

In The Matter Of:
Application of NTE Connecticut, LLC

Public Comment Hearing
October 20, 2016

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1 STATE OF CONNECTICUT
2 CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL
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5 Docket No. 470

6 Application of NTE Connecticut, LLC for a
7 Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and
8 Public Need for the Construction, Maintenance and
9 Operation of a 550-megawatt Dual Fuel Combined
10 Cycle Electric Generating Facility and Associated
11 Electrical Interconnection Switchyard Located at
12 180 and 189 Lake Road, Killingly, Connecticut
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16 Public Comment Hearing held at the Killingly
17 High School Auditorium, 226 Putnam Pike,
18 Killingly, Connecticut, on Thursday, October 20,
19 2016, beginning at 6:30 p.m.
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23 H e l d B e f o r e :

24 ROBERT STEIN, Chairman
25

1 A p p e a r a n c e s :

2

3 Council Members:

4 SENATOR JAMES J. MURPHY, JR.,

5 Vice Chairman

6 PHILIP T. ASHTON

7 ROBERT HANNON

8 MICHAEL HARDER

9 DR. MICHAEL W. KLEMENS

10 LARRY LEVESQUE, ESQ.

11 DANIEL P. LYNCH, JR.

12 ROBERT SILVESTRI

13

14 Council Staff:

15 MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQ.

16 Executive Director and

17 Staff Attorney

18 MICHAEL PERRONE

19 Siting Analyst

20 LISA FONTAINE

21 Fiscal Administrative Officer

22

23

24

25

1 A p p e a r a n c e s : (Cont'd)

2

3 For NTE Connecticut, LLC:

4 ROBINSON & COLE LLP

5 280 Trumbull Street

6 Hartford, Connecticut 06103-3597

7 BY: KENNETH C. BALDWIN, ESQ.

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9 NTE Connecticut, LLC:

10 MARK MIRABITO

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: Good evening, ladies and
2 gentlemen. I'd like to call to order this
3 meeting. We have a tight schedule, so I want to
4 keep this moving. My name is Robin Stein. I'm
5 Chairman of the Connecticut Siting Council. And
6 today is Thursday, October 20, 2016. It's
7 approximately 6:30 p.m.

8 The other members of the Council
9 present are Senator Murphy, our Vice Chairman;
10 Mr. Hannon, Designee from the Department of Energy
11 and Environmental Protection; Mr. Levesque,
12 Designee from the Public Utilities Regulatory
13 Authority; Mr. Ashton; Dr. Klemens; Mr. Harder;
14 Mr. Lynch; and Mr. Silvestri, who literally just
15 joined the Council this evening. Members of the
16 staff are Executive Director/Staff Attorney
17 Melanie Bachman; Michael Perrone, our Siting
18 Analyst; and Lisa Fontaine, our Fiscal
19 Administrative Officer.

20 This hearing is held pursuant to the
21 provisions of Title 16 of the Connecticut General
22 Statutes and of the Uniform Administrative
23 Procedure Act upon an application from NTE
24 Connecticut, LLC for a Certificate of
25 Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for

1 the construction, maintenance, and operation of a
2 550-megawatt dual-fuel combined cycle electric
3 generating facility and associated electrical
4 interconnection switchyard located at 180 and 189
5 Lake Road in Killingly, Connecticut. This
6 application was received by the Council on August
7 17, 2016.

8 The applicant published notice of the
9 filing of the application to the Council in The
10 Bulletin on August 15 and August 16, 2016. The
11 Council's legal notice of the date and time of the
12 hearing was published in The Bulletin on September
13 19, 2016. Upon this Council's request, the
14 applicant erected a sign at the proposed electric
15 generating facility site and at the proposed
16 electric switchyard site so as to inform the
17 public of the name of the applicant, the type of
18 facility, the hearing date and location, and
19 contact information for the Council.

20 This afternoon members of the Council,
21 staff and public personally conducted a field
22 review of the proposed sites in order to observe
23 firsthand the potential effects of the proposal.

24 This hearing session tonight is
25 reserved for the public to make short statements

1 into the record. These public statements are not
2 subject to questions from the parties or the
3 Council, and members of the public making
4 statements may not ask questions of the parties or
5 the Council. These statements will become part of
6 the record for Council consideration.

7 A sign-up sheet is available to my
8 right. So if there's anybody who would like to
9 speak, please sign up.

10 We're going to limit statements to
11 three minutes. Also available here are copies of
12 the Council's Citizens Guide to Siting Council
13 Procedures and the schedule for the evidentiary
14 hearing sessions to be held on this application.

15 Please be advised that pursuant to
16 Section 16-50j-15b of the Regulations of the
17 Connecticut State Agencies, any party or
18 intervenor and their witnesses, including those
19 that are members of nonprofit corporations or
20 citizens' groups, that have attained party or
21 intervenor status in this proceeding are deemed to
22 be represented in the proceeding and may not also
23 submit oral or written statements into the record
24 during this public comment session.

25 The parties and intervenors to the

1 proceeding are as follows: NTE Connecticut, LLC
2 represented by Attorney Baldwin, Robinson & Cole.
3 Parties Not Another Power Plant represented by
4 Attorney John Bashaw and Mary Mintel Miller, both
5 attorneys of Reid and Riege, P.C. The town of
6 Killingly, Sean Hendricks the town manager.

7 As a reminder to all, off-the-record
8 communication with a member of the Council or a
9 member of the Council's staff, upon the merits of
10 this request is prohibited by law.

11 In a good faith effort to hear all
12 those who wish to be heard, I ask each speaker to
13 be concise so as not to preclude your neighbor
14 from speaking this evening.

15 Please be advised that the public
16 comment session will conclude no later than 10:30
17 this evening.

18 I also, in the case we don't get
19 through all the speakers tonight, we'll make every
20 attempt with your cooperation to do that. We may
21 have to schedule additional public comment
22 sessions at our offices in New Britain during
23 normal business hours. I ask again you bear that
24 in mind as we proceed this evening.

25 I wish to note for those who are here

1 and for the benefit of your friends and neighbors
2 who are unable to join us for the public comment
3 session, that you or they may send written
4 statements to the Council within 30 days of the
5 close of the evidentiary record, and such written
6 statements will be given the same weight as if
7 spoken at the hearing.

8 We ask each person making a public
9 statement in these proceedings to confine his or
10 her statements to the subjectmatter before the
11 Council and to avoid unreasonable repetition so
12 that we may hear all of the concerns you and your
13 neighbors may have.

14 Please be advised that the Council
15 cannot answer questions from the public about the
16 facility. A verbatim transcript will be made of
17 the hearing and deposited at the Killingly,
18 Pomfret and Putnam Town Clerk's offices for the
19 convenience of the public.

20 Also, to stick to the 3-minutes, we
21 have a stop-clock system, to my right, which will
22 advise the speakers as to the time that's left as
23 you speak.

24 Before continuing, I'd like to ask Mr.
25 Hendricks to make a brief comment on behalf of the

1 town.

2 SEAN HENDRICKS: Thank you, sir. Good
3 evening, Chairman Stein, Director Bachman, other
4 members of the Council. First of all, I want to
5 welcome you here to Killingly. We appreciate you
6 being here.

7 It's no surprise to the Council that
8 this is a very controversial issue here in town.
9 There's been a lot of debate over the last few
10 months.

11 As a matter of common ground, I think
12 one of the sentiments that we all share, I guess
13 some sense of trepidation, where we -- stuff our
14 economy or our future, into a, you know, a foreign
15 body, if you will. That being said, the other
16 thing that we share here is a desire to make sure
17 that this town is the safest, best place it can
18 possibly be. This issue involves not just
19 economics and not just electrons and power grid,
20 it also involves human beings with individual
21 lives and families.

22 So no doubt you are highly aware of the
23 burden that's upon you and all the factors that
24 you actually need to take into account. The town
25 is very interested in this. We're very concerned

1 about this. We appreciate your service, and we
2 put ourselves in your hands with confidence that
3 you are going to make a decision that's going to
4 be the best for Killingly and for the folks that
5 live here. So thank you again.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

7 Before calling on members of the public
8 to make statements, I'd like to request that the
9 applicant make a very brief presentation to the
10 public describing the proposed facility.

11 MARK MIRABITO: Good evening. My name
12 is Mark Mirabito. I'm the chief operating officer
13 for NTE Energy, and I'm responsible for overseeing
14 the development of the Killingly Energy Center.

15 First of all, welcome to Killingly. I
16 feel like I can say that because we just about
17 live here. Thank you to the Council and the
18 staff, first of all, for giving me the opportunity
19 to make a brief presentation tonight, and also
20 thank you for organizing these activities for your
21 overall consideration of our application.

22 NTE Energy was formed in 2009 as a
23 renewable energy technology company, and it has
24 evolved into a successful independent power
25 producer. It develops, builds, owns and

1 ultimately operates power plants.

2 The NTE team includes some of the most
3 experienced developers, engineers, commercial
4 professionals in the industry. Collectively this
5 team has developed dozens of traditional and
6 renewable generation facilities across the country
7 and around the world representing tens of
8 thousands of megawatts of power generation. NTE
9 recently completed development and started
10 construction on two power plants, very similar to
11 what got proposed here in Killingly. We've got
12 the Kings Mountain Energy Center, a combined cycle
13 just outside Charlotte, North Carolina, that will
14 become operational in the fall of 2018, and the
15 Middletown Energy Center between Dayton and
16 Cincinnati, in Ohio, which will become operational
17 in the spring of 2018.

18 It's good to be back here in the high
19 school. I think this is the fifth or sixth
20 meeting we conducted as part of our extensive
21 community outreach efforts. And these various
22 public meetings, we've attended just about every
23 regular and special P&Z, wetlands and town council
24 meeting over the last several months, really in an
25 effort to make sure we fully understand the town

1 and the communities' concern about the project.

2 Development of this project really
3 originated with the recognition of the need for
4 new baseload high efficiency power generation to
5 replace facilities that are retiring throughout
6 New England and particularly in Connecticut. More
7 than 10,000 megawatts of power has retired or will
8 reach its retirement by 2020, including more than
9 2,000 megawatts right here in Connecticut. It's
10 critical that new generation be constructed to
11 replace these retiring facilities to maintain that
12 demand supply balance within the state and to
13 ensure viability of the grid within the state and
14 the region.

15 A quick project overview. What we're
16 proposing is a state-of-the-art 550-megawatt
17 natural gas combined-cycle facility. The exhaust
18 stack will be 150 feet tall. For those of you who
19 were on the site today, we floated a balloon to
20 represent the potential future height of that
21 stack.

22 It's a baseload power source, meaning
23 it's typical of continuous steady operation, but
24 we expect it to operate between 60 and 75 percent
25 of the time. The facility would offer some

1 flexibility in allowing it to respond very quickly
2 and rapidly to the changing demand of the grid.
3 It incorporates advanced technology to reduce the
4 water demand by more than 95 percent compared to a
5 traditional water-cooled facility. Equipment
6 would be designed and installed to minimize
7 vibration.

8 In terms of interconnect, the facility
9 will tie into the existing 345 kV line that's
10 immediately adjacent to the site. And natural gas
11 is supplied from the Algonquin Pipeline via a new
12 gas lateral over an existing right-of-way.

13 The facility will also have ULSD as a
14 back-up fuel to be used on only those very rare
15 occasions that natural gas isn't available and
16 operation is required for reliability purposes.

17 Here's a rendering of the facility.
18 Again, for those of you that were on the site
19 walk, the ring road around the facility roughly
20 represents the path that we took as we circled the
21 site. You can see the administration building
22 here on the right. This is our rectangular
23 building, a permanent building, the stack coming
24 out of that, and this building in the back is the
25 air-cool condenser.

1 The site layout was very carefully
2 designed in that it balances and minimize both the
3 onsite and offsite impacts from the facility.

4 The project will be located on two
5 parcels totaling 73 acres. This parcel here, 63
6 acres, and on the other side of the road a 10-acre
7 parcel. As you can see from the map on the right,
8 this area of the site was designated for future
9 industrial use as part of Killingly's 2010 plan of
10 conservation and development. And this was really
11 important to us to select a site that was
12 consistent with the town's plan for future desired
13 use of this area.

14 Just to further orient you on the
15 project location, again, we've got the site down
16 in the lower left and some of the other existing
17 facilities in the area you've got the Rite-Aid
18 Distribution Center is across the street,
19 Frito-Lay facility on the other side of Alexander
20 Lake, Lake Road Generating to the north of I-395,
21 and the ash landfill in Putnam just across the
22 Quinebaug River.

23 This project is going to provide
24 tremendous benefits to the Town of Killingly and
25 surrounding community. It will create 250 to 350

1 jobs during approximately a three-year
2 construction period, as well as 25 to 30 direct
3 full-time jobs during operation. We expect many
4 of these jobs to be filled by the residents of
5 Killingly and the neighboring towns. It's our
6 desire to have local folks as our contractors, and
7 we're going to do what we can to ensure that,
8 working with the local technical schools and those
9 contractors.

10 We'll be one of the largest, if not the
11 largest, taxpayer in Killingly, paying millions of
12 dollars every year without a significant increase
13 in demand in services. We'll be a large waste
14 water utility customer. As part of the
15 Environmental Justice Program, we'll be
16 implementing a Community Environmental Benefits
17 Committee which will provide funds for the various
18 community improvement projects.

19 And finally, we'll be making some major
20 infrastructure investments associated with our
21 project, a gas expansion, water system
22 improvements, roadway improvements, sewer line
23 extension, all of which will of course benefit the
24 project, but also benefit the town and their
25 potential future use of the area.

1 In terms of project schedule,
2 significant activity is already underway. We
3 filed an interconnection request back in March
4 with the ISO New England to study the cost impacts
5 of tying in with the grid. We've got a system
6 impact study currently underway for that process.
7 We filed an air permit application back in April
8 with the Connecticut Department of Energy and
9 Environmental Protection. And of course we
10 submitted our Siting Council application back in
11 August. As you all know, that application
12 required extensive study of the various potential
13 project impacts, visual, wetlands, air, noise,
14 traffic, cultural resources and others.

15 All of these study materials and
16 project documents were made available for the
17 public via the project web site, as well as placed
18 in the Town Hall and the public library.

19 Going forward, we expect anticipated
20 approvals and permits in the winter/spring of next
21 year, which allows us to start constructing by the
22 summer of 2017. Following a roughly three-year
23 construction cycle, we expect to be operational by
24 the summer of 2020.

25 And that concludes my remarks tonight.

1 Thanks again for the time, and we really look
2 forward to working with you through the siting
3 process.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. We'll now
5 start with the public comment session. As I call
6 your name, please come up to the podium here. And
7 please spell your last name so we can make sure we
8 have it. I will apologize in advance if I
9 mispronounce your name.

10 So the first person on the list is
11 State Rep Daniel Rovero.

12 DANIEL ROVERO: Good evening. For the
13 record, Daniel R-O-V-E-R-O. Good evening. And I
14 thank you for coming to Killingly.

15 For the record, my name is Daniel
16 Rovero. I'm a state representative for the 51st
17 District, which consists of Killingly and all of
18 Putnam and Thompson. I thank you for the
19 opportunity to speak this evening and offer
20 testimony on the proposed NTE Connecticut, LLC
21 power plant in Killingly.

22 I am here this evening not just as a
23 state representative but also as a citizen of
24 Killingly, and someone who lives on Alexander
25 Lake, which is an area that will be directly

1 impacted. My job as state representative is to
2 represent my constituents, many of whom are here
3 this evening. I'm also here with my colleagues,
4 Senator Mae Flexer, Representative Christine
5 Rosati Randall, and Scott Pempek, Selectman of
6 Putnam, which is another neighboring Town of
7 Killingly.

8 I know there's a lot of people here
9 tonight, so I will be brief. Folks, this is not
10 just a case of "Not in my backyard." It's a case
11 of "Not in my backyard again." Residents in the
12 Quiet Corner enjoy the quiet rural character of
13 our district, and we will not allow ourselves to
14 become a dumping ground for these types of
15 projects.

16 I live directly across from Frito-Lay.
17 We already have Lake Road Generating Plant within
18 a quarter mile and also an asphalt plant within a
19 quarter of a mile away. Locating this project
20 near a lake, wetlands, the Quinebaug River and
21 several schools is an unwise decision
22 environmentally. Enough is enough. Our quiet
23 corner of the state can only handle so much. I
24 think it is time that we realize that our health
25 is worth more than a few dollars.

1 You know, I received a tremendous
2 amount of e-mails about this project, and I did
3 receive one in favor of it. I'd like to read one
4 into the record today that came in this afternoon.

5 "Dear Danny, although you probably
6 don't remember me, we attended Putnam High School
7 at the same time. I also purchased items from
8 your business on Grove Street. Although, I left
9 the northeast corner of Connecticut, it still
10 seems like home to me. I spent a lot of time at
11 Alexander Lake before the Frito-Lay plant located
12 there.

13 "I believe that the age of fossil fuel
14 is over, and the state will thrive with renewable
15 power. I do not believe that the state needs
16 another power plant in Killingly powered by diesel
17 and natural fracked gas. It is not safe, it is
18 not economic, it is not working."

19 And then she went on to say a few nice
20 things about me, which I won't repeat.

21 I thank you very much for the
22 opportunity to offer my testimony. Have a good
23 evening.

24 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I appreciate
25 the applause, but if you want to move this along,

1 I would urge you not to applaud or make other
2 manifestations because it will just prevent other
3 people from speaking.

