plant for  
6 Dorchester County.

7           In the years since, there's been, I think,  
8 one brownout for about 10 hours. We were told 35 years  
9 ago if we didn't allow this power plant to be built,  
10 our electricity would go away. The light switch  
11 wouldn't come on. Well, the light switch has been  
12 coming on for the last 35 years. And I'll assert it  
13 will continue to come on, because people make money  
14 providing electricity and they will find a way to  
15 provide electricity to their customers. It is not a  
16 reason to ruin Dorchester County.

17           Thank you.

18                           (APPLAUSE)

19           MR. NETTI: Next speaker is Ted Cordrey and  
20 he'll be followed by Amy Owsley.

21           MR. CORDREY: Good evening. My name is Ted  
22 Cordrey. I have a small business. I work with the

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1 agricultural community. We operate out of Delaware in  
2 Sussex County and Wicomico County and mainly in  
3 Dorchester County.

4 Most of my customers are here tonight, the  
5 working farmers. I've been working with them for a  
6 long time. Mr. Malkus was up here.

7 There's several things that would affect me  
8 in my relationship with them if the original proposed  
9 drainage lines were going across. Most of the farms  
10 that we check are along this line.

11 One of the things he brought up was the  
12 irrigation pivots, if they couldn't go around. One of  
13 the things he didn't mention, from a scouting  
14 standpoint, normally irrigated crops don't have the  
15 insect pressure and problems that dry land does. So  
16 that would affect many of the farmers that have  
17 irrigation.

18 Also, from my standpoint, the gentleman from  
19 Dorchester County, the resident, I'm working -- if the  
20 transmission lines were there, my employees and myself,  
21 I'd like to have information as well as how the health  
22 effects -- how it could affect my health and my

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1 employees. I don't know how much research has been  
2 done on that, but that's something I would want to  
3 know, because I'd be working around these lines a  
4 significant amount of time.

5 That's pretty much all I have. Thank you.

6 (APPLAUSE)

7 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Amy Owsley  
8 and she'll be followed by Carolyn Hallowell.

9 MS. OWSLEY: Good evening. I'm Amy Owsley.  
10 I'm the Deputy Director of Eastern Shore Land  
11 Conservancy, and we have an office here in Cambridge.

12 Eastern Shore Land Conservancy has worked for  
13 over 20 years to protect this important landscape of  
14 the Eastern Shore, and great leadership has been  
15 realized. In fact, here in Dorchester County, nearly  
16 30 percent of the rural landscape is protected forever  
17 through parks and conservation easements. However, all  
18 of this work together is under threat by the MAPP  
19 proposal. These 150-foot high towers in this right-of-  
20 way of 200 feet would permanently alter hundreds of  
21 acres that have been the same for hundreds of years.

22 Today Eastern Shore Land Conservancy offers

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1 the following concerns about MAPP: First, MAPP leaves  
2 unanswered the critical question of whether this  
3 transmission line is even needed. Further, it gives  
4 little credence to the alternatives, alternatives that  
5 you've heard about tonight such as a northern bay  
6 option, the underground river line, local generation  
7 and efforts to increase efficiency in the region. MAPP  
8 will impact unnecessarily the sensitive environment of  
9 Dorchester County, including the first-of-its-kind  
10 crossing within the bay, a line in the Choptank, and  
11 proposes a massive converter station on the Nanticoke  
12 River, which is one of our most pristine rivers. And I  
13 believe I've heard that this project will be one of the  
14 -- will cause one of the biggest wetland impacts in  
15 Maryland's history.

16 MAPP will endanger historic and cultural  
17 richness of the sacred landscape which holds the spirit  
18 of Harriet Tubman and our Native Americans. MAPP  
19 disregards the huge public outcry from Dorchester  
20 County, from the County Council and hundreds and  
21 hundreds of citizens. It threatens millions of dollars  
22 in conservation investment and also the millions of

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1 dollars that will come from our tourism, from our  
2 farmers, and from our watermen. Even though it will  
3 cost us millions, it will also cost us billions just in  
4 the project cost alone, and it's really not certain  
5 who's going to foot that bill. But we do know that  
6 Pepco will receive a rate of return of 12 percent. So  
7 the comment about independent study is a really  
8 important one.

9 MAPP will also ignore the impact of a two- to  
10 four-foot sea level increase that was predicted for  
11 this region. In fact, Dorchester County is one of the  
12 hardest hit counties with regard to sea level rise.

13 Finally, MAPP will entail a huge investment  
14 in an old-fashioned technology. The world has changed  
15 since MAPP was born or the proposal was born. How we  
16 collectively use energy and our sources of energy have  
17 changed and evolved rapidly. And MAPP, with its  
18 enormous costs to our environment, culture, and  
19 wallets, uses only old answers for new energy  
20 questions.

21 So today I thank you. I thank you for your  
22 time tonight and ask you for your careful consideration

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1 of: 1.) the need; and 2.) the alternatives to this  
2 massive project.

3 Thank you.

4 (APPLAUSE)

5 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Carolyn  
6 Hallowell and she'll be followed by Dan Ervin.

7 MS. HALLOWELL: I want to thank the  
8 presenters here for giving the opportunity to speak to  
9 we, the people, about this project.

10 I'd like to say to the folks representing the  
11 union across the room, we will and we do think of you  
12 when we click on the electric switch, because providing  
13 electricity is your livelihood. But to the folks  
14 living in and around Dorchester County, farming and  
15 working on the water is our livelihood. So we'll think  
16 of you when we click on that electric switch. Please  
17 think of us when you sit down and eat seafood and  
18 tomatoes.

19 I was pretty upset coming here this evening,  
20 because I got on this wagon a little late in the event.  
21 And I was upset knowing that the pathway for this high-  
22 power line is going very close to my family's farm.

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1 And it's a farm where seven generations of my family  
2 have either worked or lived.

3           After coming here tonight and looking at this  
4 map, I'm even more upset, because I see that a  
5 converter station is going to be in eyeshot of my  
6 kitchen door, maybe just a few hundred feet from my  
7 kitchen door. This power line, from what I've  
8 gathered, is not really providing electricity to the  
9 residents of Dorchester County, but it most certainly  
10 impacts all of us in Dorchester County.

11           Some folks may not know that Dorchester  
12 County has a nickname of being "The Heart of the  
13 Eastern Shore," not just because of its shape but  
14 because of the people and its natural resources. It  
15 truly is the heart of the eastern shore.

16           Our property values definitely are going to  
17 decrease, especially those within eyeshot of these  
18 power lines that are affected by the power lines. And  
19 I'm also concerned, as many folks are, about the  
20 chemical use that they're probably going to be using to  
21 keep these wide pathways clear. I'm talking trees and  
22 stuff, not just dandelions that we try to get rid of in

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1 our backyard. So it's going to be some pretty hefty  
2 stuff, I would think, to keep these pathways around  
3 these high-power lines clear.

4           Many folks have spoken before me about the  
5 concerns about the bay and runoff and all of that. I,  
6 too, am very concerned about the health concerns, which  
7 we have not heard a whole lot about. I have read on  
8 the EPA site on the Internet that there really are no  
9 federal regulations about how much exposure to these  
10 high energy fields is safe. There's no regulations,  
11 period. That kind of makes you wonder why. There's  
12 regulations for everything else. I know farmers are  
13 regulated from one end to the other, what they can  
14 apply to their fields and what may run off. So it makes  
15 you wonder who certain agencies may be looking out for.

16           Certainly, we don't predict to make the money  
17 that the power companies do; we're just little people.  
18 The EPA's recommendation on their site -- because there  
19 are no federal regulations or standards -- is to stay  
20 as far away from these lines as possible and to limit  
21 the amount of time that you're in the area around these  
22 lines.

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1 Well, in my case, I'm living practically on  
2 it. I will practically be living on this. So how can  
3 I limit my time and exposure to that? So, yes, I am  
4 concerned about the health effects. Some studies have  
5 shown exposure to these high-power lines may be linked  
6 to leukemia and brain cancers. Some studies don't show  
7 it. We know it depends on what you're looking at. You  
8 find what you see, and some studies may not want to  
9 look and find those statistics.

10 Considering that the Eastern Shore -- that  
11 Dorchester County is the heart of the Eastern Shore, I  
12 just hope that you folks will seriously consider what  
13 all of these people here tonight have said and  
14 presented to you. And please let's not put this line  
15 through the heart of the Eastern Shore.

16 Thank you.

17 (APPLAUSE)

18 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Dan Ervin and  
19 he'll be followed by Jenny Budge.

20 MR. ERVIN: I am Dan Ervin. I am the  
21 Director of ShoreENERGY, the energy, economic, and  
22 sustainability program at Salisbury University.

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1           In August of 2006 the Department of Energy  
2 released the National Electric Transmission Congestion  
3 Study which identified the Delmarva Peninsula as a load  
4 pocket needing new transmission generation and demand  
5 management investments. These investments would lower  
6 consumer costs and increase reliability by relieving  
7 congested transmission lines. This study cites the  
8 2004 Electric Power Annual Report by the Energy  
9 Information Administration. It states, and I quote,  
10 "The Delmarva Peninsula has long been a load pocket  
11 with significantly higher power prices and lower  
12 reliability than the adjoining areas." This is a  
13 direct economic impact on the poultry industry, for  
14 example, and along with that, the grain industry or the  
15 farmers who support the poultry industry.

16           Right now, approximately \$100 million in  
17 congestion costs is borne by the Delmarva Peninsula. I  
18 don't think that the corn farmers can take very much  
19 more increase in electricity costs nor can the poultry  
20 farmers.

21           The Mid-Atlantic Power Pathway project  
22 qualifies a solution to these problems on the

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1 peninsula. This is not just my opinion. The DOE  
2 congestion study mentions the MAPP project as an  
3 investment that would bring in new capacity and energy.

4           In addition to bringing in new capacity, the  
5 project will assist the distribution of potential  
6 offshore wind energy. This is important to Maryland,  
7 because they have developed renewable portfolio  
8 standards which electric utilities must meet. The  
9 current standard is 20 percent of the state's  
10 electricity is to come from renewable resources, mainly  
11 wind and solar, by 2022.

12           In addition, the governor has proposed that  
13 electric utilities sign 25-year contracts with offshore  
14 wind developers to facilitate demands in these  
15 projects. A recent Abell Foundation report suggests  
16 that two-thirds of the state's electricity needs can be  
17 met with offshore wind turbines. In order to fully  
18 realize the potential of offshore wind, the  
19 transmission system on the peninsula must be expanded  
20 and upgraded.

21           The MAPP project consists of moving this  
22 electricity to other parts of the state and region,

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1 thereby making offshore wind energy more likely and  
2 useful.

3           Also, the major electricity generating  
4 facility on the peninsula is closing three of its four  
5 units in response to environmental regulations. Indian  
6 River Units 1, 2 and 3 are closing. These units have a  
7 nameplate capacity of 341 megawatts, a significant  
8 reduction in regional generation. Without new baseload  
9 capacity to replace this loss or additional  
10 transmission capabilities, regional reliability may be  
11 negatively affected.

12           I believe that demand-side management and  
13 energy efficiency programs can help keep the  
14 peninsula's lights on. However, I think that these are  
15 partial solutions, and the region will need more  
16 generation and transmission investments to meet present  
17 and future electricity needs.

18           A federal loan guarantee will decrease the  
19 financing costs of the MAPP project by eliminating  
20 default risks. This will result in substantial  
21 savings, and without any likely cost to taxpayers.  
22 These savings will have a dampening effect on any rate

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1 increases associated with MAPP. This arrangement  
2 benefits the consumers and PJM with no likely cost to  
3 taxpayers.

4 Thank you for your time and interest in this  
5 issue.

6 (APPLAUSE)

7 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Jenny Budge.  
8 She'll be followed by Jeff Chormon.

9 MS. BUDGE: Hello. I am Jenny Budge and I  
10 have a home on the Nanticoke River, upstream from the  
11 bridge at Vienna in Wicomico County.

12 Thank you for holding this hearing.

13 I have three primary concerns about the  
14 proposal. First, most visitors and residents are  
15 attracted to the Eastern Shore of Maryland for its  
16 natural beauty and rural character. This is the  
17 Eastern Shore's asset.

18 A picture in this photography book about the  
19 Nanticoke River typifies the qualities and the  
20 character of the area. Let me show it to you.

21 (Indicating.) A beautiful barn by the winding river  
22 with mist floating in. It was a good enough scene to

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1 warrant a double spread in a photography book.

2           Now, picture the same shot with six 195-foot  
3 towers in it. That is what we will get if this current  
4 proposal by PHI goes through. This picture is right  
5 where the towers will be crossing the Nanticoke.

6           Over the years the Nanticoke Rivershed has  
7 been the subject of a concerted conservation effort by  
8 The Nature Conservancy, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation,  
9 the Friends of the Nanticoke and other organizations.  
10 It is also part of the National Captain John Smith  
11 Water Trail. Why would we compromise one of the  
12 shore's greatest assets?

13           I sincerely hope this project does not  
14 proceed, but if it does, we certainly should get the  
15 lines underground or underwater. Doing so could not be  
16 significantly worse for the river than installing six  
17 towers.

18           Secondly, the 17-acre gateway converter  
19 station is proposed for a rural section of Wicomico  
20 County where there is currently no commercial or  
21 industrial use. Why would an industrial facility the  
22 size of a Walmart or larger be put in a location that

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1 is not zoned for it? Why isn't this being placed more  
2 appropriately in an area that is designated for  
3 industrial use?

4           The state works to protect its farming  
5 heritage, and then something like this is proposed. And  
6 once built, it will provide no full-time jobs in  
7 Wicomico County.

8           Thirdly, I'm concerned about the use of  
9 federal funds for this project without exploring  
10 alternatives. I would be sorry to see the federal  
11 government support this project that will transport  
12 coal-generated electricity all across the state,  
13 creating eyesores and degrading the bay as it goes.  
14 This may be a good investment for PHI, but it will  
15 lower the value of the homes and farms all along the  
16 route and take away from the greatest asset of the  
17 Eastern Shore, its natural beauty.

18           Thank you.

19                           (APPLAUSE)

20           MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Jeff Chormon.  
21 He'll be followed by Caroline Cline.

22           MR. CHORMON: Hello, my name is Jeff Chormon.

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1 We're in the aerial spraying business based out of  
2 Hurlock, Maryland and Cambridge, Maryland. What we do  
3 is -- other people call it crop dusting -- aerial  
4 application. We fly from 500 feet down to ground  
5 level. We do a lot of turns at 200 feet and below.  
6 So, obviously, I have some concerns about towers being  
7 built. But the type of -- it's going to impact my  
8 business and the farmers we work for, because I'm not  
9 going to be able to service all of their fields, which  
10 is going -- when it's wet, when they cannot get on  
11 their crops by ground, I'm the only way they can do it.  
12 And that could lead to a total loss of their crop in a  
13 worst-case scenario.