4 The next person is Scott Pempek,
5 Selectman.

6 SCOTT PEMPEK: Good evening. For the
7 record, my name is Scott Pempek, P-e-m-p-e-k. As
8 a selectman in Putnam, I'm very concerned about
9 the impact this power plant will have on
10 neighboring towns. The opinions developed are
11 expressly my own and not necessarily those of the
12 town of Putnam.

13 A project of this magnitude must be
14 taken seriously. I realize this will create some
15 property tax revenue, but we must consider all the
16 benefits and ask the key question, "At what cost?"

17 I've spoken to many people who are
18 strongly against the project because of the
19 environmental impacts. We must consider that
20 Frito-Lay, Lake Road Generating, and an asphalt
21 plant are all located in the vicinity. How much
22 can one area of the state handle? The plant would
23 also require thousands of gallons of water per
24 day, which would have an impact on wells, aquifers
25 and the Quinebaug River.

1 In addition to the impact to the
2 environment and water usage, there's also a huge
3 concern for local property owners about the
4 negative impact the location of the power plant
5 will have on the property values. The proposed
6 site utility has nearby farms and land trust
7 property, homes, and situating this plant near
8 wetlands, the Quinegaug River and Alexander Lake
9 is, in my opinion, simply a poor choice.

10 Is any of this worth it? Ultimately
11 we're only talking about 30 full-time jobs, and
12 the power wouldn't even benefit local ratepayers
13 because that will be sold out of state. Quite
14 simply, in my personal opinion, the benefits don't
15 outweigh the costs.

16 I appreciate the opportunity to submit
17 the testimony, and hope the Siting Council will
18 take it into consideration. Thank you.

19 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

20 State Senator Mae Flexer.

21 MAE FLEXER: Good evening. My name is
22 Mae Flexer. I'm a state senator for the 29th
23 District. And I want to thank all of you for the
24 time you spent with us at the site walk today and
25 the opportunity to be a part of that.

1 Thank you for the opportunity to speak
2 before you this evening and to talk about this
3 proposed power plant and the many important issues
4 surrounding it.

5 As an elected representative of the
6 people of the Town of Killingly and a 31-year town
7 resident, I have a number of grave concerns about
8 the proposed Killingly Energy Center.

9 In my view, perhaps the most important
10 factor to consider in reviewing the application to
11 construct the proposed new plant, is the existence
12 of a similar facility already located in the
13 immediate vicinity. To be specific, I would draw
14 your attention to the existing Lake Road
15 Generating Plant in Killingly in operation here
16 since 2002. This existing plant, located less
17 than a mile from the proposed site of the KEC
18 project, represents a present and ongoing
19 commitment by the local community to support the
20 regional electric grid and the energy needs of
21 homes and businesses in Connecticut and across our
22 neighboring states.

23 The Lake Road Generating Plant has a
24 nominal capacity of 792 megawatts, making it the
25 third largest natural gas generation facility in

1 all of Connecticut, and the third largest
2 generation facility overall.

3 The addition of a second power plant in
4 Killingly, the proposed 550 megawatt facility,
5 would make our small town, by far, the largest
6 natural gas power generation site in all of
7 Connecticut. In fact, according to data compiled
8 by the Connecticut Economic Resource Center,
9 Killingly would then become the second largest
10 power generation site in all of Connecticut,
11 second only to the Millstone Nuclear Power
12 facilities in Waterford.

13 This would be an enormous burden to
14 place upon the people of Killingly, which ranks as
15 only the 65th most populous of Connecticut's 169
16 towns. To require so much of the state's
17 electricity to be generated here, and along with
18 it to concentrate such a large fraction of the
19 state's pollutants and emissions from power
20 generation in this town, is grossly unfair. One
21 small community should not have to bear such a
22 disproportionately large share of the negative
23 externalities associated with meeting the state
24 and region's electricity needs. As I have
25 previously noted, Killingly already bears more

1 than its fair share of this burden through the
2 presence of the existing natural gas generation
3 facility within its borders.

4 There is also an important question of
5 capacity. The design of the proposed Killingly
6 Energy Center would require large amounts of
7 locally-sourced water to operate, a resource that
8 is not unlimited and which is already utilized for
9 the operation of the existing power plant, by
10 other production facilities and businesses in the
11 area, and of course our residential home
12 customers. The dedication of such large
13 quantities of local water to the proposed KEC
14 facility would constrain the use of those
15 resources for other purposes, both in the present
16 and that might be contemplated for the future.

17 Simply put, the people of Killingly
18 already made an enormous and highly
19 disproportionate contribution to the power
20 generation needs of Connecticut and our
21 neighboring states. Yet, this community's
22 willingness to support its existing facility
23 should not be exploited or taken advantage of to
24 force yet another large-scale facility on this
25 town, its people and its environment.

1 If the Siting Council does decide to
2 locate this facility in Killingly, I strongly urge
3 you to only approve such a project if there is a
4 guarantee of a Project Labor Agreement. This
5 agreement will ensure that the facility will be
6 built by the most highly-trained workers and will
7 provide these workers with a high quality living
8 wage. I am very concerned that NTE is promising
9 many of our residents a PLA when in fact only a
10 memorandum of understanding has been signed. The
11 Siting Council should require that a Project Labor
12 Agreement is in place, and the agreement be
13 transferable to any future owners of this property
14 and that the facility, should the current
15 proponents of this project sell it to another
16 entity, be required to meet the standards of that
17 agreement.

18 I ask you to bear all of these
19 considerations in mind, and accordingly to reject
20 this ill-considered application for yet another
21 large-scale fossil fuel generation plant in this
22 small town.

23 Thank you for your time and for the
24 opportunity to speak with you this evening.

25 THE CHAIRMAN: State Representative

1 Christine Randall.

2 CHRISTINE RANDALL: My name is
3 Christine Randall, State Representative from the
4 Town of Killingly. I want to thank you for
5 allowing me to speak regarding NTE's proposal to
6 build a 550 megawatt natural gas power plant on
7 Lake Road in Dayville.

8 I want to emphasize the vast majority
9 of residents in our district have relayed their
10 opposition to this project to me. Many of my
11 constituents have said they are concerned about
12 the impact this power plant will have on the air
13 they breathe, the water they drink, and the way
14 they live. I too share these concerns and believe
15 the location of this power plant is particularly
16 worrisome.

17 Particularly concerning is the
18 clustering of power plants in this area, including
19 the Lake Road Generating Plant, less than a mile
20 away, and the Ocean State Power Plant in
21 Harrisville, Rhode Island. Simply put, Killingly
22 has already done service. Frito-Lay, Lake Road
23 Generating and the asphalt company are located
24 close nearby. This industrial area already causes
25 Killingly to fall victim to traffic, noise and

1 other pollutants. This additional power plant
2 will significantly add to this congestion, and I
3 question how necessary it is to this area.

4 Additionally, the proposed plant will
5 be located within three-quarters of a mile from
6 the Killingly Intermediate School, approximately
7 one mile from the Goodyear Early Childhood Center,
8 and approximately two miles from the Killingly
9 Central School and the Killingly High School.
10 Windham County already has the highest child
11 asthma rates in Connecticut, 18.9 percent, double
12 the national average. Many residents have said
13 they are worried about the rise in air pollution
14 if this plant is built. Risking the health of
15 children is not something I can support.

16 I certainly understand how important
17 jobs and revenues are to the area, but in this
18 case I think you'll realize the unanticipated
19 costs do not -- do not benefit this project to
20 move forward. I strongly urge you to consider all
21 of these concerns before making your final
22 decision. However, if this project is approved,
23 I'd ask you to require that a Project Labor
24 Agreement be put in place.

25 I want to thank you again for this

1 opportunity to share my concerns related to this
2 project.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Matthew
4 Maddocks -- what I'm going to do, I'm going to
5 call "to be followed by" so the next person can
6 also come up -- to be followed by Al Landry.

7 MATTHEW MADDOCKS: Hello, my name is
8 Matthew Maddocks, M-A-D-D-O-C-K-S, of Brooklyn,
9 Connecticut.

10 I support this project because it will
11 create jobs in the area, which is one of the
12 poorest areas of the state. We need this power
13 plant to remove Connecticut's reliance on nuclear,
14 coal and oil. Our electrical grid is overstressed
15 as it is. We may get another storm like we did in
16 2013 and are out of power for three weeks. ISO
17 New England concluded we need this power.

18 Some of the economic benefits are good
19 paying jobs done by union construction workers.
20 The same people that built the school you are
21 standing in now may be on this project. We can
22 keep food on the table for their families, keep
23 money in Connecticut instead of just over the
24 border in Rhode Island or Massachusetts, generate
25 property tax in Killingly, local area businesses,

1 including restaurants, stores and hotels will
2 benefit and the extra customers that would bring.

3 This is what I do for a living. I live
4 three miles, as the crow flies, from Lake Road
5 Generating, and I've worked there on the
6 substation. With this new project, I can spend
7 more time at home with my wife and nine-month-old
8 daughter instead of living in a hotel across the
9 country, or worse, unemployed. This project will
10 make a better life for our community members and
11 their families. This will make the state a
12 cleaner place by eliminating inefficient plants.
13 We will all benefit from this project.

14 The people against this project, Not in
15 my Backyard, are being hypocrites. They did not
16 ride here on horses. They do not light their
17 houses with candles. They may heat their homes
18 with wood, but they did not cut that wood with
19 hand saws.

20 In conclusion, I urge you to approve
21 this project to bring this 500 million dollars to
22 a part of the state that so badly needs it. Thank
23 you.

24 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Landry.

25 AL LANDRY: Al Landry, L-A-N-D-R-Y,

1 organic farmer and make my own power with
2 photovoltaics for 35 plus years.

3 Okay. In the event of an accident or
4 sabotage, will our emergency responders have the
5 proper training and equipment to respond safely?
6 During transmission a tremendous amount of power
7 is lost. Shouldn't plants be built where the
8 power is to be used?

9 What effect on the pollinators with the
10 50 or more known pollutants from the smokestacks
11 have? The pollinators are under heavy stress now.
12 Adding more stress due to pollution cannot be
13 helpful. I know. I don't want to be like parts
14 of China where I'm out there with a paintbrush
15 going from flower to flower to pollinate my crops.

16 What will happen when battery
17 technology improves and solar and wind take over
18 the field or when new technologies are invented?
19 Would the taxes go away? Would this building just
20 be an eyesore, et cetera?

21 And finally, what guarantees is there
22 that would ensure that these jobs would go to
23 local workers? How about if the project changes
24 hands, would that still be ensured, because I
25 think that's an important part.

1 Thank you for your time.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

3 We're having a problem reading the next
4 speaker's name. I think the first name is
5 "Frank." And I just don't know what the -- I just
6 can't -- thank you. I should have asked in the
7 beginning. Also followed by Robert Hess.

8 FRANK ALEMAN: Good evening, my name is
9 Frank Aleman. I live in Dayville, Connecticut.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Last name?

11 MR. ALEMAN: Aleman, A-L-E-M-A-N.

12 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

13 MR. ALEMAN: Thank you very much.

14 You folks have a difficult job to do.
15 I'm well aware that this is not an easy thing for
16 you to have to make decisions on. But I would
17 like to refer you to your own report of 2014/15,
18 which deals with Connecticut's energy needs. I'm
19 referring to your report which says there's an
20 excess of energy in Connecticut for the next
21 decade -- from '15 on, okay, that we are an
22 exporter of energy during this time, that in 2020
23 when NTE will come into full production, there is
24 an excess of 3,000 megawatts of electricity, that
25 ISO in your report is also quoted as saying there

1 is enough energy for the region.

2 Also, which is not in your report,
3 Bridgeport, which is constantly quoted by NTE as
4 being one of the plants that they will be
5 replacing, is being gas fired and will be adding
6 extra energy again.

7 So, in total, again, in my opinion, on
8 reading your report, all of it, it clearly
9 indicates that there is no need for extra energy.

10 So my question is, how can NTE's
11 request not be contradictory to your own report?
12 And I know it's a tough job, and you are going to
13 have to reconcile your own thinking to the
14 request.

15 Thank you for your time.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

17 Mr. Hess followed by Helen Androwski.

18 ROBERT HESS: Robert Hess, H-E-S-S,
19 Pomfret, Connecticut. And I'm not related to the
20 energy makers.

21 I came to this area about 11 years ago.
22 I drive right through the road which is near the
23 proposed site. I fell in love with this area.
24 It's beautiful. And I'd hate to see anything
25 happen to it to lose that beauty. I realize why

1 so many people come to this area for tourism, to
2 live.

3 And I'm a school teacher, and I have
4 students who ask me questions. And one of the
5 questions I get frequently is why do people want
6 to continue doing things the way they've always
7 done it? For example, why do we have technologies
8 that are essentially back from the 19th and 20th
9 Centuries and not instead pushing forward to
10 something from the 21st Century? I realize NTE is
11 probably going to spend hundreds of millions of
12 dollars to build the site, but what if that money
13 were then channeled instead into putting solar
14 panels on thousands and thousands of homes or in
15 yards around this region? We'd still generate
16 lots of income. You'd have a consistent stream of
17 income, if that's what you're interested in.
18 You'd generate the energy you need. You wouldn't
19 have any pollution to speak of. You'd be able to
20 train the workers so they would know how to do the
21 installation, and they would have jobs they could
22 take anywhere they'd want to go.

23 All these things are thoughts that just
24 kind of popped in my head and popped in the heads
25 of the kids that I teach because they're actually

1 thinking about the future. I would like to see
2 this area stay clean and pure and not be
3 despoiled. Thank you very much.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Lee Fontaine followed by
5 Todd Dexter.

6 HELEN ANDROWSKI: Hello, my name is
7 Helen Androwski, A-N-D-R-O-W-S-K-I.

8 This power plant does not seem to be
9 environmentally compatible with the area. There
10 will be damage to the wetlands caused by
11 construction and much more air pollution for the
12 tristate area. The property values will be
13 lowered and our population made sicker. It will
14 be less attractive for us to live here in the
15 Quiet Corner.

16 NTE has not completed construction of
17 any of their proposed power plants and no
18 experience running them. Does this make Killingly
19 an experiment? This could cause a monumental
20 disaster, not only for us but the whole region.
21 The need for this plant has not been proven. The
22 demand for energy is decreasing. The damage to
23 our health and environment is undeniable.

24 Remember, this is The Last Green
25 Valley. Thank you.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Todd Dexter followed by
2 Kevin Cwikla.

3 TODD DEXTER: D-E-X-T-E-R. Thank you
4 for having this hearing. I represent 27
5 bricklayers, cement masons from the Town of
6 Killingly. 16 of those are Ellis Tech graduates.
7 The vast majority right now are traveling up to
8 four hours a day to feed their families, to have
9 healthcare for them. These opportunities don't
10 come along often in this Quiet Corner. And I know
11 my members would love to be able to get home on
12 time to go to a Little League game and soccer game
13 and not be on the road in the dark in the morning
14 and in the dark on the way home.

15 This developer has promised us that
16 they will use local people, people that have gone
17 to school to learn their craft. As you can see,
18 this building was built by local residents. There
19 is a large population of construction workers in
20 this area that travel all over to earn a living.
21 So we really would like to see an opportunity
22 close to home. Thank you.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Kevin Cwikla followed by
24 John Sarantopoulos.

25 KEVIN CWIKLA: Good evening, ladies and

1 gentlemen of the board. My name is Kevin Cwikla,
2 C-W-I-K-L-A. I represent thousands of the members
3 of the Norwich-New London Building Trades. These
4 men and women put on their workboots every
5 morning, go to work all throughout the state. And
6 we stand in favor of this project. We're right
7 now sitting as a testimony to these men and women.
8 They built this high school. And it's a beautiful
9 job. I mean, all skilled labor.

10 One of the things in my career that
11 I've witnessed is the shutdown of many plants. I
12 worked at Yankee, I worked at Millstone Unit 1.
13 All these megawatt units have shut down. Also,
14 you've got Montville, Bridgeport, all these coal
15 burners that are shutting down for a cleaner
16 renewable source of energy.

17 Yes, Connecticut is going to meet those
18 demands. And again, I can't stress enough for the
19 men and women of the building trades, we are
20 strongly in favor of this project.

21 And thank you so much for your
22 consideration. Thank you.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

24 John Sarantopoulos to be followed by
25 Dan Berk.

1 Go ahead, sir.

2 JOHN SARANTOPOULOS: Good evening. My
3 name is John Sarantopoulos,
4 S-A-R-A-N-T-O-P-O-U-L-O-S. I've been a resident
5 of this community for 78 years, and I want what's
6 best for Killingly, providing this project meets
7 all of the federal, state standards,
8 environmental. I'm concerned about air quality,
9 noise, water supply.

10 However -- and I've attended all of
11 these meetings so far that have been held on this
12 issue. All I've heard from, including this
13 evening, are special interest groups, those who
14 oppose it, and those who want it. I haven't heard
15 anything yet of substance that says that the
16 proposed project is a detriment to this area. I
17 rely on you people for that, and for you people to
18 make the right judgment as far as meeting all that
19 it should be in order to be beneficial to
20 Killingly.