14           We also do a lot of work for the Maryland  
15 Cover Crop Program, which would leave certain areas  
16 where this line is that we couldn't do. We also do  
17 waterfowl flying for Maryland DNR. I've got 13,000  
18 hours flying, and I've worked around water, so I know  
19 the hazards. It's a very sincere, very, very hazardous  
20 thing that's being proposed here from my standpoint.

21           As far as the GPS signal, that is a real  
22 reality. I've experienced it. Being next to these



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1           My comments, which are extremely brief --  
2 you'll be happy, all of you, to hear that -- are not  
3 intended to be in any way technological or scientific.  
4 I'm here simply to express the sentiment of one of the  
5 oldest towns in the State of Maryland. We have a lot  
6 of acronyms in American society. One is K.I.S.S., Keep  
7 It Short and Simple, and that's what I'm going to do.

8           This actually is in the form of a resolution  
9 enacted on March 22 by the council of East New Market.  
10 The commissioners of East New Market again state their  
11 opposition to any and all proposals on the part of MAPP  
12 planners and officials to construct any above-ground  
13 tower in any area of Dorchester County.

14           Since my statement was so short, I'd like to  
15 turn around and read it facing the people who are here.  
16 I don't know if I can turn this.

17           The commissioners of East New Market,  
18 Maryland, again state their opposition to any and all  
19 proposals on the part of MAPP planners and officials to  
20 construct any above-ground tower in any area of  
21 Dorchester County.

22           What is it that you don't understand about

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1 that?

2 (APPLAUSE)

3 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Diana  
4 Thompson. She'll be followed by Patricia Comella.

5 MS. THOMPSON: My name is Diana Thompson. I  
6 am a native of Dorchester County. My heritage dates  
7 back to the early 18th century.

8 Tonight we come together with shared  
9 interests, and we all appreciate this invitation that  
10 you've given us to comment. And I come here tonight to  
11 speak to our environment and the proposed MAPP project  
12 Phase II. That is what interests us; that is what  
13 brought us here, allowed us to sit here, and hopefully  
14 convey and possibly convince you that our environment -  
15 - we believe our environment is our most precious  
16 commodity.

17 Our environment sustains our waterfowl and  
18 all of our wildlife. It sustains a very intricate  
19 microsystem that, in turn, balances our ecosystem. It  
20 sustains our seafood and our agriculture and, most  
21 importantly, our humble communities. And when we speak  
22 of our communities, we want you to know we are talking

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1 about our people.

2           Perhaps tonight, as you've listened to all of  
3 us, our view of the matter suggests to you a resistance  
4 to growth and development. Au contraire. Nothing could  
5 be further from the truth. As we live and breathe,  
6 there is always change. However, we implore you that  
7 you consider the scope. We will say to you it remains  
8 unclear.

9           As you consider alternatives, we hope you do  
10 that with compassion. The total impact affecting our  
11 natural habitats, our people and community, in my  
12 humble opinion, may indeed defy analysis and remain  
13 incalculable.

14           In summary, we all here, including you, have  
15 a shared interest in the cumulative impact of your  
16 final decision. Our environment is our most precious  
17 commodity, and once it is disturbed, we collectively  
18 cannot repair it or replicate it. We desire an  
19 alternative that sustains.

20           Thank you.

21                           (APPLAUSE)

22           MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Patricia

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1 Comella. She will be followed by Michael Grudis.

2 MS. COMELLA: Good evening, and thank you for  
3 this opportunity to speak. My name is Patricia  
4 Comella. I live in Cambridge, Maryland, and I have a  
5 view from my home of the Choptank at one of its  
6 broadest expanses. But my interest in speaking tonight  
7 is more at the procedural level.

8 I have listened with interest to the many  
9 comments -- substantive comments that I have heard. But  
10 one of the -- I am going to be focusing on the Notice  
11 of Intent to conduct the scoping meetings, in order to  
12 express my thought on it.

13 The proposed action is -- concerns Phase II  
14 of the MAPP project. And the Notice of Intent  
15 describes the scope of that fairly well. It indicates  
16 that it's divided into four segments comprising  
17 approximately 100 miles.

18 My concern would be that the MAPP project is  
19 of -- is a much larger facility that extends over a  
20 broader part of the State of Maryland and then into  
21 Virginia. And I believe it is very important that the  
22 EIS deal with the entire length of the project, the

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1 environmental impacts along the entire length of the  
2 project. And this is because in looking at the Notice  
3 of Intent, I see that the focus appears to be only on  
4 the 100-mile segment. I realize that that is an  
5 extremely critical part of the project. And, in fact,  
6 that is what the innovative technology -- where it is  
7 used to the maximum extent, or exclusively.

8           However, if the finding is us and the cost-  
9 benefit balancing does not take over and examine the  
10 cumulative effects of the entire route, there would be  
11 the potential to impart undue momentum to the project  
12 by a finding that the benefits exceed the costs over  
13 the part -- just a contained sentiment of the project.  
14 So I would ask that there be a consideration of the  
15 impacts along the entire project.

16           Thank you.

17           Oh, may I say one more thing here, amend that  
18 slightly?

19           The other thing is, this is such a complex  
20 project. And from the point of view of participation  
21 of an informed public, it is very important to have in  
22 a way a concise presentation, an overview of the entire

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1 project that -- and I believe that a properly  
2 formulated Environmental Impact Statement would allow  
3 for more meaningful and informed public participation.

4 Thank you.

5 (APPLAUSE)

6 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Michael  
7 Grudis and he'll be followed by Bobby Dryden.

8 MR. GRUDIS: Good evening. I am Mike Grudis.  
9 I grew up in Salisbury. About 35 years ago I moved to  
10 Easton. My wife's family is definitely into  
11 agriculture. I have been an electrician for over 35  
12 years. This is just to let you know where I stand.

13 For the short term, I would greatly love to  
14 see work come to the Eastern Shore. But I believe the  
15 first two speakers spelled it out pretty well about  
16 what we should keep in mind. The whole Chesapeake Bay  
17 is an historical area. It has many environmental  
18 issues, many historical issues.

19 I came here tonight after just getting  
20 information about this meeting a few days ago, more for  
21 information. What I seem to have come up with here  
22 tonight is more questions.

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1 I have to agree that those towers would be  
2 completely unsightly. It seems to me it was 2006 or  
3 2007, the study also showed the pros and cons of the  
4 inground installation, which I think would be much  
5 better for the area.

6 Obviously I'm not a speaker, I'm sorry. As I  
7 said, I would love to see the work, but I would love to  
8 see completely low impact on the area. And there will  
9 be an impact, no matter what, if it comes through.

10 As a closing comment, I definitely agree that  
11 the diminishing tribal lands should not be touched by  
12 this project. They have lost enough.

13 Thank you for listening.

14 (APPLAUSE)

15 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Bobby Dryden,  
16 and he'll be followed by Ann Rasmussen.

17 MR. DRYDEN: Good evening. I'm Bobby Dryden.  
18 I'm one of the representatives with the International  
19 Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. I'm actually up  
20 here supporting the MAPP project because of the  
21 benefits for the reliability standpoint.

22 Back in '99 when a brownout happened on the

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1 Eastern Shore, a lot of us were without power for quite  
2 a bit of time, and we realized we appreciated the  
3 electricity on.

4 As far as for economic benefit, with the  
5 unemployment so high on the Eastern Shore, it would  
6 have a great impact injecting millions of dollars to  
7 the area. It also would create a lot of local jobs for  
8 the construction and for the maintenance and upkeep of  
9 it.

10 MAPP would also deliver a new, clean energy  
11 solution, as wind and solar is introduced more in the  
12 area, especially off Ocean City.

13 In closing, we also have packets of  
14 information if you guys want to see it.

15 That's all I have.

16 (APPLAUSE)

17 MR. NETTI: Next up is Ann Rasmussen, and  
18 she'll be followed by David Lewis.

19 MS. RASMUSSEN: My name is Ann Rasmussen and  
20 I live in an historic farm home on Taylors Island. And  
21 in the early stages of the Mid-Atlantic Power Pathway  
22 project, Pepco announced that it had hired ENTRIX, a

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1 Houston-based company, to do the environmental impact  
2 study for MAPP. The ENTRIX website stated that it  
3 served many sectors of the energy industry and boasted  
4 about its ability to speedily deliver an environmental  
5 impact study.

6           Not long afterwards, ENTRIX created a  
7 preliminary map for the proposed pathway which happened  
8 to run right along the edge of our farm and right  
9 through the front yard of a manor house on Taylor's  
10 Island that is listed on that National Register of  
11 Historic Places. Its initial landing site was on the  
12 most highly eroding shoreline of Maryland's Eastern  
13 Shore, according to a 1949 bulletin entitled "Shore  
14 Erosion in Tidewater Maryland" that was issued by the  
15 Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources for  
16 the State of Maryland.

17           I was shocked by the lack of knowledge ENTRIX  
18 displayed of the cultural history and geographical  
19 terrain of Dorchester County. It was obvious that  
20 ENTRIX had not done its homework. It had not put any  
21 boots on the ground before it drew up this preliminary  
22 map. Was it doing its research on the Internet rather

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1 than consulting local authorities and archives about  
2 the cultural and geographical history of this region?

3           Although that preliminary map is no longer  
4 the proposed route, I still have concerns about the  
5 capability of a company located so far from this area  
6 to do justice to an environmental impact study. The  
7 MAPP project will have a huge impact on Dorchester  
8 County. Any land that this project might consume in  
9 Dorchester County will have a detrimental impact.  
10 Ninety-six percent of the county is uninhabited. It's  
11 rural, undeveloped landscape is world-renowned and  
12 provides an important economic basis for tourism.

13           Transmission lines will diminish the habitat  
14 for the abundant wildlife that lives here. Transmission  
15 lines are vulnerable to damage in hurricanes, and  
16 downed lines could contribute to wildfires in a county  
17 where 41 percent of its landscape is forested. If it  
18 traverses farmland, it will diminish production of corn  
19 and soybeans which provide alternatives to fossil fuel.

20           ENTRIX is located so far from the mid-  
21 Atlantic region and it has displayed an obvious lack of  
22 knowledge of this area, and it boasts that it can

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1 "speedily produce an environmental impact study." Is  
2 this company capable of and willing to produce an  
3 accurate and comprehensive environmental impact study?  
4 My view is that ENTRIX is not up to the task.

5 Thank you.

6 (APPLAUSE)

7 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is David Lewis  
8 and he'll be followed by Bruce Gordon.

9 MR. LEWIS: My name is David Lewis and I'm  
10 president of the Nanticoke Historic Preservation  
11 Alliance. We formed this organization several years  
12 ago to promote and protect the historic Handsell site  
13 which is just less than one mile north of Vienna. The  
14 proposed MAPP pathway is actually on the route to this  
15 site. It's one of the more pristine landscapes in our  
16 county, and it's that landscape that we have promoted  
17 from day one.

18 I'd also like to thank the members of our  
19 community who were much better informed and much better  
20 educated on this issue than myself who have got up and  
21 spoke tonight. I support them, and I hope you will  
22 reconsider. If they truly have our future needs in

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1 mind, they'll do away with this.

2 Thank you.

3 (APPLAUSE)

4 MR. NETTI: Next up is Bruce Gordon. He'll  
5 be followed by Susan Meredith.

6 MR. GORDON: Thank you everybody for coming  
7 tonight. This is an extremely important issue. My  
8 name is Bruce Gordon. I'm a native of Easton,  
9 Maryland, and I'm also a mechanical engineer.

10 I've heard from a lot of people here. I've  
11 heard from a lot of people for the last two years about  
12 this issue. And I want to address three points  
13 strictly from an engineering standpoint, because you  
14 need to deal with the industry at their level. I want  
15 to educate everybody so you really understand and get a  
16 feeling for what we're dealing with.

17 The three points I want to address: For one,  
18 the costs; two, the social and economic and  
19 environmental impact; and three, the need. We've heard  
20 from a lot of people about this over the last two  
21 years, but I can tell you right now that there are a  
22 lot of things that haven't been brought up, so let's go

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1 to it.

2           Number one, I used to work for Delmarva Power  
3 and also Baltimore Gas & Electric and Constellation.  
4 There's this thing called the Dodge Reports that --  
5 well, they don't detail. They tell you across the  
6 state what projects are being discussed by the  
7 engineers, the architects, and what construction  
8 companies are going to bid these jobs.

9           I currently work with not only the poultry  
10 and the ag industry, but the wastewater industry and  
11 utility industry. So I'm in tune every day as to  
12 what's going on around not only Maryland but Delaware  
13 as well.

14           I did a little research and I came up with  
15 the Dodge Report on the MAPP line that was dated June  
16 6th of '06, five years ago. We heard that Pepco said  
17 that this project is going to cost \$1.1 billion. The  
18 Dodge Report from '06, the first report -- that's this  
19 one (indicating) -- states the project was going to  
20 cost a billion 50 million. So that means that in five  
21 years, this project is only going to cost \$50 million  
22 more than what they projected five years ago.

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1           But oddly enough, in this report -- it's  
2 right here, I'm going to show it to you -- it starts  
3 from Possum Point with 500 kV to Calvert Cliffs with  
4 the 500 kV, then it was to go -- there was a 230-kv  
5 transmission line that was going to be run from Vienna  
6 to Piney Point, and there was going to be another 230  
7 kV line that was going to run from Vienna north to  
8 Denton.

9           The whole purpose of this transmission line  
10 isn't just to move power here over to Indian River.  
11 They're going to have to fan out across the peninsula,  
12 because it's not going to do any good just to get it  
13 out of Vienna and over to Indian River. Once you get  
14 it to Denton and Piney Point, then they'll end up  
15 moving it to Chestertown and down to Pocomoke, and then  
16 eventually, they'll get it down into the lower Virginia  
17 Tidewater.

18           I can tell you right now, in the industry  
19 there's an old saying, "If you build it, they will  
20 come."

21           I was in Denton yesterday morning. I asked  
22 the Caroline County commissioners, who I spoke in front

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1 of yesterday, along with Jay Newcomb and the other  
2 Dorchester County Council members, where they spoke  
3 last night in Easton as well. Their council is called  
4 the County Council. I'll ask everybody here the same  
5 question: What are the three things that you need for  
6 growth and development in an area? Not just here in  
7 Delmarva but across the entire planet. Three things.  
8 Only three things. Can anybody tell me? You need  
9 land. We have one and a half million acres of farmland  
10 here on Delmarva.

11 I spoke to Secretary Ed Kee from Delaware and  
12 Secretary Buddy Hance from Maryland, who are  
13 secretaries of ags. According to them, we are losing  
14 20,000 acres of farmland on the Delmarva currently per  
15 year. That's a lot of land. Number two, that land is  
16 used to grow corn to feed the poultry industry that we  
17 have over a hundred thousand jobs here on Delmarva that  
18 support these industries.