21 There's a tremendous amount of taxes
22 involved for this community, providing the project
23 is good for this community. There's a minimum
24 amount of services that would be required once
25 that plant is up and running by the community,

1 therefore it's a big asset for our community.

2 Now, I've also attended planning and
3 zoning meetings, town council meetings, people who
4 have -- to you people on whether or not the
5 applicant meets the standards, whether or not the
6 community wants it. And I would recommend that
7 what you do is listen to the audio and there's
8 also visual of the council meetings and listen to
9 some of the bias that is expressed during those
10 meetings where our town council had to remind
11 planning and zoning people, for example, that,
12 look, you're not supposed to be dealing with your
13 personal opinions of this project, you're supposed
14 to be dealing with whether or not it meets your
15 regulations. And I think that's important that
16 this Siting Council makes a decision based on the
17 facts. And I want what's best for this community.

18 And the last thing that I'd like to
19 mention is in this area and throughout the whole
20 -- I think the whole of Connecticut there's a mass
21 of plants, primarily textile plants, that have
22 been vacated and they're crumbling, they're
23 deteriorating. We're tearing one down in downtown
24 Danielson right now. Suppose in 20, 40 years
25 there's no longer a need for this facility.

1 Shouldn't you people have something in there
2 requiring the dismantlement of this plant so that
3 it can be used for other purposes or completely
4 torn down? The community shouldn't be stuck with
5 that bill at the end of its life cycle.

6 Thank you very much.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

8 Mr. Berk followed by Bruce Hay.

9 CHUCK DANBURG: My name is Chuck
10 Danburg, D-A-N-B-U-R-G. I've lived in Killingly
11 in the past. I graduated from Killingly High
12 School. I'm here tonight to support the Killingly
13 Energy Center.

14 I've read in the news that Killingly
15 would like to have its own training constables
16 instead of relying on resident state troopers for
17 its public safety. The millions of tax revenue
18 generated by the Killingly Energy Center could
19 help pay the cost of hiring Killingly's own police
20 force. I'm sure the Town of Killingly can
21 certainly benefit from the new tax revenue from
22 the project. That's why I support the Killingly
23 Energy Center and encourage the Connecticut Siting
24 Council to approve this project. Thank you.

25 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

1 Bruce Hay followed by Renee King.

2 DAN BERK: I'm Dan Berk that registered
3 in that roster order. And I've got a statement
4 that I'd like to say. I'd also like to present a
5 copy of what I have to say for the record.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Spell your last name,
7 please, so we make sure we've got the right
8 person.

9 MR. BERK: Sure. It's Dan Berk,
10 B-E-R-K.

11 All right. To the Connecticut Siting
12 Council. My name is Dan Berk representing Lannon
13 Farm at 251 Lake Road in Dayville.

14 Our farm abuts the proposed site on the
15 east side. Our concerns are the negative effects
16 on our property of increased noise, road traffic,
17 and damage to our wetlands. Our family has owned
18 this property and farmed it for 150 years. Our
19 farm is currently classified under Public Act 490,
20 agricultural, and has been in the Public Act 490
21 agricultural program for over 40 years.

22 Three intermittent streams flow into
23 our property. One stream flows from the discharge
24 of the town pond, which accepts road runoff from
25 Lake Road and parking lot runoff from several

1 industrial park businesses, including United
2 Natural Foods and Rite-Aid Distribution. The
3 decreased quality of that water has made it
4 undrinkable for our cattle, and they are currently
5 fenced so they cannot reach that stream as it
6 flows through our property on the northeast side.

7 The other two intermittent streams that
8 flow through our farm pastures discharge from the
9 proposed switchyard site of this plant and the
10 wetlands adjacent to the main plant proposed
11 development site. Our concerns are that the
12 switchyard and parking lot runoff water may be
13 contaminated with deicing chemicals and oils,
14 among other possible contaminants. The current
15 flow of these two streams has always been natural,
16 clear, unaltered water. This should not be
17 changed to increase the volume of decreased
18 quality water to satisfy the proposed plant's
19 storm water runoff needs. Our cattle should not
20 have to drink parking lot runoff water ported to
21 the streams they drink from.

22 That's all I have to say. Thank you.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Bruce Hay.

24 BRUCE HAY: Bruce Hay, H-A-Y.

25 I've been a resident of Killingly now

1 for 22 years, and every year our taxes keep going
2 up, and I turn around and see a lot of our
3 councilmen against this. I think it's something
4 we need. It's a perfect location. You've got
5 your power lines going through there, you've got
6 gas. I just think it's a perfect place for it.
7 Millstone, how much longer can that last? And
8 people are against atomic energy and that.

9 You have politicians here speaking
10 tonight. Mr. Rovero, when he was mayor, is the
11 one that put that ash landfill up there that we
12 should be more worried about. Mr. Pempek is
13 fighting a hydro plant in Putnam right now. Some
14 people just fight everything. You've got people
15 here from Killingly tonight, but it's only a small
16 percentage. The ones that don't mind it coming in
17 don't bother coming to these meetings. It's the
18 ones that are against it.

19 So I just hope that you look at this,
20 that it's a good thing for Killingly, and do
21 what's right. Thank you.

22 THE CHAIRMAN: Renee King followed by
23 Martha Klein.

24 RENEE KING: Renee King, K-I-N-G,
25 Thompson, Connecticut.

1 To the members of the Connecticut
2 Siting Council, I wish to address your mission
3 statement, quote, unquote, "The Connecticut Siting
4 Council objectively balances the statewide public
5 need for adequate and reliable services at the
6 lowest reasonable cost to consumers with the need
7 to protect the environment and the ecology of our
8 state."

9 We currently have eight power plants
10 operating on a 31-mile tract of land spanning from
11 Medway, Massachusetts to Killingly, Connecticut,
12 as demonstrated by this map. Killingly is already
13 home to a large gas-fired power plant. In
14 addition, the State of Rhode Island is considering
15 a 900 megawatt gas-fired power plant for
16 Burrillville. If the Killingly and Burrillville
17 Power Plants are approved, our tristate region
18 will be home to ten power plants that produce a
19 total of 4,675 megawatts of power.

20 Is the State of Connecticut asking the
21 residents of Northeast Connecticut to sacrifice
22 our air, water and land for the benefit of
23 providing the "lowest reasonable cost" to the
24 consumer?

25 If in fact there is a real need for

1 more energy, have other locations within New
2 England been considered that are not clustered
3 with eight power plants and home to several
4 federally-classified distressed communities?

5 I request that the tristate officials
6 and the New England Clean Energy RFP convene to
7 discuss how to navigate this unique situation. I
8 also request that an environmental impact study be
9 completed to assess the environmental consequences
10 of clustering ten power plants on a 31-mile tract
11 of land.

12 I believe that the cumulative impact of
13 ten power plants may have devastating consequences
14 on the health of our families, the health of the
15 environment and ultimately on the economy, as
16 citizens choose not to reside in our tristate
17 region.

18 I ask the Connecticut Siting Council to
19 protect the environment and ecology of Northeast
20 Connecticut and ensure environmental justice for
21 all citizens in our tristate region. A decision
22 of this magnitude must not be rushed in order to
23 meet the ISO New England auction deadline. A
24 decision of this magnitude deserves the respect of
25 a comprehensive evaluation.

1 Thank you for your time.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

3 Martha Klein followed by John
4 Calandrelli.

5 MARTHA KLEIN: I'm Martha Klein,
6 K-L-E-I-N. I live in Norfolk, Connecticut. So
7 I'm from the opposite side of the state, but what
8 happens with energy affects everyone in the state.
9 So with your leave, I'd like to talk about the
10 bigger picture for a moment.

11 Climate change is already here. The
12 state spent over a billion dollars cumulatively
13 recovering from Tropical Storm Irene, Hurricane
14 Sandy and the unnamed 2011 nor'easter. We just
15 went through a profound drought this summer, which
16 we're still in in the autumn, and rivers in
17 Connecticut and other parts of New England are
18 actually at historic lows. We know that we must
19 transition to 100 percent renewable energy, true
20 clean energy, not fracked methane gas, but wind,
21 water and sun. And we know that we have to do it
22 sooner rather than later. So these types of
23 projects lock us into more fossil fuel use for
24 decades at a time when we urgently need to make
25 the transition. And those are agreements that

1 we've reached internationally as well as within
2 our state.

3 There are five new gas-powered plants
4 proposed for Connecticut. And forgive me, because
5 you know this vastly better than I do. And
6 virtually -- the majority of these plants will
7 come before you, if they haven't already. So
8 Oxford is approved but not yet constructed,
9 Bridgeport, Danbury, Killingly and New Milford.
10 There's been tens of thousands of residential
11 conversions of homes and businesses to frack
12 methane or natural gas for residential use. Those
13 are subsidized by ratepayers. There's been
14 massive interstate pipeline expansion going on
15 already in our state, but our energy prices
16 haven't come down, not a bit. My bill from
17 Eversource has gone up quite a lot.

18 Within the analysis, the Analysis of
19 Need and Economic and Environmental Impacts that
20 was put out by NTE done by PA, it says, "The
21 primary input to the plan model is the projected
22 electricity cost savings to Connecticut ratepayers
23 from KEC's operations."

24 So considering that Connecticut is a
25 net energy exporter now. And according to the

1 2015 Massachusetts Attorney General study, we
2 don't need more massive increases of fracked
3 methane gas into the state. We don't need the
4 power. Certainly, you don't need it in Killingly,
5 but actually you don't need it anywhere in
6 Connecticut. They're not shutting down Millstone
7 at all. We think they should. And the Harbor
8 Point Bridgeport coal plant will maybe be shut
9 down in 2020 and replaced with a gas plant, as you
10 already heard.

11 And we know that methane, partly
12 because of the methane emissions that occur all
13 along the point from extraction to delivery leaks,
14 but also largely the leakage that occurs in the
15 fracking fields to the west of us, which is where
16 this gas comes from. We know that the climate
17 change potential of natural gas is equal to or
18 worse than coal. This is not the time to be
19 bringing in massive amounts of fracked methane
20 that no one in Connecticut or in New England
21 needs. This power would get exported to other
22 parts of the country, perhaps New York City, but
23 that doesn't benefit Connecticut ratepayers or
24 taxpayers at all.

25 So when we talk about the larger

1 picture, this is going to have a negative impact
2 on need. This will negatively impact my climate,
3 negatively impact my energy bills, and negatively
4 impact the air.

5 Furthermore, there's a false narrative
6 going around, which is that methane is clean,
7 cheap and reliable. It's none of the above. It
8 certainly isn't cheap. That was done away with
9 when the price of oil dropped also because of
10 fracking. So there's no economic benefit in using
11 this fossil fuel as opposed to converting to
12 something that would save the planet. It certainly
13 is not clean, as I already referred to, that the
14 global climate change potential of methane is
15 devastating and vastly worse than carbon dioxide,
16 and it's also not reliable, which is why energy
17 industries are rushing to get projects approved as
18 quickly as they possibly can to use up this fuel
19 and get these projects approved before it
20 completely taps out. All conventional sources of
21 natural gas are already in terminal decline and
22 next the shale gas sources will go into terminal
23 decline. There is a better way.

24 The Danbury Gas Power Plant, which is
25 coming before you guys, is partly powered by

1 solar. I would like to ask that the Connecticut
2 Siting Council begin to look at your approvals and
3 your requirements based on some more of that,
4 which the state needs and the country needs, and
5 we depend on you to be leaders in bringing to us.
6 And what we're saying is that the public has a
7 need for renewable energy now, and in no way is
8 further use of fossil fuel good for us.

9 Furthermore, renewable energy will
10 bring much more jobs. We are also concerned about
11 the families that don't have jobs. They should
12 get retrained and get jobs in solar and wind.
13 Thank you, and good night.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: John Calandrelli
15 followed by the next person after you is Donald
16 St. Onge.

17 Go ahead, sir.

18 JOHN CALANDRELLI: My name is John
19 Calandrelli. That's C-A-L-A-N-D-R-E-L-L-I. I'm a
20 private citizen. This is rather short.

21 The title of tonight's hearing actually
22 makes this really easy. "Environmental
23 Compatibility and Public Need." Well, we now
24 know, of course, fossil fuels are not
25 environmentally compatible, either locally or

1 globally. So there's one answer.

2 Two is public need. I was just at the
3 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
4 yesterday with the Governor's Council on Climate
5 Change, and in the presentations yesterday it
6 showed that energy, electricity usage in
7 Connecticut and the six New England states has
8 been on a downward trend since 2005. In
9 Connecticut alone it's been relatively flat or a
10 downward trend since 2010. So there's another
11 question answered for tonight.

12 And thirdly, and lastly, the jobs, the
13 25 to 30 full-time jobs locking us into another 30
14 years of fossil fuel thinking. For every million
15 dollars, according to the University of
16 Massachusetts study, invested in fracked methane
17 gas, you get approximately five jobs. For wind
18 you get 13. For solar you get 14. So there's the
19 jobs' argument right there.

20 I don't want to use up any more of your
21 time, but I think those three things really
22 covered the title of tonight's hearing fairly
23 easily. Thank you for your time.

24 THE CHAIRMAN: Donald St.Onge to be
25 followed by Scott Gustafson.

1 DONALD ST.ONGE: Good evening. My name
2 is Donald St.Onge, S-T, period, O-N-G-E. I'm a
3 registered nurse, and I've worked in healthcare
4 for more than 40 years. I want to talk about
5 asthma in Windham County.

6 Data published by the Connecticut
7 Department of Public Health reveals the following
8 regarding asthma in Connecticut in Windham County.
9 In 2015 it is estimated that 30,000 children in
10 grades 6 through 12 reported having an episode of
11 asthma, 10.5 percent of the middle and high school
12 students. Each year in Connecticut about 1,200
13 children under the age of 18 are hospitalized, and
14 there are 8,000 visits to emergency rooms for
15 asthma related problems. Based on data published
16 in 2010, the rate of asthma prevalence in
17 Connecticut was 11.3, compared to a nationwide
18 rate of 8.4 percent. In this same report the
19 asthma prevalence rate for Windham County was 18.9
20 percent, the highest in the State of Connecticut.
21 New Haven County was next closest at 12.1 percent.

22 Based on data published by the U.S.
23 Census Bureau for the years 2009 through 2013 for
24 the eight counties in Connecticut, Windham County
25 had the third highest percentage of persons at or

1 below the poverty level at 11.4 percent. Only
2 Hartford County at 11.6 and New Haven County at
3 12.4 percent ranked higher.

4 This is important because research
5 shows that asthma prevalence among children in
6 households with annual incomes of less than 15,000
7 was double that of children living in households
8 with incomes of 75,000 and higher. And between
9 2007 and 2010, connecticut children experienced a
10 16.5 percent increase in the prevalence of current
11 asthma, while in the same period there was a 5.6
12 percent decrease in the prevalence of current
13 asthma observed nationally.

14 An article on rising asthma rates in
15 Connecticut, dated September 30, 2014, published
16 in the Yale Daily News quote several sources on
17 this topic. Dr. Geoffrey Chupp, the Director of
18 Yale Center for Asthma and Airway Disease, is
19 quoted as saying that "Asthma is triggered by a
20 combination of a given individual's genetics,
21 environment and life-style." He adds that
22 "Geography is also important," noting that "A high
23 number of asthma cases in an area can be
24 attributed to environmental factors such as air
25 quality or proximity to a highway."

1 Nancy Alderman, CEO of Environment and
2 Human Health, also notes in this article that the
3 county with the highest rates in the United States
4 is Windham County, a rural, less affluent county,
5 our county. The article notes that between 30 and
6 40 percent of Connecticut residents living with
7 asthma do not take proper steps to control their
8 asthma, and that many of these residents do not
9 have the adequate access to healthcare.

10 The addition of this power plant can
11 only diminish our air quality and add to the
12 health concerns that our children face. And
13 within five miles of this proposed power plant
14 there are ten public and private schools.
15 Northeastern Connecticut has already made
16 sacrifices in allowing Lake Road Generating Plant
17 in Killingly, less than a mile from the proposed
18 plant, along with the tire burning plant in
19 Sterling and the trash burning facility in Lisbon.
20 I would respectfully ask the Siting Council to
21 disapprove this application and to work to provide
22 clean energy alternatives in Connecticut. Our
23 health depends on it. Thank you.

24 THE CHAIRMAN: Scott Gustafson followed
25 by Glenn Chester.

1 This is just to let everybody know we
2 have approximately 58 more people. So again,
3 applause is taking time.

4 SCOTT GUSTAFSON: Good evening,
5 Chairman Stein and members of the Council. My
6 name is Scott Gustafson. It's G-U-S-T-A-F-S-O-N.
7 I am the regional organizing director for the
8 Laborers' International Union of North America New
9 England Region. And I'm here tonight in support
10 of the Killingly Energy Center.

11 I want to thank you for doing your job.
12 As some of the folks said before me, you have a
13 very difficult job because it's not just yes or
14 no, it's not a personal issue. You've got to
15 think about the whole New England energy grid, and
16 you've got to think about the issues and the
17 requirements and the needs for baseload energy,
18 and you have to think about the changes in demands
19 for the grid.