19 I know there's a lot of farmers here. We  
20 talked about all the good things we have here on  
21 Delmarva. We have a way of life here that's second to  
22 none across this nation. This power line represents

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1 growth.

2                   What's the second thing you need?

3 Electricity. And the third thing you need is  
4 wastewater.

5                   I can tell you that in the last couple of  
6 years -- and we're currently going through this. We  
7 all know about the flush fee: \$30 a year assessment  
8 that we pay on our property taxes. The wastewater  
9 industry across Maryland and Delaware is ramping up,  
10 and these new wastewater plants are being built with 30  
11 to 70 percent more installed capacity than what was  
12 currently existing. So when you combine the power and  
13 you combine the wastewater, the only thing left to do  
14 is start burning up the land.

15                   If we continue to burn up the landmass here  
16 on Delmarva -- because this electricity, while it  
17 doesn't promote growth, it allows growth to be promoted  
18 -- we're going to eventually lose our poultry industry.

19                   We're in danger to shut down 5,000 grain  
20 farmers across Delmarva, and we're going to lose our ag  
21 industry.

22                   When we turn the surface area of the landmass

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1 of this entire region over into a carbon copy of the  
2 western shore, we're going to lose the Chesapeake Bay  
3 because of stormwater runoff, period.

4           And the billions of dollars that the federal  
5 government and Maryland and Delaware and Virginia and  
6 West Virginia are pumping into our bay to provide the  
7 lifestyle -- the crabs, the oysters, the fish and  
8 everything else, the boating, the hunting -- that we  
9 have -- the tourism -- is going to be lost forever.

10           This power line represents nothing more than  
11 a doormat to the bank for Pepco. The bottom line is  
12 this line has not been needed. It will never be  
13 needed.

14           I did the low-growth projections for the  
15 company back in the '80s when Indian River 4 came  
16 online. We were supposed to build Vienna 9, a 600-  
17 megawatt coal-fired unit in Vienna. Fortunately, that  
18 didn't happen, and I'm glad it didn't happen for the  
19 simple reason that coal generation is a dirty fuel.

20           But now we have our governor and Delaware  
21 promoting a wind farm -- two wind farms -- off our  
22 coastline that will provide 1,000 megawatts of

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1 electricity. That's more than enough power for all of  
2 us here on Delmarva to sustain whatever we're doing  
3 currently.

4 I have proposed not just to the governors of  
5 both states and the Public Service Commissions and to I  
6 don't know how many politicians -- I have over 200  
7 names of who's who across two states at all levels from  
8 the governor down and state agencies -- that what we  
9 need when it comes to need is to promote building a  
10 300-megawatt gas-fired turbine at Vienna and shut down  
11 units 1, 2 and 3 in Indian River, build the wind farms,  
12 and let's keep our poultry and ag industry here so we  
13 can get down to the business of saving the Chesapeake  
14 Bay permanently, not just for all of us here, but for  
15 every future generation of people that will ever live  
16 here; mostly, us as natives.

17 The bottom line is this MAPP line has never,  
18 ever been needed. It cannot ever be built. I have  
19 been maintaining that now for over two years. The  
20 bottom line is if the line comes to the shore, I don't  
21 care if it gets strung to Pluto. If it hits the shore  
22 and power here is to be fanned out across this region,

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1 not only will the Delmarva Peninsula be finished, the  
2 State of Maryland, Delaware and Virginia are finished.  
3 We will lose not only our Chesapeake Bay, our jobs, our  
4 homes, our way of life is finished. This line can  
5 never be built.

6 I would proffer to the federal government  
7 that if you want to do the right thing -- if Pepco has  
8 a burning desire to build a power line, then tell them  
9 to stick it in Kansas.

10 Thank you.

11 (APPLAUSE)

12 UNIDENTIFIED ATTENDEE: I would like to  
13 request the Chair try to control the people in the  
14 background from speaking, because it's distracting from  
15 us being able to hear the speakers, please.

16 MR. BOREN: Ladies and gentlemen, you heard  
17 him. Sorry for -- I didn't realize that was happening  
18 back there. But if you could, please, just to make  
19 sure that everyone can hear. There is plenty of room.  
20 Just please try to keep it down so people in the back  
21 can hear.

22 MR. NETTI: We have four speakers remaining

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1 on the list. Next up is Susan Meredith and she'll be  
2 followed by Les Simering.

3 MS. MEREDITH: Hello. Thank you for allowing  
4 me to speak tonight. My husband, Jay, and I are  
5 natives of Dorchester County. My family goes back to  
6 the Native Americans. My mother's great-great  
7 grandmother was a Chicamocomico Indian from the  
8 Nanticoke Tribe. My husband's family has been here  
9 since the mid-1600s, so I guess we're here to stay. And  
10 our children live within a mile of us, our grown  
11 children.

12 This project is very important to us, because  
13 our living, how we make a living is through tourism.  
14 We own an outfitting business called Blackwater Paddle  
15 & Pedal Adventures, and we own the Bucktown Village  
16 Store, which is the store where Harriet Tubman of the  
17 Underground Railroad had her first known act of  
18 defiance. So these power lines coming through the  
19 county could adversely affect our business.

20 Dorchester County is the largest county in  
21 the State of Maryland. We're the greenest county in  
22 the State of Maryland, according to Washington College.

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1 And the greenest county in the state means that we have  
2 the least development, and that's what my whole  
3 business is around.

4 I point out wildlife. We have the second  
5 largest concentration of bald eagles on the East Coast,  
6 next to Florida Everglades. The John Smith Trail that  
7 goes up the Nanticoke River and the Marshyhope River,  
8 these are rivers that we paddle. If that power line  
9 goes underneath the water, I don't feel that it's going  
10 to be a good thing for the Choptank River at all.

11 As a little girl growing up on the Choptank  
12 River, the river was filled with seaweed. As a little  
13 girl, I would walk up and down the river shore and go  
14 through the seaweed and dip up soft crabs. And my  
15 children today, which are 27 -- Wesley's 27, Matthew's  
16 23, and Casey's 19 -- they've never been able to do  
17 that because of the Chesapeake Bay being so dirty. So  
18 that power line cannot mean good things.

19 We're just starting to get seaweed back here  
20 in Dorchester County. And also Maryland is very proud  
21 to say that the Maryland -- the diamondback Maryland  
22 terrapin has finally made a return to the shores of the



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1 missed a Survivor show, so I want you to know how  
2 important it is. And the TiVo's not working.

3           Tonight I want you to look at me while I  
4 speak. I want you to look at the people out here and  
5 know that these people out here -- a third of them have  
6 left, but I want you to look at the people out here,  
7 because these are the people that the power line  
8 affects.

9           By a show of hands, how many people out here  
10 would this line affect?

11           Just about everybody. Just about everybody.

12           Let's talk a little bit about the Army Corps  
13 of Engineers. The Army Corps of Engineers years ago  
14 went into the State of Florida and they put together a  
15 program that would set up a canal system. The canal  
16 system was a catastrophe. The Army Corps of Engineers  
17 said it would work. They put in the canals. They had  
18 a hurricane that sucked all the water out of the  
19 canals. It destroyed a lot of the work that everybody  
20 had done, destroyed their property and their property  
21 values. The Army Corps of Engineers does the studies  
22 on fish spawning, has fish surveys at dams. We put

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1 dams in and we destroy the spawning population of the  
2 fish, because they can't get up the stream to spawn.  
3 The Army Corps of Engineers went into the State of  
4 Maryland, and they said we're going to take these  
5 dredge spoils and we're going to move these dredge  
6 spoils.

7           But let me tell you something. Years ago --  
8 I'm not going to date myself -- I was an oceanography  
9 major at Ann Arundel Community College. We did a  
10 couple of studies over there right in Baltimore Harbor,  
11 right in -- right where the ESPN Zone was. We dropped  
12 a couple of core samples down in that mud, and I have -  
13 - I maintained all my college records in oceanography.  
14 I still have the results. The arsenic was high. The  
15 heavy metals was high. Now we're talking about going  
16 in, and the Army Corps of Engineers has said it's okay  
17 to dig these trenches. We're going to go down six feet.  
18 We're going to be three feet wide. We're going to drop  
19 a line that's going to generate 158-degree heat in the  
20 power lines. We're going to cut the soil, so we're  
21 going to move things all around.

22           The Army Corps of Engineers, this same Army

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1 Corps of Engineers, went out in front of where I live.  
2 I live off of Hurst Creek right opposite the Elks  
3 Lodge. And they came in and did a study. I live on  
4 the water. I have -- there's a beautiful creek there,  
5 Hurst Creek. It's a beautiful creek. They did a  
6 study. We couldn't get in and out of the creek. They  
7 said, "We're going to build you a channel. This  
8 channel is going to last for years."

9           So about three years ago -- no, probably four  
10 years ago -- they dredged us out a beautiful channel.  
11 It was six feet deep. There's no water there anymore.  
12 It's gone. The channel filled in and another channel  
13 opened up.

14           I have absolutely no confidence in the Army  
15 Corps of Engineers' studies. None. History proves it.  
16 You can go back and look at some of the studies they  
17 done, some of the work that they've done, and it  
18 doesn't work.

19           I've got a lot of notes, because, like I  
20 said, I wasn't planning on speaking.

21           Just before the elections, Governor Schaefer  
22 -- or ex-Governor Schaefer. I wish it was. Governor

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1 O'Malley came out and gave the bay a B- rating. The  
2 year before, it was a D. But just before the election,  
3 he said the bay quality was a B-. It improved  
4 significantly over a year.

5           Now we're talking about going in and we're  
6 talking about tearing up the sediments again and  
7 putting everything in suspension in the water and  
8 moving all those pollutants that are down on the  
9 bottom. And believe me when I tell you, years ago when  
10 they had all of the industry up in Baltimore and all  
11 the industry in Baltimore County that all washed down  
12 the bay from that one big hurricane, all those  
13 sediments laid on the bay. Over a period of time, they  
14 all got covered up. Now we're talking about going in  
15 and digging them back up again.

16           The only thing -- Dorchester County's a great  
17 county. I love it. I'm proud to live here. And I want  
18 you to look out there, because tonight, four out of  
19 five of our County Council members are here. The Mayor  
20 of Vienna is here. We have the City Council members  
21 here. And we have some other people from other towns  
22 that were here that held other political offices.

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1           You know what? No one spoke highly -- no one  
2 spoke in favor of this program. We're talking about  
3 going in and we're talking about wreaking havoc with  
4 the environment. You ask us to trust you. You still  
5 bought all those properties down there by Taylors  
6 Island, didn't you? What's happening with the  
7 properties that they purchased down in Taylors Island?  
8 Can you honestly say that you purchased those  
9 properties and you're not going to use them for  
10 something? It kind of scares me. You know, I don't  
11 trust you guys.

12           Let me say something else. Someone touched  
13 on this. I'm a 60 Minutes fan and 20/20. They did a  
14 show several years ago on high voltage -- in fact, they  
15 do it every once in a while -- on high-voltage power  
16 lines and people that caught cancer under high-voltage  
17 power lines in those areas. There's still studies that  
18 need to be done.

19           Let me close with one thing. I want to quote  
20 from your book. All right? One of my friends over  
21 there -- and I'll tell everybody who it was -- Grady  
22 Wilson -- and I've lost the page -- came out and he

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1 said in the book -- let me see if I can find this real  
2 quick -- "Our priority is to protect natural and  
3 cultural resources throughout the MAPP project." I  
4 don't think you're going to do that. If you listen to  
5 the people in here, you're not going to do that. I  
6 think what it should say is, "Our priority is to  
7 protect natural and cultural resources," period. And  
8 we should have the say in that, not you.

9 Thank you.

10 (APPLAUSE)

11 MR. NETTI: The next speaker is Bradley  
12 Bellacicco, and the last speaker of the list is Eric  
13 Ralph.

14 MR. BELLACICCO: Good evening. I am Brad  
15 Bellacicco.

16 Congratulations on pronouncing it right the  
17 first time out.

18 I am the Executive Director of the Salisbury  
19 Area Chamber of Commerce, and I came here this evening  
20 from one of our meetings to present a letter that we  
21 had submitted to the Public Service Commission in  
22 2009.

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1 (Reading.) The Salisbury Area Chamber  
2 of Commerce, the largest business  
3 organization on the Eastern Shore with  
4 over 840 members, is a strong advocate  
5 for both free enterprise and the  
6 quality of life that makes the Shore a  
7 great place to live, work, and visit.  
8 Reliable electrical power is critical  
9 to our citizens and businesses. As we  
10 understand it, the lower Eastern Shore  
11 is increasingly vulnerable to power  
12 outages and rolling blackouts due to  
13 the lack of redundant power. The power  
14 lines down from Pennsylvania and  
15 Delaware are our only current sources  
16 of outside power, and we are vulnerable  
17 to any disruptions along these lines  
18 from the north. Our power  
19 infrastructure has not been modernized  
20 in almost three decades. We need to  
21 update the power delivery system and  
22 provide redundancy to our region.

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1           And it goes on a little bit beyond that.

2           Twenty-one years ago, I was living in  
3 Charleston, South Carolina, when Hurricane Hugo came  
4 ashore. It passed 10 miles from the city to the north,  
5 and I lived on the south side. I was without  
6 electricity for 10 days. Rural areas on the north side  
7 of that city did not get electricity back for 30 to 60  
8 days. The importance of a modern electrical  
9 infrastructure becomes crystal clear when you don't  
10 have it. Allowing us to not study how to improve our  
11 system would bear terrible results if a strong storm  
12 ever did hit the peninsula.

13           Thank you.

14                           (APPLAUSE)

15           MR. NETTI: Eric Ralph?

16           MR. RALPH: My name is Eric Ralph. I'm a  
17 landowner in Dorchester County. I've heard people talk  
18 about the county for a long time. My family has been  
19 in the area for several -- many generations. I'm a  
20 proud landowner in the county. I'm proud of what we  
21 have and what we see here.

22           I have three areas of focus. I wasn't

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1 planning on speaking this evening either. However,  
2 when I read the material about the EIS and what you're  
3 considering, I thought it was important to bring up  
4 these three general comment areas.

5           One, the reliability and thermal violations  
6 that are cited in the RTEP plans occur in western  
7 Maryland and they occur in southeast Pennsylvania and  
8 northern Maryland on the north end of the Chesapeake  
9 Bay and are not affected by what's going on in  
10 Delmarva. I agree the infrastructure is needed here.

11           The industry needs to be supported. But  
12 that's not where the problems lie. The problems lie  
13 because of the demand growth. And there is demand  
14 growth, and we want demand growth. And that will  
15 happen. But if you look at what's documented, the  
16 demand growth is not here, but it's in the territory of  
17 the Atlantic City Power Company, also a Pepco  
18 subsidiary, not the Delmarva shore.