20 So as an energy consumer -- I think
21 those items are important, but as an energy
22 consumer, myself and many of the people, I think
23 all of the people in this room, many of my
24 neighbors, many people that I know who own
25 businesses, they want relief from the highest

1 energy prices in the country. And the only way to
2 do that is to build a reliable energy system. And
3 the only way to do that is to build efficient
4 power plants that run unfortunately or fortunately
5 on domestic energy domestically produced natural
6 clean natural gas.

7 You know, this proposal -- New England
8 is in an energy crisis. ISO is warning that we
9 could face rolling brownouts if we don't address
10 the issue of replacing the retiring energy
11 facilities. Pilgrim Station, Bridgeport Harbor,
12 Brayton Point, Vermont Yankee, they're all
13 closing, and you've got to find a way to replace
14 that power. And as much as I love wind and solar
15 just like everybody else, it's just not -- it's
16 too intermittent. There's not enough baseload
17 power there to meet the grid's needs. So really
18 this proposal is about energy reliability.

19 Why here? The infrastructure is here.
20 You have the lines coming through here. The
21 environmental impact would be much greater to
22 build it somewhere else and put a lateral. The
23 infrastructure is here. That's why here. That's
24 why the proposal is here.

25 You talk about jobs. And you can't

1 diminish the fact that these are really good
2 construction jobs. If you diminish those jobs,
3 you're basically saying, well, they're not
4 important jobs. These were the jobs that built
5 this school. And I heard Todd Dexter speak
6 earlier. Look at the lines in those bricks and
7 how perfect they are. Imagine if we didn't care
8 about those jobs, and they were only temporary
9 jobs, were only considered temporary jobs, this
10 school would be falling down already. This power
11 plant and the power plants in New England are
12 built with skilled union labor, good family
13 supporting jobs, and these are great jobs, part of
14 really really good careers.

15 So I was watching the debate last
16 night. They're talking about outsourcing jobs.
17 These jobs can't be outsourced. They stay right
18 here, and they're part of really good construction
19 careers. This is good for economic development.
20 And I've traveled around the New England region,
21 around the country for several years discussing
22 energy projects, looking at energy projects, and
23 nobody ever wants one in their backyard. And
24 unfortunately though "no" is not a good energy
25 policy. We need good reliable energy sources here

1 in New England. We have a crisis.

2 So I'll leave you with the fact that
3 I'm in favor of the Killingly Energy Center. It's
4 going to be good, clean, economical energy for our
5 region. Thank you very much.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Glenn Chester
7 followed by Mark Hershberger.

8 GLENN CHESTER: Good evening, council
9 members. My name is Glenn Chester, C-H-E-S-T-E-R.
10 I thank you for your consideration for the power
11 plant, hopefully, that will be built here in the
12 Town of Killingly.

13 I've heard numerous stats throughout
14 this evening. Nobody is complaining when they're
15 putting up another Dunkin' Donuts or another
16 McDonald's or another Wendy's. That's a health
17 hazard, people. Hate to admit it, but it is. No
18 one is complaining about that.

19 A VOICE: We'll die from donuts.

20 MR. CHESTER: We're picking a parcel
21 that is D industrial. What do you expect to put
22 on an industrial D property but an industrial
23 parcel? We are strongly in favor of this project
24 moving forward, obviously under a Project Labor
25 Agreement, being a union member of the Plumbers

1 and Pipefitters Local 777 and a member of the
2 Building Trades of Connecticut. I helped build
3 the initial Killingly powerhouse in '99 and 2000.
4 We had no issues at all. I don't hear anybody
5 making any comments about that plant this evening.

6 So with your consideration of going
7 forth with this project, I thank you for the
8 opportunity to stand before you.

9 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

10 Mr. Hershberger followed by Ed
11 Demarais.

12 MARK HERSHBERGER: Good evening, and
13 thank you for being here today. I literally just
14 got a text. I've got a family emergency I've got
15 to get to real quick, so I'll be short, real
16 quick.

17 I support the project because of the
18 jobs that it's going to bring in the area here,
19 union jobs, nonunion jobs, and as well as the tax
20 burden is going to be lifted from this area as
21 well.

22 I've been a resident here and a member
23 of the fire department as well since 1988. And
24 ever since 1988 all I've ever seen was our taxes
25 go up and up and up. Having something like this

1 facility come into the Town of Killingly is a
2 bonus for everybody that's a resident here.

3 Thank you. Have a great night.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Ed Demarais followed by
5 Scott Marvel.

6 EDWARD DEMARAIS: Good evening. My
7 name is Ed Demarais, D-E-M-A-R-A-I-S.

8 I've lived in this town for 48 years,
9 and we need some revenue in this town, and I think
10 this agreement will help in a lot of ways.

11 I'm just going to cut myself short and
12 make room for everybody else. Thank you. Have a
13 good night.

14 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

15 Scott Marvel followed by Pete Alfieri.

16 SCOTT MARVEL: Good evening. My name
17 is Scott Marvel, M-A-R-V-E-L. I live in Windham
18 County. I'm a Local 777 union pipefitter.

19 I support the Killingly Energy Center
20 and feel that it would be good for Killingly and
21 the State of Connecticut. The Killingly Energy
22 Center will help replace older, dirtier coal-fired
23 plants with a new state-of-the-art gas-fired
24 facility, improving the overall air quality, while
25 helping meet our area's energy demand.

1 The Killingly Energy Center will also
2 create 250 to 350 new construction jobs. They'll
3 also be one of Killingly's largest taxpayers with
4 little impact on town services.

5 Thank you for your time. And please
6 approve the Killingly Energy Center project.
7 Thank you.

8 THE CHAIRMAN: Pete Alfieri to be
9 followed by Shawn McCauley.

10 PETER ALFIERI: Good evening. My name
11 is Peter Alfieri, A-L-F-I-E-R-I. I'm the
12 assistant business manager of Plumbers and
13 Pipefitters Local 777 right here in Connecticut.
14 We cover the State of Connecticut.

15 And I'm in the business of labor, jobs,
16 good union jobs. NTE is committed to hire local
17 people, local apprentices, out of the state, Ellis
18 Tech, right here in the Town of Killingly,
19 Danielson. We trust them. We know that they're
20 going to do the right thing for this community and
21 for my members, 2,500 members around the state,
22 Connecticut residents, Connecticut members.

23 And I appreciate your time. We're in
24 favor of this project. Thank you.

25 THE CHAIRMAN: Shawn McCauley to be

1 followed by Trevor Danbury.

2 SHAWN McCAULEY: He already spoke
3 earlier.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

5 SHAWN McCAULEY: My name is Shawn
6 McCauley, M-C-C-A-U-L-E-Y. And I'm the business
7 agent of Ironworkers Local 15 in Hartford,
8 Connecticut. And I'm here tonight representing
9 the ironworkers who live in this town and the
10 surrounding towns.

11 And I want to state for the record that
12 I'm in favor of this project. If the energy
13 center is built, it will become one of the largest
14 taxpayers in the community. Millions in tax
15 revenues every year will provide for the town
16 services and infrastructure services. The energy
17 center will be one of the cleanest, most efficient
18 natural gas facilities in the country, and the
19 plant will help displace the older coal and
20 oil-fired plants, which will help improve the air
21 quality throughout the state while still meeting
22 the demand for energy.

23 I realize nothing is easy when making
24 decisions, and emotions run high on both sides of
25 the issue, but I hope the Council will support the

1 Killingly Energy Center. I'd also like to thank
2 the town manager and the town council for the way
3 they've handled the town meetings throughout all
4 this project. The meetings were always very well
5 run and very informative. Thank you.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Richard Chenard to be
7 followed by Anthony Camillucci.

8 ANTHONY CAMILLUCCI: Good evening. My
9 name is Anthony Camillucci. That's
10 C-A-M-I-L-L-U-C-C-I. I'm a representative with
11 Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 777 here in the
12 great State of Connecticut. We represent well
13 over 2,000 plumbers and pipefitters, not only in
14 the State of Connecticut, but who live in close
15 proximity to the proposed power plant.

16 First, I would like to thank the Siting
17 Council for allowing us and to allow our voice to
18 be heard tonight. I'd also like to thank
19 Killingly Town Manager Sean Hendricks and the town
20 council for conducting all prior meetings on this
21 complex project in such a professional and
22 transparent manner.

23 I stand here in support of the project
24 tonight, not only for the economic benefit to my
25 members, but also the surrounding communities, but

1 also out of my concern for Connecticut's energy
2 future. We are all energy consumers. We
3 currently derive approximately 50 percent of
4 Connecticut's energy from Millstone Nuclear Power
5 Station in Waterford, Connecticut. That equates
6 to almost 98 percent of Connecticut's carbon free
7 power. That's the good news. The bad news is
8 it's estimated that 50 percent of all U.S. nuclear
9 power will be unprofitable within the next three
10 years making Millstone Station vulnerable to
11 closure in the near future, thus hurting our
12 electricity capacity. We need to continue to
13 build new plants, like the one proposed here in
14 Killingly, that incorporate the latest clean
15 burning, environmentally safe technologies in
16 order to retire older plants in our state and
17 secure Connecticut's energy future.

18 Thank you for your time. And you have
19 a good night.

20 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

21 Richard Chenard.

22 A VOICE: He had to leave.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. So Adam Lupino
24 followed by Chris O'Neill.

25 ADAM LUPINO: Adam Lupino, L-U-P-I-N-O,

1 representing the Laborers' Union New England
2 Region. I want to thank the Council for being
3 here this evening. I want to thank also the Town
4 of Killingly as well. I know this is a very
5 difficult decision.

6 As always, from our perspective, we
7 obviously are in support of the project, but we
8 also respect legitimate landowners and the
9 environmental concerns and trust that the process
10 will vet those concerns that, if the project is
11 ultimately approved, it can be accepted by the
12 community.

13 This project will create really good
14 family-supporting jobs, and it also fulfills the
15 desire for us to figure out the crisis, how to
16 solve the energy crisis that's facing the New
17 England power grid. Coal retirements, nuclear
18 retirements are of great concern, and there's got
19 to be an ability to replace that megawatts onto
20 the grid.

21 This is a regional grid. Businesses
22 cannot continue to pay the highest energy costs in
23 the country, neither can consumers. We need to
24 approve projects like this and other projects like
25 the nearby Burrillville, Rhode Island and other

1 areas to ensure that we have a functioning grid to
2 spur economic development, help businesses create
3 jobs and keep the lights on.

4 So I thank you for your time.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Chris O'Neill followed
6 Adam Church.

7 CHRIS O'NEILL: Good evening, Chair and
8 council members. My name is Chris O'Neill,
9 O-N-E-I-L-L. I'm the business manager of
10 Boilermakers Local 237 in Hartford, Connecticut.
11 I represent many active and retired members who
12 are residents of Killingly and throughout Windham
13 County.

14 I stand before you on behalf of my
15 members in support of this project. The NTE
16 Energy Center will bring economic growth to the
17 region and financial stability to the Town of
18 Killingly. It will create hundreds of jobs during
19 construction and supply good paying jobs at the
20 completion of the project. This proposed project
21 is the newest and most efficient of its kind. It
22 is the most cost effective way to create reliable
23 clean energy.

24 The power plant is the most sensible
25 fix to the power supply shortage that the State of

1 Connecticut and the entire Northeast is soon to
2 encounter. The Boilermakers and myself respect
3 the residents of Killingly who oppose this
4 project, but my members and myself stand in
5 support of it. Thank you.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Church followed by
7 Mark James.

8 ADAM CHURCH: Adam Church, C-H-U-R-C-H.
9 I'm here in support of the project. I'm with the
10 Boilermakers Local 237.

11 And the Killingly Energy Center will
12 bring about 250 to 350 jobs to Connecticut with
13 local guys working instead of us having to go out
14 of state. I'm a single father with two boys,
15 eight years old and one years old, and I'd like to
16 go home to them at night instead of having to
17 travel four hours out of state and back.

18 This will also be one of Killingly's
19 largest taxpayers, which will relieve some of the
20 problems that they -- and then it will also help
21 support the irrigation and things like that. The
22 project will also be good for the environment,
23 helping to replace older dirtier coal and oil
24 power plants with cleaner natural gas power
25 facilities.

1 I urge you, Siting Council, to approve
2 the Killingly Energy Center. We thank you for
3 your time.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

5 Mark James followed by Nick Carzoo.

6 NICK CARZOO: My name is Nick Carzoo.
7 Mark James left. I'm here with Local 237.

8 I'm in full support of this project. I
9 just came directly from Massachusetts, about an
10 hour and a half away. I live in Connecticut. I'd
11 like to see some work in this state for once.
12 I've been in this for three years now, and I
13 haven't worked consistently in the state in a long
14 time.

15 All of our plants are dying, they're
16 dirty, they're nasty. We're only putting
17 Band-Aids on them because the plants are shutting
18 down. So we need these plants. We need this new
19 construction. We need this work. Our local is
20 counting on it. All of us want to work in the
21 state. This will be a good year and a half, two
22 year long project for us. We need the work.

23 So thank you. Have a good day.

24 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

25 Benjamin Tomkunas followed by Dominic

1 Nacca.

2 BENJAMIN TOMKUNAS: How's it going? My
3 last name is T-o-m-k-u-n-a-s. I'm part of
4 Boilermakers Local 237. And I highly support the
5 Killingly Energy Center due to the fact that it's
6 work in Connecticut, the amount of jobs, and I
7 think there are incredible benefits of it. And
8 I'd be proud to wake up early and go home in the
9 dark and build a beautiful plant. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Dominic Nacca followed
11 by Kyle Bragdon.

12 DOMINIC NACCA: Good evening. My name
13 is Dominic Nacca, N-A-C-C-A. I'm a local member
14 of 237 Boilermakers. I support this project. Not
15 only would it help me support my family, but all
16 the other workers' families too. We want to work,
17 and we want to work in Connecticut. Thank you.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Kyle Bragdon to be
19 followed by Joshua Freitag.

20 KYLE BRAGDON: Good evening. It's Kyle
21 B-R-A-G-D-O-N. I'm here as an apprentice with the
22 Boilermakers Local 237.

23 We are here in support of this project.
24 We all like working in the State of Connecticut.
25 Most of us have families. And we do like to go

1 home and see them every night. And unfortunately
2 the majority of us do work out of the state in
3 which causes us to not see our families as much as
4 we'd like to. We'd all like to see this plant
5 happen. Thank you.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Freitag followed by
7 Chris, is it, Hacin?

8 JOSHUA FREITAG: Good evening, my name
9 is Joshua Freitag, F-R-E-I-T-A-G. I'm from Local
10 237. I'm a Boilermaker.

11 And I'd like to work in the State of
12 Connecticut more because most of our jobs are out
13 of state right now, and it's good to go home to
14 the family at night. So we are in full support of
15 this project. Thank you.

16 A VOICE: Is there a point of order
17 that can be made?

18 THE CHAIRMAN: No, sir. There is not.

19 A VOICE: It's obvious the union people
20 have signed up --

21 THE CHAIRMAN: Excuse me, sir --

22 Chris Hacin followed by Andy Rodriguez.

23 CHRISTOPHER HACIN: My name is

24 Christopher Hacin, H-A-C-I-N. I'm a Boilermaker
25 from Local 237.

1 I am in full support of the Killingly
2 Energy Center, as it provides revenue for my
3 family and the families of Local 237. Thank you.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Rodriguez followed
5 by Corey Nessing.

6 ANDY RODRIGUEZ: Good evening. My name
7 is Andy Rodriguez. That's R-O-D-R-I-G-U-E-Z.

8 And I believe that this project will be
9 good for Killingly and the State of Connecticut.
10 It will help hundreds of workers like me to work
11 here in the State of Connecticut. We're tired of
12 going out of state, and we would like to stay
13 closer to our homes. And I support this. Thank
14 you.

15 THE CHAIRMAN: Corey Nessing followed
16 by Robert Smeeton.

17 COREY NESSING: I am Corey Nessing,
18 N-E-S-S-I-N-G.

19 I support the Killingly Energy Center.
20 It's going to be good for Killingly and
21 Connecticut. It will bring 250 to 300 jobs. It
22 will be one of Killingly's largest taxpayers, pay
23 millions of tax revenue, and create jobs. Thank
24 you.

25 THE CHAIRMAN: Robert Smeeton followed

1 by Chris Malarkey.

2 ROBERT SMEETON: Good evening. My name
3 is Robert Smeeton, S-M-E-E-T-O-N.

4 I'm here in favor of the Killingly
5 Energy Center. I'm from Windham County. The
6 Killingly Energy Center will bring between 250 and
7 350 needed construction jobs in the community,
8 good paying jobs, good pensions, good insurance.
9 It will also be good for the environment,
10 replacing old and dirty coal power plants. So I'm
11 in favor of this project. Thank you for
12 listening. Thank you.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Chris Malarkey followed
14 by James Ranfone.

15 CHRIS MALARKEY: Good evening. My name
16 is Chris Malarkey, M-A-L-A-R-K-E-Y.

17 Being both a resident and graduate of
18 Killingly High School, as well as a Local Union 24
19 carpenter, I am for the building of the Killingly
20 Energy Center. I had an opportunity to take part
21 in building the high school that my daughters will
22 attend some day. The approval of this project
23 will not only give me and other local tradesmen
24 the opportunity to earn income close to home, it
25 will also help keep the taxes down in the area to

1 make it affordable for my children to one day live
2 here. I am in favor of this project. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ranfone to be
4 followed by Josh Johnson.