19           So, I find it interesting when you hear  
20 earlier, one of our first speakers, talk about a power  
21 line that's run off of the northern coast of New Jersey  
22 to Long Island, which is one of the highest cost power

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1 users in the country, that power that could be coming  
2 to the shore is instead being sold off to a higher  
3 bidder. So I think that's a very interesting point.

4           So in your consideration of our project and  
5 of the MAPP project, I ask that you consider those kind  
6 of -- a larger perspective than just what you refer to  
7 as Phase II, but the larger impact on how it fits into  
8 the grid, any proposals or alternatives that are  
9 addressing the East Coast power demand issues from the  
10 New York State Power Authority, the changes -- the  
11 original -- one of the original RTEP Plans, the '07  
12 plan, talked about how this was going to be a wonderful  
13 plan bringing power from the new nuclear plant in  
14 Calvert Cliffs up through Indian River to Salem to  
15 serve that growing power need. That plan has now  
16 stopped. It has also talked about the PATH Program  
17 which has been delayed. So please include those  
18 changes in your assessment of our situation.

19           The next is -- I would ask you -- the next  
20 general group of consideration is that we get the same  
21 consideration that other parts of the country or the  
22 region get.

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1           And let me -- somebody said the K.I.S.S.  
2           principle earlier. So let me kind of lay out  
3 for you. One of the current electricity projects that's  
4 been put on hold, the PATH Project, in the 2009 RTEP  
5 program report by PGM, it had 15 pages dedicated to the  
6 need of that program. The MAPP program had six. So  
7 there's a clear difference between those two programs.  
8 People started to oppose, raise the environmental  
9 issues, raise the environmental impact with the PATH  
10 Project. And then the next year, the 2010 report on  
11 the same need went from 15 to 47 pages. And the MAPP  
12 project, our project through the Delmarva Peninsula  
13 went from six to seven.

14           There was one additional page added about  
15 alternatives in which it mentioned a northern  
16 alternative. And basically to interpret what that  
17 paragraph said, it said it's too hard to do it up  
18 there. That means higher costs, longer time, but at  
19 least it's on, in a lot of cases, an existing right-of-  
20 way with was much less environmental impact than what  
21 you've heard about tonight, the potential impact on  
22 Dorchester County.

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1           There are other options under that same  
2 framework, the same consideration as others. There's  
3 the Liberty option, there's the PATH option, there's  
4 the northern option. In fact, in the 2010 recently  
5 released RTEP plan, there is a graph. I have no idea  
6 what it actually means, but it shows that if you  
7 combine the PATH project with the northern route or the  
8 Liberty project with the northern route, those are both  
9 more efficient and better solutions than the MAPP  
10 project combined with those. So there are other ways  
11 to solve the thermal and reliability issues.

12           The last sort of area that I'd like to  
13 address is: This is a gray area. And you all have  
14 come here -- and thank you for coming here tonight --  
15 to listen to the communities' concerns. But this is  
16 where there is a gray area between capitalism and  
17 regulations. So, you know, this is lot more like a  
18 meet-and-confer process than a collective bargaining  
19 process. We don't speak with one voice. We speak with  
20 many voices. And so you are, in fact, our advocate to  
21 assess the impact and the overall impact of this  
22 project. We have to depend on you.

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1           However -- and this is what I find pretty  
2 interesting, is that -- Pepco is a publicly traded  
3 company. If you look at their annual reports, they  
4 actually say that their goal -- their first and  
5 foremost goal is to increase revenue by expanding  
6 energy infrastructure. So I'm a profit guy. I think  
7 about how people make money. They make money by  
8 pushing electricity across their line, whether it's  
9 higher voltage or more of them. And so there's a lot  
10 of different power companies that propose alternatives.

11           One of the questions in that last group is,  
12 as our community advocate, please assess whether or not  
13 this project would move forward without a federal loan  
14 guarantee. In their annual report, it talks about the  
15 fact that Phase II is a \$684 million loan guarantee.  
16 If they don't get that loan, do they move forward with  
17 this project?

18           The next question I would say is, why is a  
19 public utility trying to grow revenue? Well, it's  
20 clear enough. They're a publicly-traded stock. They  
21 want more people to buy it. They can pay a higher  
22 dividend. I don't know why that needs to come across

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1 our county, our area.

2           The last three points is that in the PGM  
3 Operating Agreement, it talks about the unnecessary  
4 duplication. That's different from redundancy. So I  
5 would ask that you look at this project through those  
6 eyes and ask yourself, are we creating unnecessary  
7 duplication and are we striving for consistency to the  
8 same metrics that are being applied in different parts  
9 of the country? And I challenge whether Pepco is, in  
10 fact, complying with all of those. And then what I  
11 found extremely interesting is in the original  
12 application -- and Pepco applied to this -- PGM didn't  
13 go to Pepco; Pepco went to them and said, this is a  
14 project we think solves your problem. They said,  
15 "Don't file this as a project that we're bringing to  
16 you. File this as a project that meets your needs,  
17 because then I can get what's referred to as auction  
18 revenue rights." And what are auction revenue rights?  
19 That means if I send power to New Jersey or New York  
20 and it comes across the shore, I still get paid for  
21 that. And I can get FERC to get reimbursed for the  
22 cost of that construction.

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1           So those are the issues that I would ask you  
2 when you're evaluating the need, because that is part  
3 of it, the environmental costs to this part of the  
4 country; say, "Are there needs or are there other  
5 solutions more viable than the two and a half  
6 paragraphs that were added in the 2010 RTEP Program by  
7 PJM?"

8           Thank you for your time.

9           (APPLAUSE)

10           MR. BOREN: As previously stated, that is the  
11 end of our list that we had for people who would like  
12 to sign up and speak tonight. But by all means, we'll  
13 be here until everyone has spoken.

14           So is there anyone who would like to speak?

15           MR. MEEKINS: Good evening. My name is  
16 Wendell Meekins. My family owns and operates  
17 approximately a thousand acres in Cambridge. The farm  
18 has been in my father-in-law's family for over 60  
19 years.

20           The original route for the MAPP project was  
21 proposed to go directly through our farming operation.  
22 I'm concerned that if the Choptank route proves to be

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1 damaging to the commercial fishing industry and the  
2 environment, that PHI will try to get back to the  
3 original route. One of the concerns I have with the  
4 transmission line is how it would affect hunting and  
5 the sale of hunting leases, which is a critical source  
6 of income for keeping our farms profitable.

7           We would like to see that EIS address the  
8 following points: Will waterfowl avoid areas where  
9 transmission lines pass overhead, essentially  
10 diminishing the hunting value of these areas?

11           In our experience, waterfowl will not fly  
12 under or near a power line. This would ruin most farms  
13 in the area for waterfowl hunting which would incur --  
14 which would, in turn, cause loss of hunting lease  
15 revenue. With the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge  
16 being less than a mile away from our farm and such a  
17 mecca for waterfowl, would the transmission lines  
18 increase waterfowl mortality in this county?

19           With the fact that waterfowl will not fly  
20 under or near transmission lines, will this change the  
21 migratory flight patterns of waterfowl in this county?  
22 This was a question raised by Blackwater National

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1 Wildlife Refuge itself in past meetings.

2 Thank you.

3 (APPLAUSE)

4 MR. MUSE (ph.): I wasn't expecting to speak  
5 tonight, but this is a follow-up on the previous  
6 gentleman before this last gentleman.