5 JAMES RANFONE: Hello. My name is
6 James Ranfone, R-A-N-F-O-N-E. And I am a Local
7 237 Boilermakers. And I fully support the
8 Killingly Energy Center. Thank you.

9 THE CHAIRMAN: Josh Johnson followed by
10 Greg Vitagliano.

11 JOSHUA JOHNSON: I'm Joshua Johnson,
12 J-O-H-N-S-O-N. I'm an apprentice with the Local
13 Boilermakers 237.

14 And I support the Killingly Energy
15 Center because it's going to bring hundreds of
16 union jobs in Connecticut locally. And I want to
17 feed my family just like everybody else. Thanks.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Greg Vitagliano to be
19 followed by Nelson Smith.

20 GREGORY VITAGLIANO: My name is Gregory
21 Vitagliano. That's V-I-T-A-G-L-I-A-N-O.

22 And I support the energy because I'm
23 with the Local 237, and it's Connecticut jobs, and
24 we need Connecticut jobs. It's all Connecticut
25 workers. It's all unions that built this country.

1 Thank you.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Nelson Smith to be
3 followed by Nate Tisler.

4 NELSON SMITH: Nelson Smith, S-M-I-T-H.
5 And I'm here with the Boilermakers 237.

6 I live here in Killingly, and I support
7 this project. I would like to be able to go to
8 work and come home for once with the sun still
9 out. And I support this project. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Nate Tisler followed by
11 Scott Swick.

12 NATE TISLER: Good evening. My name is
13 Nate Tisler. I'm a resident of Brooklyn, but I
14 graduated from Killingly. I'm with Local 478.
15 And I support the power plant.

16 I drive to work, Hartford, Waterbury,
17 Danbury, wherever. Not very recently or not very
18 often do I get to work in the town that I live in.
19 The last time I did, the existing power line that
20 the gentleman was speaking of, those 330
21 structures that they put in two years ago, in the
22 crane that I was running I hung over 200 of them.
23 We complied with all the wetland programs that
24 they had.

25 And, you know, last time I was up here

1 and I spoke, a gentleman got up behind me and said
2 that I was only here for selfish reasons. I am a
3 member of the community. Most importantly, I want
4 the community to be safe. But me and these fellow
5 union men that are here, we're not here for
6 selfish reasons. We're here to feed our families,
7 not selfish. And, you know, I would like to see
8 it happen.

9 Thank you very much.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Scott Swick to be
11 followed by Matt Shelton.

12 SCOTT SWICK: Good evening. Scott
13 Swick, S-W-I-C-K.

14 I'm a representative for the Operating
15 Engineers representing over 2,000 heavy equipment
16 operators, mechanics, surveyors, several of which
17 are in the room, many of which live in this area.
18 Some of are out of work that could use the work,
19 like the brother before me, also some are a little
20 afraid to get up here and speak in favor of the
21 project, and others, and many of which, are
22 working right now. They work nights. They work
23 long hours. They work all over the state.
24 They're repairing and upgrading our
25 infrastructure, our roads, our bridges, our sewage

1 treatment plants, our power plants. All that work
2 is going on, as we speak, right now all around the
3 state, and many of the people that I represent are
4 doing that work.

5 They asked me to come and speak in
6 favor of this project. They also wanted me to let
7 you know that they appreciate your hard work and
8 dedication along with the Killingly town
9 representatives and know that they have hard work
10 that they are doing. And we want to thank you for
11 that work.

12 This project would be using the latest
13 technology, and it will improve the infrastructure
14 to the system. And our members are in favor of
15 this project. And thank you for your time.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Matt Sheldon to be
17 followed by Alicia Brunnett.

18 MATT SHELDON: Hello. That's Sheldon,
19 S-H-E-L-D-O-N. Thank you for hearing me.

20 I went to Ellis Tech. I graduated to
21 be an electrician from there. I got into the
22 union. I worked on the school. And I also plan
23 on living in this town for the next 50 or so
24 years, give or take.

25 I think a project of this magnitude

1 should definitely be considered a positive thing
2 when you have potentially 2,000 megawatts being
3 dropped off the grid inside the next ten years.
4 When that happens, the demand will still be here.
5 Even if the numbers seem down, there are so many
6 more electronics coming along every day. Everyone
7 has a cell phone charger in every room with a
8 television and all sorts of things. Those all use
9 the power. We live in a society that requires a
10 this level of power.

11 And also as a resident, I currently and
12 regularly work at least an hour away, as many of
13 my brothers do, and I think it would be nice to
14 have something close to home.

15 Thank you for your time.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Alicia Brunnett to be
17 followed by John King.

18 ALICIA BRUNETT: Hi. My name is
19 Alicia Brunnett. Last name B-R-U-N-N-E-T-T. I've
20 lived in the Killingly area for about 15 years
21 now.

22 I think the project will be good for
23 everyone in the area, people work closer to home,
24 closer with their families. And I just think it's
25 good for the town. Thank you.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. King followed by
2 Earl McWilliams.

3 JOHN KING: John King from Thompson,
4 Connecticut. Members of the Siting Council, good
5 evening.

6 Do we want to be proactive or reactive?
7 NTE has stated that we need this new gas energy
8 plant due to retirements of plants in Connecticut,
9 which in turn will lead to the decrease in overall
10 energy production in our region. In the same
11 breath, they state that a number of those power
12 facilities have or are in the process of refitting
13 themselves from coal or oil plants to gas/oil
14 energy entities. Can NTE verify that other
15 proposed or future retirements are not going to
16 refit their plants, which would keep Connecticut's
17 energy needs intact? The energy business is a
18 multi-billion-dollar business. We know that. Why
19 would these companies not want to stay in the
20 business?

21 NTE needs to purchase water and
22 construct a water line from another town because
23 the existing Killingly wells are already stressed
24 from the present Lake Road Energy Plant. Where
25 will Lake Road Energy go when their wetlands do

1 not supply enough? Will they need to head to
2 Plainfield as well? What happens when
3 Plainfield's aquifers become stressed? This
4 scenario of water depletion has already occurred
5 in our neighboring Ocean State power plants in
6 Burriville, Rhode Island where the two facilities
7 had recent troubles scrambling to obtain water
8 outside their existing source. Are we going to be
9 proactive or reactive?

10 NTE states that their models show
11 little impact to air quality standards of the
12 region. Why is it then that NTE needs to buy
13 carbon energy credits from New York State to
14 offset the existing pollution? The models are
15 based on readings from areas outside of our
16 locality. To clarify, our locality includes not
17 only Killingly, but also Brooklyn, Pomfret,
18 Woodstock, Putnam and Thompson as well. These
19 towns are already adversely effected by the
20 clustering of eight existing power plants. Why
21 are we not taking air samples from our own towns
22 to account or discount particulate matter toxins
23 created by the cumulative effect of these eight
24 present power facilities? Are we being proactive
25 or reactive?

1 NTE claims to be a clean power plant
2 using clean natural gas. Why then has the
3 American Heart Association cite studies indicating
4 that the exposure to fine particulates over time
5 is associated with neurological abnormalities,
6 poorer cognitive function, dementia and also small
7 vessel disease. Healthcare costs to remediate
8 such issues will skyrocket over time. Will NTE
9 pay for this tab? If our energy needs will not be
10 compromised until 2024, how would a year-long
11 study of verifiable local air samples hurt the
12 welfare of our community?

13 Members of the Connecticut Siting
14 Council, it is in your hands if you want to be
15 proactive. Require a comprehensive air quality
16 and aquifer environmental impact study over an
17 extended period in the specific target area of the
18 the northeast corner of Connecticut. Require an
19 alternate location, not in a clustered area.
20 Require the inclusion of constructing and
21 utilizing renewable energies such as hydropower
22 from Canada, solar fields and wind farms to offset
23 the dependency on fossil fuel energy systems. If
24 you choose to be reactive, the residents of
25 Killingly and the other surrounding towns will

1 have to deal with the adverse health effects,
2 increased healthcare costs and water depletion
3 issues related to gas energy production for
4 generations to come.

5 We implore this Council to give this
6 process the time it deserves to protect all the
7 citizens of Northeastern Connecticut. Thank you.

8 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. McWilliams followed
9 by Charles Wilson.

10 CHARLES MCWILLIAMS: Good evening, and
11 welcome. My name is Earl McWilliams,
12 M-C-W-I-L-L-I-A-M-S.

13 I have a very specific problem. And
14 it's one of the concerns -- one of the many
15 concerns that NTE has not chosen to answer. Last
16 night we had to leave early before all concerns
17 could be addressed.

18 My specific concern is this: If you
19 read the NTE report, they say that significant
20 impact levels will be exceeded for particulate
21 matter 2.5 and for nitrogen oxide, heavier
22 particulates. Why is this the case? We don't
23 know. I think it's because the smokestack is too
24 short. The smokestack was supposed to be 170
25 feet, but for aesthetic reasons, i.e., public

1 relations reasons, they cut it down to 150 feet.

2 The EPA said back in 1985 in addressing
3 this issue that the smokestack should be two and a
4 half times the height of the next tallest building
5 on site. This is to avoid a downwash effect,
6 which on a windy day, if you've been in a city,
7 you're walking through a city, sometimes between
8 two buildings you'll see in the alley a vortex of
9 swirling stuff. On a windy day a stack that's too
10 short will have this downwash effect where you
11 will have, I'm afraid, a swirling vortex of
12 pollutants down at the base of the stack, which
13 would slowly rise up and dissipate. Again, the
14 stack is 150 feet tall. The next tallest building
15 on site is 90 feet tall. 90 feet times two and a
16 half would be 245 feet, not the 150 feet that
17 they're planning. I really believe that this
18 stack is too short, and that those of us who live
19 right around under the stack who breathe local air
20 are going to be subjected to this on a daily
21 basis. This is a pollution problem that I don't
22 think they have properly addressed, which they
23 must address. And I urge the Council to ask NTE
24 about this. Thank you.

25 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Mr. Wilson

1 to be followed by Dave Clark.

2 CHARLES WILSON: Thank you. My name is
3 Charles Wilson, W-I-L-S-O-N.

4 I'm here to read a letter from my
5 neighbor, John LaBelle, because his health doesn't
6 allow him to be here tonight.

7 So I'm reading his letter, as it's
8 addressed to you, Mr. Chairman, and the Vice
9 Chair, and the members of the Council, and Melanie
10 Bachman.

11 "Dear Chairman Stein, Vice Chairman
12 Murphy, Executive Director Bachman, and
13 distinguished members of the Connecticut Siting
14 Council. My name is John LaBelle. I live with my
15 wife, Janet, at 57 Island Road in Dayville,
16 Connecticut, one mile from the NTE proposed power
17 plant.

18 "I'm a licensed architect. I was born
19 in Killingly, and I'm a seventh generation of
20 LaBelles living in Killingly. I lived in Putnam
21 for a period of time, and except for living in New
22 London for a year, I've lived in this area all my
23 life. I've served in the military and served on
24 many public agencies in Putnam for 15 years,
25 including president of the Putnam City Council. I

1 also have children and grandchildren living in
2 this area.

3 "I oppose the plans for the proposed
4 550 megawatt power plant and summarize my reasons
5 as follows: There is no need for this project
6 based upon various governmental and industry
7 reports, including the Connecticut Siting Council
8 2015 ten-year forecast that includes ISO New
9 England forecasts.

10 "Number two, gas supplies for the
11 region are challenged during high usage periods
12 potentially impinging the availability of gas for
13 this plant and the NTE plant would likely increase
14 the gas starvation for existing gas users in the
15 region.

16 "Three, increase of pollution to an
17 area that includes nearby sensitive receptors in
18 nursing homes, schools, a child care center, a
19 hospital and 450 Killingly housing units within
20 one-mile of the NTE Power Plant.

21 "Number four is the addition of a major
22 polluter within a mile of the existing 758
23 megawatt Lake Road combined-cycle power plant and
24 resulting additional air quality impacts.

25 "Five, the addition of a major polluter

1 within the cluster of eight power plants in a
2 31-mile area between Killingly and Bellingham,
3 Massachusetts.

4 "Six, serious concerns about water
5 usage and demand from already stressed aquifers in
6 the area. Many wells have gone dry. And there is
7 a concern that, especially during the existing
8 drought, an increase in water appetite and
9 consumption by NTE will likely result in even more
10 dry household wells for people in this area.

11 "My household, a 450-foot deep well,
12 went dry recently, so I live in dread of what the
13 future holds for a continued water source. In
14 addition, I have attached several news articles
15 describing drought conditions in Eastern
16 Connecticut. The news reports are filled with
17 water shortage and drought reports on a daily
18 basis further supporting my concerns.

19 "Seven, the siting of this plant in a
20 residential area is in conflict with the Killingly
21 zoning regulations, which would prevent the
22 permitting of this plant under normal and
23 customary zoning regulation enforcement.

24 "Eight, inland wetland concerns and
25 conflicts that may be unresolvable by NTE.

1 "Nine, noise emissions during
2 construction and generating operations would
3 exceed allowable levels resulting in severe
4 neighborhood quality of life impacts.

5 "Ten, roadway traffic safety issues
6 during construction and during the transport of
7 ULSD fuel trucks.

8 "For more detailed and extensive
9 information, please refer to the enclosed thumb
10 drive with its contents listed below.

11 "Some of this information has been sent
12 to you by e-mail. Please pardon my duplication
13 and inconvenience that it might create for you.

14 "Given the CSC responsibility to
15 balance the need for adequate and reliable
16 electric service with the need to protect the
17 environment and minimize damage to scenic and
18 recreational values, while ensuring the welfare
19 and protection of the people who may be affected
20 by siting power generating stations, I
21 respectfully appeal to the Council to reject the
22 application of NTE to locate another power plant
23 in this beautiful corner of Northeastern
24 Connecticut."

25 Four seconds to spare.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

2 Mr. Clark, to be followed by Sharon
3 Palin.

4 DAVID CLARK: Good evening. Dave
5 Clark, resident of Thompson. Clark, C-L-A-R-K.

6 I'm a science teacher certified to
7 teach earth science, biology and general science.
8 I'm a union member. And I'm strongly going to
9 urge against the building of this plant. And
10 there are just too many questions to possibly go
11 into in a mere three minutes, but primary is
12 water.

13 Most of the people in this region
14 depend on wells for their drinking water. Most of
15 the agriculture in this area depends on wells to
16 provide the water for the animals on their farms
17 or for the agriculture for growing of plants and
18 such. Depleting the aquifer for the use of
19 electricity is as foolish as using corn to make
20 fuel. You don't waste good.

21 Other issues with this proposal,
22 besides all the things that have been mentioned,
23 the addition of pollutants in the atmosphere, the
24 increase of asthma, the increase of putting
25 greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, which will

1 only contribute to the rapid climate change that
2 we are seeing, which is happening at a more rapid
3 rate that ever has been in human history, and
4 possibly the most rapid rate in the history of the
5 planet. These are serious concerns.

6 But why are we talking a pristine
7 forest area when there are existing brownfields
8 all over Connecticut that would make suitable
9 sites that have this already in place? We're
10 closing electric plants, and this is supposed to
11 replace closing electric plants. Well, those
12 electric plants already have the grid in place.
13 And if you dismantle one of those, you will create
14 more jobs because you've got to create jobs to
15 dismantle and jobs to build.

16 There are so many reasons to not do
17 this. And I for one do not wish to sell my
18 grandchildren's future for a job today. It's not
19 worth it. I thank you for your time.

20 THE CHAIRMAN: Sharon Palin to be
21 followed by Ted Grabowski.

22 SHARON PALIN: Hello. My name is
23 Sharon Palin, P-A-L-I-N. And I'm a resident of
24 Thompson, Connecticut. I thank you for this
25 opportunity to speak.

1 I ask myself what does this power plant
2 come down to. We, the people, trying to convince
3 you, the siting board, that the benefits of the
4 NTE power plant either does or does not outweigh
5 the dangers of it. It could be somewhat confusing
6 and overwhelming, at least for myself, to try and
7 sort out the actual facts in listening to certain
8 debates, this following Trump and Hillary last
9 night. But when I read what this plant will be
10 pumping into the atmosphere alone, I feel that
11 anyone who believes it's relatively harmless is
12 only fooling themselves. Maybe in a world where
13 our bodies, our food, our air, our water supply
14 and our soil weren't already overburdened with
15 toxins, maybe we could then handle the additional
16 pollution from this plant. But I don't think so.

17 But that is not the reality that we
18 live in. My mother is old enough to remember when
19 the detrimental health effects of cigarette
20 smoking was a debatable topic. I myself in high
21 school had a courtyard at my public high school in
22 the middle of the school, and we were allowed
23 cigarette breaks. This is from 9th grade up. I
24 know, unthinkable for you kids now, right, utterly
25 unthinkable. Okay. And who here would debate

1 that smoking is relatively harmless and allow
2 their children to partake in it? None of us wants
3 to eat fish with a high mercury count or inject
4 that mercury into our little ones with their
5 vaccinations. Doctors agree to this now. But
6 most didn't when I was much younger. Asbestos,
7 lead, aluminum pods, swimming in the Blackstone
8 River and so many pharmaceuticals that some
9 lawyers make a living suing over them. We were
10 all told in years past that they were relatively
11 harmless. How I wish our predecessors had put
12 more thought, concern and conservative judgment
13 into the decisions they made that we now are
14 paying for in one form or another.

15 Now, there is genuine ignorance to
16 these things. And then there is what I deem a
17 sort of criminal ignorance that refuses to
18 acknowledge the mounting evidence that always
19 accumulates before people have the courage or the
20 anger or the desperation to bring about change.
21 Personal gain, money and egos all play a part in
22 the self-deception concerning some debatable
23 matters.

24 We all need jobs. We all need to feed
25 our families. We all agree with the pursuit of

1 happiness, yet there are circumstances that demand
2 we look beyond our own comfort to a greater good
3 for our generations to come. I have chronically
4 sick people in my immediate family, and I advocate
5 for chronically ill populations, specifically
6 chronic Lyme disease and associated tick-borne
7 illnesses. I know firsthand that when your health
8 suffers, things in life that once seemed of the
9 utmost importance can fade into utter
10 insignificance. I believe this plant will
11 negatively affect the fragile immune systems of
12 certain chronically ill populations. It is
13 unacceptable to me to gamble with anyone's
14 family's health for such a cause as this power
15 plant. Thank you.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Ted Grabowski to be
17 followed by Thomas Curtin, Jr.

18 TED GRABOWSKI: Good evening. My name
19 is Ted Grabowski, G-R-A-B-O-W-S-K-I. I'm the
20 president of Laborers Local 230 out of Hartford,
21 Connecticut. I represent approximately 1,100
22 members in the Hartford area.

23 I live in Ashford, Connecticut, former
24 member of the board of finance and planning and
25 zoning in Ashford. So I'm familiar with mill

1 rates in the area. I know what it's like for the
2 working family when the mill rates go up and the
3 tax base shrinks. This power plant will be needed
4 tax dollars for the Town of Killingly. And I
5 stand in favor of the energy center.

6 The United States Government projects
7 that renewable energy sources, such as windmills,
8 solar panels and energy sources along those lines
9 will not be able to meet the region's energy needs
10 for decades to come. Natural gas is the safest of
11 the bridge fuels available for the region at this
12 time. I also speak in favor of a PLA, a local
13 residential requirement, should the power plant be
14 passed. I thank you very much for your time. And
15 have a great evening.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Thomas Curtin to be
17 followed by Jeff Herman.

18 THE WITNESS: Good evening, Council
19 Members. My name is Tom Curtin. And I have
20 worked in Killingly, and I support the Killingly
21 Energy Center. The project will bring in over 300
22 construction jobs to the community, and once
23 completed will also be one of the town's largest
24 taxpayers. The Killingly Energy Center will also
25 be good for the environment, replacing older

1 dirtier coal and oil power plants with cleaner
2 natural gas power facilities.

3 Please approve the Killingly Energy
4 Center. Thank you for your time.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Jeff Herman to be
6 followed by Charles Ferland.

7 JEFF HERMAN: My name is Jeff Herman,
8 Local 230. I worked on the last power plant. It
9 was a good job. We got it done the right way.
10 And it will be good for the town and the state.
11 Thank you.

12 THE CHAIRMAN: Charles Ferland to be
13 followed by Nelson King.

14 CHARLES FERLAND: I'm Charles Ferland.
15 I apologize if I -- my fifth grade teacher. And
16 it's F-E-R-L-A-N-D. I live at 86 Knox Avenue with
17 my wife.

18 I'm in favor of this project, but I
19 have doubts. Number one, though you probably
20 don't have the authority to order that they enter
21 into a PAL agreement before you make the decision
22 or make it part of your decision, I think that it
23 will tell you the type of company that you're
24 dealing with if they actually enter into a PAL.

25 I'm 69, and over my life I've been

1 involved with a few projects, and I've seen where
2 promises are made. We'll hire people and they
3 don't come through. So this tells you the type of
4 company if they will actually enter into their
5 agreement.

6 I believe that the health problems are
7 overstated. But you have a long -- you're lucky.
8 Unlike most places, you have a history of public
9 health records that you can look at. And I
10 believe -- and I assume that the people from Not
11 Another Power Company, will bring those records
12 forward if they work in their favor, such as
13 asthma and so forth, that actually there's an
14 increased rate since the other power plant went
15 in. This is evidence that will help you make a
16 decision. Right?

17 And I also urge you to, even though I
18 have a son who's a union carpenter, I don't think
19 part of your mandate is to look at the economic
20 impact it has on the community. I also know
21 that -- and I'm running out of time -- there are
22 great promises when it comes to tax revenues, but
23 somehow they never actually become a decrease in
24 taxes. There's always something that gets in the
25 way.

1 And in this case this plant -- and
2 again, I'm in favor of it -- this plant may
3 have -- may impact the town negatively because of
4 one of the things the case that dealt with how we
5 finance public education that just comes down, and
6 how they're going to look at towns that have their
7 revenues sources differently than in the past, and
8 this could actually result in less revenue coming
9 from the State of Connecticut.

10 So I know you've got a hard job.
11 You're going to look at the health reasons. The
12 only thing I wish that you would do is hold all
13 your hearings here in the Town of Killingly.
14 There's no prohibition under state regulations
15 that you can't hold your meetings here. You've
16 got a room full of people here now that are very
17 interested in this. And why they have to go all
18 the way out to New Britain, the other side of the
19 river, I don't understand that. There are only a
20 few of you, and there's hundreds of people in this
21 community that are interested. You can hold your
22 hearings here in a judicial format, and people
23 could see it on public access television, and they
24 would know what's happening. So I urge you. And
25 hopefully the company will join me and urge you to

1 hold your hearings here. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Nelson King, and the
3 next one -- I hope someone remembers who signed
4 up, number 58.

5 NELSON KING: Nelson King, K-I-N-G.

6 On September 23rd of this year,
7 Connecticut Siting Council issued 69 pre-hearing
8 questions to NTE. The number 3 question asked NTE
9 to confirm where the public informational hearings
10 were held on March 22, May 4th and July 11th. As
11 of last night, they could now add October 19 to
12 that list. Since seeking a response to NTE's
13 public outreach seem to be of importance to you, I
14 want to address the meeting of last night.

15 The meeting was called for 7 o'clock
16 and started on time. For the next two-plus hours
17 NTE's panel of experts proceeded to conduct an
18 informational session to questions which they say
19 were posed to them in various forms. Attendees
20 were informed that there would be an opportunity
21 to ask additional unanswered questions at the
22 conclusion of their presentation.

23 While information was given on issues
24 of air, water, construction concerns, fuel issues,
25 noise and need, these cherry-picked questions and

1 answers provided limited additional information.
2 In addition, there were quotes such as, "We don't
3 think we're exceeding air quality limits at local
4 schools." "Some water permits are not yet
5 finalized." "There is still more testing to be
6 done." "We are still designing the fueling area
7 for construction equipment." "There are still
8 questions about gas and water lines that have to
9 be resolved." And the best one of the night,
10 "Property values will actually increase." We
11 needed that humor break.

12 A nearly 25-minute diatribe on need,
13 which included more statistics than the annual
14 baseball encyclopedia, drove people from the
15 auditorium. TED crews would have applauded this
16 filibustering presentation. While I obviously
17 have no proof, my guess is that the evening's
18 format was by design. When attendees were finally
19 given the opportunity to participate, it was
20 obvious that through their additional questions
21 NTE had not provided all the answers during their
22 performance. They took notes and responses of,
23 "We'll look at that and we'll get back to you."

24 But here is the kicker, and here is my
25 point. At approximately 10:15 it was announced

1 that the building restrictions would cause the
2 meeting to end and the room had to be cleared by
3 10:30. When that time came, there were at least
4 six more people who had prepared questions to be
5 asked and were denied the opportunity. When asked
6 if there would be an additional session called by
7 NTE, the answer was no, and you could contact
8 them. Needless to say, there were many unhappy
9 individuals leaving the auditorium.

10 I also understand that it isn't the
11 Siting Council that would require NTE to hold
12 additional information outreach presentations.
13 That would be pursued through the Environmental
14 Justice Administration. However, it becomes very
15 difficult, if not impossible, to provide the
16 Siting Council with all the information that you
17 need if the community of Killingly has not been
18 able to get answers to all its questions. It
19 appears to me that prior to the Siting Council
20 decision on this project, there are more answers
21 required of NTE.

22 Thank you. And we'll see you on
23 November 3rd.

24 THE CHAIRMAN: This is the one where
25 the handwriting has me stumped. I'm not sure

1 whether it's "Lee," and the last name starts with
2 an "F-A."

3 Well, in any case, the next person is
4 Joe Steiner.

5 (No response.)

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Helmut Eisele.

7 Like I say, somebody had signed number
8 58 on page 4.

9 HELMUT EISELE: Helmut Eisele,
10 E-I-S-E-L-E.

11 THE CHAIRMAN: And the next one is
12 Sandra Bove.

13 MR. EISELE: It's kind of interesting
14 to listen here a little bit when we talk about the
15 environmental degradation and mention things like
16 Frito-Lay, the asphalt plant. I've smelled both
17 of those. I've never smelled a power plant. And
18 we've made a lot of progress with emissions. Look
19 at automobiles. When you see an antique car in
20 front of you, you smell it 150 feet in front of
21 you, and normal cars you don't smell anything.
22 People try to commit suicide with their cars in
23 the garage and they fail, they can't kill
24 themselves because the pollution is so low, the
25 emission level is so low.

1 So when you're talking about relative
2 emissions, there's some reality to that. And I'd
3 like to keep that -- and natural gas is right now
4 the most feasible, the cleanest solution that we
5 can offer, period. Okay.

6 We can talk about renewables. But you
7 know what, look what happens on a hot, muggy
8 summer day and there's no wind and your windmill
9 is standing still. What do you do? You're going
10 to hope the power company can provide the power.
11 In the middle of winter when the temperature drops
12 below zero at night, you're hoping that the power
13 plant generators work because your solar panels
14 are no good. So we need this power, especially
15 with plants going away. We have to have more
16 stuff to replace them. This is the only good
17 solution.

18 The other thing is we have a problem in
19 Connecticut. I just retired from a Fortune 500
20 company. We had two large data centers in
21 Connecticut. Both of them got moved out of state.
22 Why? For two reasons. One is the high tax rates.
23 The other is the high energy costs. And that's
24 something to consider. We've got to get the
25 energy costs down in this state, or we're going to

1 drive everybody out. I think it's very very
2 important. And frankly, our politicians who have
3 been pushing these things committing state
4 suicide, you might say, they need to get the boot.
5 Okay.

6 The other thing is what pollutants?
7 Basically natural gas, when it's combusted,
8 releases carbon dioxide. Now, the only guy I know
9 of that doesn't like carbon dioxide is Obama. If
10 you talk to nursery men, they blow carbon dioxide
11 into their greenhouses because what is it? It's
12 plant food. It's not a pollutant, in spite of
13 what our EPA says. There's another greenhouse gas
14 that has 100 times the concentration of CO2 in the
15 atmosphere, up to 100 times. Okay. Nobody is
16 addressing that. And that's something I'd like to
17 encourage you to ask about. That gas is water
18 vapor. Thank you.

19 THE CHAIRMAN: Sandra Bove to be
20 followed by Ida Berris.

21 Good evening. I'm going to preface my
22 statements with some --

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Spell your last name.

24 SANDRA BOVE: I'm sorry. B-o-v-e.
25 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You did pronounce it

1 correctly.

2 I'm going to preface my statements with
3 some background information to explain why I'm
4 testifying this evening. I'll limit my comments
5 to sound. However, this does not indicate that
6 sound is my only concern.

7 Beginning with the adage, "Fool me
8 once, shame on you," meaning Frito-Lay. When the
9 neighboring plant, Frito-Lay, was proposed, no one
10 talked, nor did residents anticipate, the noise it
11 would produce. Residents learned too late. The
12 noise from the plant adversely affects those who
13 live not necessarily closest to the plant, but
14 also those who live further away, such as the
15 opposite side of Lake Alexander. The travel of
16 sound is complicated. There is not a direct
17 correlation between sound that is heard in the
18 distance from the source.

19 "Fool me twice, shame on you," in this
20 case the Lake Road Power Plant. The Lake Road
21 Power Plant came to town. It's less than a mile
22 from many residents and NTE's proposed site. When
23 the plant initially began to operate and residents
24 complained of the noise, they were informed that
25 the nighttime noise would be loudest in the winter

1 because of bare trees. It didn't diminish with
2 foliage. The tree mitigation plan is much like
3 NTE's close your windows plan. The ambient noise
4 in that neighborhood is presently at a level that
5 often disrupts one's sleep. Noise travels and
6 noise is cumulative.

7 "Fool me again, shame on me," thus I am
8 here. Once again, the quality of life for
9 Killingly residents is being threatened. We have
10 learned from experience and now recognize the
11 devastating effect of another power plant within a
12 mile of each other in a designated residential
13 neighborhood. Many residents of Killingly have
14 lived here most of their lives and others have
15 chosen to live here because of its rural
16 environment. NTE's noise will significantly
17 increase ambient noise levels and reduce the
18 quality of life for many residents. NTE has not
19 demonstrated support of its claim of being a quiet
20 neighbor.

21 The following is a recall of the six
22 sound-related questions that I proposed to NTE on
23 October 19th. That was last evening. Number one,
24 "Do you intend to implement Killingly's P&Z zoning
25 regulations and restrictions pertaining to noise?"

1 NTE claimed they are working on it and hope to
2 meet some, but not all, of the stipulations.

3 Number two, "If you plan to comply with
4 TRC's request to change the plant's layout on the
5 proposed site and to move the switchyard to the
6 north of Lake Road, will your noise mitigation
7 plans and modeled sound levels be revised to
8 reflect these changes?" NTE did not indicate that
9 this will happen.

10 Third, "NTE has provided no ambient
11 reports of the sound levels near Lake Alexander."
12 In its application they talk of anticipated
13 levels, however, had no data to support or
14 substantiate it."

15 Question, "Have you completed a study
16 of perceptible change in sound at locations near
17 and around Lake Alexander and the homes in the
18 vicinity of Lake Road and Cotton Bridge Road?"
19 NTE's answer was not definitive. NTE indicated
20 that their acoustical modeling meets state
21 standards if the Siting Council approves the
22 application.

23 Note, this response from NTE was
24 unclear, and there was not enough time allowed at
25 the public hearing last evening to ask for

1 clarification.

2 Four, "Considering the huge amount of
3 land that will be cleared, the elevation of the
4 land with respect to its surroundings, including
5 the lake and the height of the plant itself, can
6 you show that the expanded noise levels and/or
7 increase over ambient conditions will not be
8 significant?" The answer given by NTE that there
9 will be trees planted may be acceptable for the
10 visible aspects of the town, but it is not
11 acceptable regarding sound.

12 Fact, trees will not buffer the loud
13 continuous sound produced by a turbine of this
14 size and magnitude. This has been substantiated
15 by the existing Lake Road Plant and the Frito-Lay
16 plant. Both have sound mitigations in place,
17 however, both continue to emit a disruptive level
18 of noise.

19 And I notice that my -- maybe I can get
20 one more in.

21 "Construction levels of noise seven
22 days a week over a three-year period has the
23 potential to result in an adverse effect on the
24 residents of approximately 1,300 people." The
25 response was that most all activity will be done

1 during the daytime and not on the weekends, with
2 few exceptions and/or unforeseen complications
3 necessitating otherwise.

4 This answer does not address the daily
5 disruption of residents and current employees of
6 the industrial park, nor does it give any
7 assurances of the potential adverse effects on
8 both.

9 I will leave you with a copy of my
10 testimony. I do have other questions, but I don't
11 have time to read them. Thank you so much for
12 your time.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

14 Ida Berris to be followed Ian McDonald.

15 IDA BERRIS: Good evening. Ida Berris,
16 B-E-R-R-I-S.

17 Well, I've heard a lot of really good
18 arguments, particularly about pollution, noise
19 pollution, and why another power plant here. All
20 of those arguments have been really really stated
21 well.

22 One of the things that was brought
23 up -- first of all, I would hope that all of the
24 tradesmen have great jobs in Connecticut. I just
25 don't want it to be for this power plant.

1 The power plant that already exists, I
2 don't think anybody has mentioned this, but it's
3 really ugly. This is a beautiful area. And the
4 power plant that is there is truly an eyesore from
5 miles around. So you're looking at this last
6 speaker who talked about noise pollution. That
7 affects quality of life, the beauty of the air,
8 that effects quality of life. The nurse that
9 talked about the health problems with asthma, that
10 affects quality of life.

11 And we already have a huge power plant.
12 We're not replacing -- one of the arguments was
13 that we'll be replacing these dirty oil and coal
14 fired plants, but we don't have one of those here.
15 So it would make more sense to replace the dirty
16 oil and coal power plants where they already exist
17 because then they would actually have an
18 improvement in their environment where this does
19 not lend itself to improvement.

20 So many people brought up so many
21 points about pollution in the area, the
22 long-lasting effects, the fact that we are moving
23 towards more technology every day where we might
24 find a better, cleaner safer way to keep the Quiet
25 Corner the Quiet Corner. Thank you.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Ian McDonald to be
2 followed by Jacqueline Robinson.

3 IAN MCDONALD: Ian McDonald,
4 M-C-D-O-N-A-L-D.

5 I'm certainly sympathetic to local
6 union members who have shortened drive times,
7 particularly in Killingly and adjacent towns, and
8 also the need for potential increased tax revenue,
9 but I'm very concerned about the increase in
10 pollutants, particularly nitrogen oxide and
11 particulates, particularly considering the power
12 plant that's already here.