7 My name is Art Muse (ph.) and my wife and I  
8 have lived on Taylors Island for the past 15 years. We  
9 love this area for all the same reasons that we've  
10 heard reiterated many times tonight. However, we also  
11 maintain a home on the Western Shore in Silver Spring,  
12 and that's where we deal with Pepco. I just wanted to  
13 give you -- you might have read about this, but dealing  
14 with Pepco on the Western Shore is a nightmare.

15 In the past two years, we have been without  
16 power four times at least for a period of five days.  
17 And just this past February, we had no power. We had  
18 no heat. We had to empty out our refrigeration. And  
19 this goes on all the time.

20 Pepco has a rating of reliability of less  
21 than five percent. They're in the bottom five percent  
22 nationally for maintaining their equipment.

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1           Now, if you look at this proposal, this \$1.5  
2 billion project, you can imagine the type of  
3 maintenance that is necessary. And you would be giving  
4 it to a company that is ranked in the lowest five  
5 percent nationally in the United States. So think  
6 about that.

7   (APPLAUSE)

8           MR. WHITTINGHAM (ph.): Good evening. My  
9 name is Dean Whittingham (ph.). I'd like to thank you  
10 for giving us the opportunity, as many have said, for  
11 us to speak on this. It's democracy at work.

12           I have lived in this area -- I've lived in  
13 Wicomico County my whole life. And at one time, I was  
14 raised at Elliot's Island, so I know something about  
15 water. Also, since then, for 37 years, I've been an  
16 electrician, and I have been out of work for the last  
17 eight months. And I can tell you that's about the  
18 roughest time my family has had. We only wish I had  
19 the opportunity to be able to have better employment in  
20 this area.

21           I'm not alone in telling you that there are a  
22 lot of us that are out of work. That creates a

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1 hardship all the way around. We can't spend any money  
2 in the area. And I have to wonder how much longer I  
3 can buy fish and tomatoes, let alone turn on the light  
4 switch.

5 Thank you.

6 (APPLAUSE)

7 MR. HEASH (ph.): My name is Ken Heash (ph.).  
8 I'm an electronics engineer. I'm also a LEED AP at  
9 this point. I've just got a couple things.

10 I've got a letter from PJM to the State of  
11 Delaware referring the shutting down of the Indian  
12 River Unit Number 3. What I don't understand with this  
13 MAPP project is, in their letter, they show that their  
14 analysis shows that import capability into both the  
15 Delmarva and Delmarva South areas exceeds the required  
16 import capability for each area by more than the  
17 maximum capacity of Indian River Unit 3. So given  
18 that, these areas will continue to meet PJM's delivery  
19 criteria in 2013 if the unit was to be deactivated.

20 It goes on to say the Indian River unit is  
21 also part of the two larger global areas; specifically,  
22 the eastern mid-Atlantic area and the mid-Atlantic

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1 area, which are also tested for their import  
2 capability. The import capability for these areas  
3 exceeds the import objective. Transmission facilities  
4 that are limiting the import capabilities to these  
5 areas would not be significantly impacted by the  
6 deactivation of Indian River Unit 3. So if PJM is  
7 saying that we have plenty of import capability here,  
8 why do they need MAPP?

9 Another document that I have is a Mid-  
10 Atlantic Load Forecast that was also dated February of  
11 2010. And it shows that the 2008-2009 forecast dropped  
12 by 1,192 megawatts. And then the 2009 to 2010 forecast  
13 dropped by 344 megawatts. So if our load demand over  
14 here is dropping, and by their letter, we've got more  
15 capacity than we need, again, what do we need MAPP for?

16 That's pretty much all I've got.

17 (APPLAUSE)

18 MR. BOREN: Are you coming up to speak?

19 All right, then. Anyone else like to speak?

20 I guess without any more speakers, the formal  
21 part of this meeting will conclude. On behalf of the  
22 Department of Energy, I would like to thank all of you

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1 for coming here tonight.

2                   Let the record show that the MAPP  
3 Transmission Line Project Public Scoping Meeting  
4 concluded at 10:01 p.m. Thank you again.

5                   (CONCLUDED AT 10:01 P.M.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY PUBLIC

2 I, BETTYE KEYES, do hereby certify that the  
3 foregoing meeting was recorded and transcribed by me,  
4 via realtime voice-to-text translations utilizing the  
5 voice writing method, and thereafter proofread to  
6 accurately reflect the content of words spoken during  
7 the proceeding.

8 I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed  
9 by any of the parties representing the action in which  
10 this meeting was held, nor financially or otherwise  
11 interested in the outcome of this action.

12

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\_\_\_\_\_

18

BETTYE KEYES

19

Notary Public in and for the

20

State of Maryland

21 My commission expires:

22 April 1, 2015

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<u>          </u> \$	<b>120</b> 93:8	<b>2004</b> 86:8	<u>          </u> 3
<b>\$1</b> 34:11	<b>120-foot</b> 46:16	<b>2005</b> 3:4	<b>3</b> 88:6 111:11
<b>\$1.1</b> 106:17	<b>13</b> 23:9	<b>2006</b> 86:1 100:2	134:12,17 135:6
<b>\$1.5</b> 69:14 133:1	<b>13,000</b> 92:17	<b>2007</b> 100:3	<b>3,200</b> 45:11
<b>\$100</b> 86:16	<b>14</b> 13:6	<b>2008</b> 38:18	<b>30</b> 8:2,22 61:2
<b>\$100,000</b> 45:16	<b>15</b> 126:5,11 132:8	<b>2008-2009</b> 135:11	79:16 109:10
<b>\$16.3</b> 37:11	<b>150</b> 93:8	<b>2009</b> 31:15 63:12	123:7
<b>\$2</b> 43:1	<b>150-foot</b> 79:19	121:22 126:4	<b>300</b> 36:16 62:17
<b>\$30</b> 109:7	<b>158</b> 31:9	135:12	69:10
<b>\$31.3</b> 37:11	<b>158-degree</b> 117:19	<b>2010</b> 61:5 126:10	<b>300,000</b> 51:22
<b>\$50</b> 106:21	<b>16</b> 13:9 14:7,18,22	127:4 130:6	<b>300-megawatt</b>
<b>\$50,000</b> 45:16	15:7 29:3	135:11,12	111:10
<b>\$684</b> 128:15	<b>1608</b> 20:3 38:20	<b>2011</b> 1:5 2:12	<b>33</b> 18:22 42:11
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<b>06</b> 106:16,18	<b>1706</b> 19:22	<b>2012</b> 61:5	<b>341</b> 88:7
<b>07</b> 125:11	<b>17-acre</b> 90:18	<b>2013</b> 134:19	<b>344</b> 135:13
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<b>1,192</b> 135:12	<b>195-foot</b> 90:2	<b>21613</b> 1:9	<b>39-mile</b> 30:10
<b>1,700</b> 64:16	<b>1999</b> 68:4	<b>22</b> 94:9	<u>          </u> 4
<b>10</b> 4:11 29:1	<u>          </u> 2	<b>23</b> 1:5 2:12 14:9	<b>4</b> 5:8,10 9:19
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<b>100</b> 97:17	<b>20/20</b> 120:13	<b>2475</b> 1:8	<b>404</b> 4:10
<b>100-mile</b> 98:4	<b>200</b> 46:3 79:20	<b>25</b> 61:2	<b>41</b> 103:17
<b>12</b> 13:9 15:2 21:11	92:5 111:6	<b>25-year</b> 87:13	<b>43-mile</b> 57:20
32:7 81:6		<b>27</b> 114:15	<b>45</b> 6:11 8:10 46:18

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