13 I personally have a mother-in-law who's
14 a Killingly resident that suffers from asthma and
15 also a son who will be attending all of the
16 Killingly schools. So please consider the
17 cumulative impacts for Killingly students who will
18 be there for the course of their schooling.

19 Also, please consider the high asthma
20 rates in Windham County currently and the proposed
21 power plant right over the border in Rhode Island.
22 I think that's important as we look at this.

23 Another concern is just I feel like we
24 might be considering natural gas as it relates to
25 in comparison with oil and coal, and that's

1 certainly understandable, but I think it's very
2 possible that there will be increased regulation
3 both of methane emissions, of fracking, possibly
4 restrictions on fracking. That could very likely
5 affect the cost and price and viability of natural
6 gas. I hope you look into that.

7 And also, please, I think there's a
8 good point made about maybe how to this point
9 certain solar and wind haven't able to meet all
10 generation capacity, but as you look forward and
11 look at some very interesting new developments in
12 solar technology, particularly storage technology,
13 these things could be coming on at a far lower
14 price point in the future, and it's not simply a
15 linear -- that they have this generation capacity
16 now, and it will increase at the same level. If
17 you look at possibly like MIT review of
18 technology, there's some significant improvements
19 that I think will be coming on very quickly.
20 These things take time, but there's been a
21 tremendous amount of effort in this area, as I'm
22 sure you all know.

23 So please look at that, as you look at
24 the viability for the power plant going forward.
25 And also please consider the impacts, obviously,

1 as people have stated, to the immediate -- to the
2 pond there and immediate residents as far as the
3 disturbance. People have spoke to that, but I
4 just wanted to concrete those -- thank you.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Jacqueline Robinson.
6 Ross Brudenell. Richard Stokes. Mike -- I think
7 it's either "Cohen" or "Cullen."

8 Sir.

9 RICHARD STOKES: Richard Stokes.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Come up. And
11 then there's Mike Cohen, and then there's Jose
12 Rosa.

13 Mr. Stokes.

14 MR. STOKES: You ready?

15 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.

16 MR. STOKES: Richard Stokes,
17 S-T-O-K-E-S.

18 I'm for the plan. I work with my
19 brothers and sisters. I think it's a good thing.
20 The AC draws a lot. When I have my AC on all this
21 hot summer, it puts a load on the grid. So we
22 need to reconstruct the grid for safety complexes
23 to charge the batteries, so emergency responders
24 can protect the safety of the public. And future
25 electric cars are coming, so we need battery

1 chargers, stuff like that. So I'm definitely for
2 it to create jobs. Solar is kind of undependable.
3 Windmill undependable. We need something direct,
4 we need backup, so we need the real deal. Solar
5 is a backup. And eventually it will be good, but
6 right now the present is here. So alrighty.
7 Thank you.

8 JOSE ROSA: Good evening. Jose Rosa,
9 R-O-S-A. Sorry. I had a tooth taken out.

10 I would like to say thank you to all of
11 you. Good luck. I'm a union guy. I've been a
12 union guy forever. I'm for the plant. And until
13 somebody can prove that this is real bad for the
14 environment, because I've been at meetings like
15 this before, you've got to create the jobs. You
16 want to make Connecticut great again? You've got
17 to create the jobs.

18 You saw all these young people.
19 They're just starting. I've already got gray
20 hair, you know, in 10, 15 years I'm going to
21 retire. But those young people, they want a
22 chance, and they want to move up. And I think we
23 should give them a break, just like I got my
24 break. Thank you. Good luck.

25 THE CHAIRMAN: All right. Claudia

1 Allen and then Greg Marsh.

2 CLAUDIA ALLEN: Claudia Allen,
3 A-L-L-E-N. Good evening. Thank you for coming
4 here to Killingly.

5 I only want to take this moment to
6 respectfully ask that any subsequent meetings also
7 be scheduled here in Killingly, and I'm going to
8 give two reasons. The first one, a practical one,
9 that the energy and fuel savings of having 11
10 people travel here from New Britain would be less
11 than having this auditorium filled with numbers of
12 people traveling to New Britain.

13 And my second reason is the
14 accessibility of this process, decisions and input
15 by the people here, who will be affected in their
16 daily lives by your decision. So please come
17 back. Thank you.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Marsh followed by
19 Jack Dusseault.

20 GREG MARSH: Greg Marsh, M-A-R-S-H. I
21 live in Ashford, Connecticut. I'm Local 35.

22 I worked at the other power plant in
23 Killingly for two and a half years, start to
24 finish. It's a very safe plant. It's the most
25 proud building I ever worked on in my life. I've

1 been back here six times. I worked on the
2 switchyard. I worked all parts of that job,
3 quality, union work. It's dependable. I'm
4 working on a solar job right now. I'm driving 100
5 miles each way in Deerfield, and we're putting up
6 20,000 panels. It's only going to take two months
7 to do. They cut 60 acres of land, all the trees.
8 It costs 23 cents a kilowatt to use that plant.
9 Okay.

10 Natural gas. There's over 100 years'
11 worth of natural gas right now. I worked at the
12 natural gas plant in Chapel last year. And we've
13 got plenty of natural gas. It's cheap. I've
14 worked next to them stacks. There's no -- I
15 breath fine around it, no problem with breathing.
16 I have asthma. I have no problem walking around
17 them stacks. I walked around them for years.
18 I've worked in cooling towers. You get away from
19 the plant like 50 feet, you can't even hear the
20 plant. The cooling towers, you get away from the
21 cooling towers 50, 75 feet, you can't even hear
22 it. There's not a noise problem. Okay. The
23 stacks are way up in the air. It's natural gas.
24 Natural gas is very clean.

25 I think if they build this thing, it

1 will help the economy. And it's a good plant.
2 Natural gas is the way to go for the next 10, 15
3 years. Okay. You're building in East Hartford
4 right now. You've got Pratt and Whitney going up.
5 You put a billion-dollar building up in West
6 Hartford. Okay. Mohegan just put up a building,
7 Foxwoods wants to put a building. They want to
8 put another casino up. We need clean power.

9 Solar is good, but at 4 o'clock in the
10 afternoon solar goes down. Natural gas, that's a
11 peaker. It only runs 15, 20 minutes when you need
12 it, and it shuts down. That doesn't run all the
13 time. It's only when you need it. And when you
14 need it, it kicks on when it's 95 degrees, when
15 it's zero out, it kicks on and runs. It only runs
16 when it needs it. It doesn't run 24 hours a day.
17 They put in bids every hour. If they get the bid,
18 they get the job. If they're too high, they don't
19 get the job. These natural gas plants run
20 economically. I think it will be good for the
21 next 15, 20 years, and I'd really like to see this
22 thing built.

23 You know, I got laid off in February.
24 I haven't worked in the State of Connecticut since
25 February. I've been working in Massachusetts.

1 This would be a great thing for the county. It
2 would be great for the State of Connecticut. It
3 doesn't make much noise. It's not a dirty plant.
4 And it would be great for the area. That's all.
5 Thank you.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Jack Dusseault, Jeff
7 Hardell and Michael McIntyre.

8 JEFF HARDELL: Hi. I'm Jeff Hardell.
9 It's H-A-R-D-E-L-L.

10 And I am sympathetic to the guys with
11 the jobs and all that we heard tonight, but I am
12 opposed to this project for environmental reasons.

13 I came tonight to read a letter from a
14 Dr. Mashikian that's addressed to the Committee.

15 "My name is Matthew Mashikian. I live
16 with my wife, Margarethe, in Pomfret Center,
17 straight across Route 101 from the proposed power
18 plant. I hold a doctorate degree in electrical
19 engineering, am a Life Fellow of the Institute of
20 Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and a member
21 of the Connecticut Academy of Science and
22 Engineering. I am a UCONN Emeritus Professor of
23 Engineering and the founder and CTO of a
24 successful company, IMCORP, which employs over 80
25 people, and serves electric utilities and

1 renewable generating stations in North America and
2 Europe. IMCORP operates from facilities in
3 Manchester, Connecticut. Prior to joining UCONN,
4 I worked 16 years for the Detroit Edison Company
5 and five years for the Swedish predecessors of the
6 ABB Company.

7 "I oppose the plans for the proposed
8 550 megawatt power plant for the following
9 reasons: In the immediate vicinity of the
10 proposed plant, there exists already a 3-unit 757
11 megawatt power plant fueled by natural gas. This
12 plant is listed as the third largest in
13 Connecticut. From our home, we can see clearly
14 the exhaust fumes whenever one or more of the
15 units is operating. My observation is that this
16 plant operates only intermittently, presumably to
17 meet peak demands. This observation leads me to
18 believe that there is ample power capability
19 available in the area.

20 "Two, the communities which will be
21 most affected by the proposed plant, namely,
22 Killingly, Pomfret, Putnam, Woodstock, Brooklyn,
23 Plainville and Thompson, use a small fraction of
24 the plant's generating capacity also lead me to
25 believe that the energy produced by the proposed

1 plant, in addition to the power available from the
2 existing plant, is intended for export.

3 "Three, while the existing plant
4 operates intermittently, the proposed plant by NTE
5 will be baseload generating plant, polluting the
6 affected communities 24/7.

7 "Admittedly, the proposed
8 combined-cycle plant is efficient. Nevertheless,
9 it will be emitting very large quantities of
10 carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxides while burning
11 natural gas and, additionally, large amounts of
12 sulfur dioxide when burning fuel oil, as described
13 by NTE brochures. Our immediate communities will
14 be affected by these pollutants, while the energy
15 produced will serve other communities, some of
16 them not necessarily in Connecticut.

17 "The new plant will overtax the water
18 supply, sewage system and traffic of the affected
19 communities. The communities affected are known
20 to house several schools, a community college, a
21 hospital, retirement homes, bird sanctuary, farms,
22 and a lake community with homes located within a
23 very short distance of the plant.

24 "Does the state of Connecticut need
25 another power plant, and should this plant be

1 located in this particular site? Data provided by
2 the U.S. Information Administration and the New
3 England ISO indicate that the electric energy MWH
4 generated in Connecticut in 2015 exceeded the
5 demand, thus we were a net energy exporter of
6 energy. Our peak power capability exceeded our
7 summer peak load demand. According to the ISO,
8 the gross electric energy use and the peak demand
9 forecast for Connecticut indicate that a very
10 modest increase over the present is predicted for
11 the years through 2024 and 2025. This increase
12 could be reasonably met with existing generating
13 plants and, if necessary, with renewable energy
14 supplies. Should existing, less efficient plants,
15 especially those burning coal or fuel oil, need be
16 upgraded and modified? Why couldn't the upgrades
17 be built on locations of older existing plants as
18 the pollution level will decrease significantly in
19 these communities.

20 "It is evident that the proposed plant,
21 as well as the existing 757 megawatt Lake Road
22 generating plant, are intended to export electric
23 energy while the local communities are subjected
24 to a high dosage of pollution. As a resident of
25 one of these communities, while I am willing to

1 bear the inconvenience and other adverse effects
2 of electric energy generated for use by the
3 community surrounding me, I strongly object to
4 bear the adverse effects of electricity generated
5 mainly for export. Is the existence of an
6 extensive high voltage transmission line corridor
7 crossing our communities an open invitation to
8 locate more local power plants in the future?

9 "The Connecticut Siting Council is
10 responsible for balancing the need for adequate
11 and reliable electric service with the need to
12 protect the environment and minimize damage to
13 scenic and recreational values. I therefore
14 respectfully appeal to the Council to reject the
15 application of NTE to locate another power plant
16 in this beautiful corner of Northeast Connecticut.
17 Thank you."

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Michael McIntyre. David
19 Jarvis.

20 DAVID JARVIS: My name is David Jarvis,
21 J-A-R-V-I-S.

22 So I'm here tonight in support of the
23 power plant. I'm a representative of the Local
24 Carpenters Union, the local people that work here
25 and live in this community. We are pro power

1 plant based on we are pro build. That is what we
2 do for a living, and that's just how we feed our
3 families and take care of our own. However, we
4 are also pro Killingly and pro community. So I
5 thank the representatives. I thank Christine
6 Rosati and Senate Mae Flexer for listening to her
7 people, listening to the community that is around
8 them and their concerns.

9 Obviously, we would enjoy working
10 closer to home rather than further away. It just
11 makes sense for family and for scheduling. I
12 don't envy any of your jobs up there, but the onus
13 falls on you to separate the figures and separate
14 emotion and separate the feasibility of the
15 project.

16 So I don't envy the decision that you
17 guys are going to make, because there's people
18 that are going to be pro and for it until the
19 thing is built or not built. So as a community,
20 we're relying on you to look at the figures. I'm
21 a carpenter. We do plumb, level, square. You
22 guys know the numbers. I'm not going to tell you
23 how to do it, because you guys know better than
24 me, but know that the town and the people are
25 trusting in your knowledge and your history of

1 these projects in making the right decision for
2 us.

3 So I appreciate your time and all the
4 local trades here and to the people of the
5 community that are still here, please realize that
6 the men and women that have testified from the
7 different locals are part of your community. They
8 are your baseball coaches. They are the people
9 that participate in building your schools and
10 donating the concession stand that's just behind
11 this building and improving your community all
12 around you. So their motives are not selfish in
13 any way, but to have their piece of the pie as
14 well.

15 But, as I mentioned, the carpenters are
16 pro Killingly, pro community, and we would love to
17 build it under a PLA with apprenticeship language,
18 with tech school language in there. I'm a tech
19 school grad. I grew up in Killingly, worked my
20 way up the field and the ranks, and now I
21 represent thousands of carpenters in the State of
22 Connecticut, because of the education that the
23 state provided and because of the community
24 enforcement, the community being a part of who I
25 am today.

1 So I thank the community. I thank you
2 for your time. Please make a good decision on
3 behalf of everybody that's interested in this
4 project. And thank you.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Brian Briere.

6 (No response.)

7 THE CHAIRMAN: Bill Tatro and then Tina
8 Veillette.

9 BILL TATRO: It's Bill Tatro,
10 T-A-T-R-O.

11 Farmington Reservoir was down 25 feet
12 this year. There's a seep on my neighbor's
13 property, and that seep for the first time in my
14 eight years in Killingly has run dry. Seeps are
15 really important for wildlife, especially in the
16 summer, and especially in the winter when we get
17 snow. Lake Alexander is down about 15 inches.
18 Tonight the City of Waterbury issued a water
19 emergency. Not sure if you heard that. I just
20 heard that on the way over here. The City of
21 Norwich is in a water emergency, our neighbors to
22 the south.

23 I think that NTE or the Connecticut
24 Water Company should be required to conduct a
25 comprehensive aquifer study for all of Eastern

1 Connecticut, not just the Killingly aquifer. That
2 should be done before this is approved and
3 especially before a diversion permit is applied
4 for and granted to tie the Killingly water aquifer
5 in with the Plainfield Water aquifer. Quite
6 frankly, from a business perspective, if you don't
7 have water to do this in your town, you should not
8 do it in your town. To link two towns together, I
9 know that might be out of the jurisdiction of the
10 Siting Council, but that's exactly what's
11 happening. We don't have enough water here.
12 They're going to have to tie their water system in
13 with Killingly.

14 Now, I'm sure that all those nice
15 residents who want to go to local jobs, they want
16 their power to turn on in the morning when they
17 wake up at 5 a.m. to go that nice local job, but
18 they pretty much would like a nice hot shower as
19 well. Once the aquifers dry up, once they become
20 punished enough, I don't know that they come back.
21 I'm not an aquifer genius, but I just know that
22 they're not making water anymore. So I'd love to
23 see some kind of a serious study on the aquifers,
24 both here and in Plainfield, and all of Eastern
25 Connecticut. I think it should be mandatory

1 before this goes forward.

2 I'd like to talk a little bit about the
3 air quality. I know we've heard a lot of things
4 tonight. I heard that the air in Windham County,
5 the air quality is actually measured not in
6 Windham County. If this is true, I'm appalled.
7 You're measuring our air quality in East Hartford.
8 I'm not sure if this is true. I'd like you to
9 look into that. It seems to me that if we have a
10 prevailing southwest wind, you should measure the
11 air quality in the farthest northeast corner
12 because you'd really know what we're dealing with
13 there. How can we talk about air pollution, when
14 you don't even know what we're breathing? How is
15 air quality in East Hartford anything remotely
16 related to what we're breathing here in Killingly?

17 I'd like you to look into that, and I
18 would love to see some kind of an EPA study,
19 whether NTE pays for that, or whether it's an EPA
20 thing, where they start measuring Killingly air in
21 Killingly, or at least in Thompson, on the
22 Connecticut/Rhode Island/Massachusetts border.
23 That's where we should measure it. Let's know
24 what we've got here. Let's see if this is even a
25 problem. I just can't imagine why they don't

1 measure it here, unless they just don't want to
2 find out what's here.

3 Lastly, I want to talk a little bit
4 about the rural nature of our land. I know you
5 had a wonderful walk today. I enjoyed walking
6 with you in the forested rural Killingly land
7 behind my house. For those of you who are not
8 really totally acquainted with Killingly, what you
9 saw today you can now see why our dwindling rural
10 scapes are so precious.

11 I spent seven years working for the
12 National Wild Turkey Federation. I know all about
13 wild. I've probably spent more time in the woods
14 than anybody that was even in this building today.
15 Right. And I know that qualifies a lot of people.
16 I spend a lot of time in the woods. What I saw
17 today was an absolute pristine piece of land,
18 great for deer, great for turtles, great for
19 turkeys, great for everything, except power plants
20 and power plant dwellers, although they're nice
21 people.

22 So we are part of the last green
23 valley, but it seems like the last green valley is
24 now turning into the new brown dump. Many of us
25 moved here because of the rural nature of

1 Killingly. And I'm sure as you drove through from
2 the high school over there, and maybe you drove --
3 I don't know if any of you actually drove west of
4 the site on Lake Road, but a lot of us moved here
5 just because of that.

6 Now, many of my neighbors on Lake
7 Alexander and also east of the site on Lake Road
8 and for me on Cotton Bridge, we are scared that
9 we're seeing an industrial park grow. That's a
10 really scary thing for a neighbor because where
11 does it stop? The parcel is zoned residential,
12 much to whoever talked earlier and said it was an
13 industrial zone. This is a residential zoned
14 parcel. We would like to keep it residential.
15 With all due respect to those who live in
16 Killingly but not within 1,000 yards, like I do,
17 you don't have to drive by it or through the
18 traffic or around the road construction that it's
19 going to create.

20 In conclusion, to you folks, members of
21 the council, would you choose to buy a home so
22 close to a plant? Better yet, if NTE wanted to
23 put this site right next to your house, 425 yards
24 from my driveway to the site, would you allow it?
25 So you don't have to worry about that because

1 you're on the Council and you could say no. You
2 know what, you could say no for us too. I really
3 hope you do. Thank you very much.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Tina Veillette to be
5 followed by Ben Martin.

6 TINA VEILLETTE: Good evening. My name
7 is Tina Veillette. It's V-E-I-L-L-E-T-T-E.

8 Eighteen years ago my daughter started
9 elementary school and, to be involved in her
10 school, I was a volunteer and proceeded through
11 both of my daughters through elementary school, so
12 I'd say probably about eight years. And I saw
13 firsthand how many children were -- young
14 children were dependent on inhalers for asthma,
15 allergies, et cetera, and it was very very sad.
16 And I remember teachers speaking about how sad it
17 was. And now through this process I've learned
18 how high the rates of asthma is in children in
19 Windham County, which I think is very -- just very
20 sad, and I'm very disappointed about that.

21 And that's one of the main reasons that
22 I'm opposed to another power plant being built
23 here. It's the cumulative effect of all the
24 pollutants that all of these plants together are
25 putting in our air. We have the responsibility to

1 speak for those that cannot speak for themselves.

2 In doing some research through the
3 internet, I learned that NTE had looked into
4 building in Western Pickaway County in Ohio but
5 ran into opposition when residents said that the
6 location was too close to a Westfall School
7 District building. NTE responded by looking
8 elsewhere.

9 Why are we any different? I feel like
10 we are being dumped on with all these plants in a
11 concentrated area and our health, as well as the
12 health of future generations, is at stake. We
13 have too many schools in the area and many
14 children swimming all summer at Alexander Lake.
15 No amount of tax savings is worth the risk to
16 their health, not to me anyway. Please consider
17 these factors when making such a critical
18 decision.

19 Lastly, I consider myself an abutter to
20 this proposed site as a resident on Alexander
21 Lake. My husband and I purchased a home there in
22 2014 and were not able to finance our home due to
23 the fact that most of the properties are on leased
24 land. We chose to buy there, as this was a
25 childhood dream of mine to live there, and it did

1 not come easy. Years of hard work and saving and
2 sacrifice, and we can't afford to lose any money
3 due to value drops on this property. I'm sorry,
4 I'm nervous.

5 We own another home in Killingly, and I
6 worry about my well. I have a 500 foot well. So
7 those are my issues. And my main concern is
8 water. And anybody, if you ever go to Alexander
9 Lake, I urge you, come and visit my house. It's
10 the most beautiful lake. My realtor tried to talk
11 me out of buying there due to the leased land, but
12 my heart was always at that lake. I remember
13 swimming there when I was a child. Anybody that
14 you talk to on that lake, it's one of the cleanest
15 lakes in Connecticut. It's a beautiful natural
16 resource, and I don't want to see anything happen
17 to it. I don't want to see the water be gone
18 there. I would have nothing.

19 So I urge you. I know you have a very
20 difficult decision, but I'm definitely opposed to
21 this plant. Thank you.

22 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Martin.

23 BEN MARTIN: My name is Ben Martin.

24 That's M-A-R-T-I-N. I volunteer with an
25 organization called 350 Connecticut.

1 There was a lot of stuff that was
2 brought up here tonight which is very good facts
3 and figures, and I think they've proved the case
4 that this power plant is a bad idea.

5 I would just like to add on top of
6 those, if anyone wants to see the results of
7 having a power plant in their neighborhood, go to
8 Springfield, Mass. and look for the block that is
9 now no longer there because a gas plant blew up.
10 Go to Middletown, Connecticut where six people
11 died at a Kleen Energy plant. That's K-L-E-E-N.
12 Union guys died there. I don't want the union
13 guys to die. I don't want the union guys to worry
14 me if they're going to die when they go to work.
15 I don't want Killingly to worry if there's going
16 to be an accident. I don't want Killingly to
17 worry about their children having asthma because
18 of the emissions. I don't want Killingly to worry
19 about not having water and not having food because
20 any new fossil fuel infrastructure will destroy
21 our climate. We will not have food. We will not
22 have air. We will not have water. And that is
23 things we need to live. This decision is life and
24 death. Death to the people that are going to work
25 there, death to the people that have to breathe

1 the air that comes out of there, and death to the
2 climate that we all depend on.

3 Now, we cannot build anymore fossil
4 fuel infrastructure. That has been proven by
5 scientists. 97 percent of the world's scientists
6 agree we have to get off of fossil fuels. Signing
7 up for an energy plant that's going to take 20
8 years for the company to pay off is not a way to
9 do that. NTE does not care about the unions. NTE
10 does not care about Killingly. NTE does not care
11 about Connecticut. NTE cares about money. That
12 is all they care about, and they're going to do
13 this as cheaply as possible, as quickly as
14 possible, with as little people as possible.

15 We need to be installing renewable
16 energy. That's solar, that's wind, that's
17 geothermal, that's micro hydro that protects our
18 climate, protects our people, makes life better
19 for us. This plant has no benefits other than
20 making money for NTE. This needs to be stopped.
21 Every power plant, new power plant, old power
22 plant in Connecticut, needs to be stopped. Every
23 power plant that is not renewable energy that is
24 going to cause danger needs to be stopped.

25 I've never heard of a solar panel

1 exploding and killing someone. I've never heard
2 of a wind farm that gives people asthma. These
3 are better solutions. If we were to build an
4 energy grid right now, we would not use fossil
5 fuels. So we need to go there now. And it's up
6 to you as the Connecticut Siting Council to make
7 the decision that puts us on that path. And that
8 path is going to be good for Killingly. It's
9 going to be good for Connecticut. It's going to
10 be good for the United States. It's going to be
11 good for the world. And it's going to be good for
12 the people. This has to be denied. All of them
13 have to be denied.

14 And if I can make a suggestion about
15 procedure, you need to cater these meetings. I
16 didn't have time to get dinner, and I'm super
17 hungry. And you would get more people here to
18 talk about these things if you did so. Charge it
19 to the NTE. I think they can afford it.

20 I'll just say that people made great
21 points tonight. And to my union friends, there's
22 a better way to do this. You can have a safer
23 job, a better job, a better paying job near your
24 home, providing your home with renewable energy
25 that you don't have to pay for. I don't like to

1 pay the power company. I don't think anybody
2 likes to pay the power company. And as soon as we
3 go to renewable energy and we provide it for
4 ourselves, we won't need them. So deny this.
5 Deny all the fossil fuel plants. And we'll be on
6 our way to creating a better world for all of us.
7 Thank you.

8 THE CHAIRMAN: Kim Anderson followed by
9 Chris Campbell.

10 KIM ANDERSON: Hi. My name is Kim
11 Anderson, A-N-D-E-R-S-O-N. I live on Lake Road.

12 I just want to say good evening. Thank
13 you for being here. I would like to present some
14 concerns that I have about the proposed power
15 plant on the road which I currently live. Besides
16 the health concerns that have been brought up with
17 the air quality, drinking water, noise pollution,
18 I would like to bring up a high-level question.
19 This has been just in the back of my mind for a
20 while. And based on the information that I also
21 gathered throughout the last several months, it
22 seems to me that the power plant being built on
23 this specific parcel of land is not logistically
24 possible, as planned, without many negative
25 impacts.

1 A third-party submitted a report on
2 NTE's proposed plans and determined there were a
3 lot of holes in their plan. For example, the type
4 of soils, water permissibility is too low, which
5 would also contribute to runoff in the wetlands on
6 the property.

7 The other concern is that there would
8 be enough water supply. And we've heard a lot
9 about water today. If there's not a water supply
10 to support a functioning power plant, then how can
11 this happen? And especially considering there's a
12 drought, this is very alarming at this point. I
13 feel strongly that the infrastructure water source
14 pipeline expansion of this project be addressed to
15 determine if the site is even a feasible option
16 for the plant. All other details are moot if NTE
17 is not able to obtain water and gas from the
18 pipeline.

19 I also have great concerns of the
20 necessary gas line lateral that would feed this
21 facility. NTE has not supplied a detailed plan of
22 the proposed new gas line lateral or report of all
23 the impacts that would have. They have not shown
24 that the new lateral would fit in the existing
25 Yankee Gas right-of-way, part of which is not only

1 on my property but is located 36 feet from my
2 home. Without a detailed plan, how can they know
3 if the right-of-way would meet the expansion? If
4 the expansion is needed, the procuring of
5 additional land would be the responsibility of
6 NTE, according to Yankee Gas rules and
7 regulations.

8 And lastly, why doesn't NTE propose the
9 use of a carbon capture system, which would help
10 Connecticut attain reduced greenhouse initiatives
11 proposed for Connecticut and the region?

12 I thank you so much for your time and
13 the opportunity to comment.

14 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

15 Ms. Campbell.

16 THE WITNESS: Good evening. Thank you
17 for the opportunity to speak. My name is
18 Christine Campbell.

19 Sixteen years ago my husband and I
20 purchased 11 acres of land in Thompson and built
21 our home. We chose this Quiet Corner of
22 Connecticut because of the beauty and quiet of the
23 land and the cleanliness of the air.

24 As parents, every day we teach our
25 children to protect and respect nature. We teach

1 them to recycle and to not litter so as not to
2 pollute our environment. If we do not protect our
3 earth, who will? If we do not behave proactively,
4 the future generations won't have to worry about
5 taking care of our earth. As a mom, I always do
6 everything possible to protect my children, and
7 I'm very much against this proposed power plant.
8 I will fight this proposed power plant with
9 everything that I've got. I will speak out and
10 protect the health of my children and my family.

11 I would like to know who exactly will
12 this power be going to? Not us in this area, yet
13 we are expected to put up with the pollution, the
14 noise, the destruction of the land and the
15 potential decimation of our fresh water supply.
16 Let's not deceive ourselves here. No one's
17 electric bill ever gets lowered. No one's tax
18 bill ever gets lowered.

19 I was here for NTE's presentation in
20 July. When NTE gave that presentation in July,
21 they gave us a packet. In the packet they wrote
22 ULSD instead of what it really is, and that is
23 diesel, ultra low sulfur diesel. I found that to
24 be very deceptive. Also, when NTE wrote in their
25 packet about the species being affected, they

1 conveniently left out listing the names of the
2 species that would be affected, the red bat, the
3 wood turtle and the eastern box turtle. I googled
4 the eastern box turtle in Connecticut and found
5 that it was added to the state's list of
6 endangered, threatened and special concern species
7 in 1998. That was just one small thing that they
8 chose not to elaborate on. What else have they
9 left out?

10 Very importantly, there already is a
11 power plant here in Killingly. Also, there
12 already is a power plant in Burrillville, Rhode
13 Island, just over the state border from us. Also,
14 there is another power plant yet being proposed to
15 be built in Burrillville, Rhode Island by
16 Invenergy. Invenergy shows in their 471 page
17 application the pollutants that will travel a
18 31-mile radius on a zero wind day. The pollutants
19 include lead, benzene and arsenic, among many
20 other chemicals. I did not see such information
21 in NTE's presentation that they gave here in July
22 at this high school. I would like to know if NTE
23 has does any research on the cumulative effects on
24 the health of the residents of the total of all of
25 these power plants taken into consideration. Each

1 additional power plant compounds the environmental
2 effects and pollutants.

3 Another huge concern is the impact on
4 the daily water consumption. We currently are
5 experiencing a severe drought. How on earth could
6 we possibly supply water to cool down a power
7 plant when we cannot currently use water to take
8 care of our lawns?

9 I did research about water. And on
10 National Geographic's web site they have
11 information about what they're calling a clean
12 water crisis about our fresh water and found while
13 nearly 70 percent of the world is covered by
14 water, only 2.5 percent of it is fresh. The rest
15 is saline and ocean based. Even then just 1
16 percent of our fresh water is easily accessible
17 with much of it trapped in glaciers and
18 snowfields. Our water is a precious commodity and
19 we should be protecting it, not using an
20 unbelievable amount of it to cool down yet another
21 fossil fuel power plant.

22 I also did research about renewable
23 energy. EcoWatch provided data in January of
24 2015. It showed five countries leading the way
25 toward 100 percent renewable energy. Number one

1 was Denmark. They set a new world record for wind
2 production in 2014, getting 39.1 percent of its
3 overall electricity from the clean energy source,
4 the latest figures to put the country well on
5 track to meet its 2020 goal of getting 50 percent
6 of its power from renewables. In the UK -- this
7 was the second one -- in the UK wind power also
8 smashed records in 2014, as generation rose 15
9 percent from 24.5 terawatt hours to 28.1 terawatt
10 hours. That's more than any other year, and the
11 country now generates enough wind energy to supply
12 the needs of more than 6.7 million UK households.

13 The third country that has renewable
14 energy was the biggest contributor, Germany.
15 Electricity supply in 2014 was nearly 26 percent
16 of the country's power generation coming from
17 clean sources.

18 Number four with another record month
19 experience in December of 2014 was a massive year
20 for renewables in Scotland. Last month wind
21 turbines alone provided around 1,279 megawatt
22 hours of electricity to the national grid, enough
23 to supply the electrical needs of 164 percent
24 Scottish households or 3.96 million homes. The
25 latest figures further highlight the record year

1 seen for renewables in Scotland with wind turbines
2 providing an average 746,510 megawatt hours of
3 electricity each month, enough to supply 98
4 percent of Scottish households electricity needs.
5 Over six months of the year wind generated enough
6 power supply to more than 100 percent of Scottish
7 households.

8 Number five is Ireland, hit a new
9 record for wind energy. Windy conditions in
10 Ireland meant the country saw not one, but two
11 wind energy records set already this year.

12 According to figures recorded by EirGrid, on
13 Wednesday, January 7th, wind energy had created
14 1,942 megawatts of energy, enough to power more
15 than 1.26 million homes.

16 Why is NTE not looking into using
17 renewables? Why are they not moving forward as
18 other countries are? It seems to me we are going
19 in a backwards direction with the power plant. I
20 continually hear about the union workers and the
21 temporary jobs they will gain from this. I need
22 to publicly say that my husband goes to work every
23 day to provide for his family, but he doesn't
24 cause any harm to others in the process.

25 I also want to mention that recently

1 Uxbridge, Massachusetts had stood up and fought
2 the proposed power plant --

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Excuse me. Are you
4 getting close?

5 MS. ANDERSON: Yes, very close. I'm
6 sorry --

7 THE CHAIRMAN: You're the first one
8 that the --

9 MS. ANDERSON: I'm sorry. I want to
10 mention that recently Uxbridge, Massachusetts
11 stood up and fought the proposed power plant in
12 their town, and they succeeded. We residents and
13 neighboring residents do not want this power
14 plant. We are very concerned about many issues.
15 We will continue to use our voices to speak up,
16 and we will stand together. I implore you,
17 Connecticut Siting Council, to do the right thing
18 and not approve the construction of this
19 additional power plant.

20 And I thank you very much for your
21 patience. I had a lot to say. Thank you.

22 THE CHAIRMAN: Douglas Wolfram.

23 DOUGLAS WOLFRAM: My name is Douglas
24 Wolfram, W-O-L-F-R-A, M as in "Mary."

25 I initially did not intend to speak

1 tonight. I came because I'm a relatively new
2 resident to Killingly. I'd like to thank you
3 guys. I signed the petition for you to come here,
4 and I feel like you needed a heartfelt speech from
5 someone tonight. Everything's been a very
6 statistic approach. (Inaudible) 9 to 5 every day.
7 So this is from my heart.

8 I'm a scout master in Thompson,
9 Connecticut. I've been a scout for 23 years. So
10 that upbringing has made me a very moral person, I
11 believe. I choose not to lie. I choose to live
12 my life ethically in every decision-making process
13 I do. The very thought of this process just seems
14 wrong ethically, morally. The very thought of it
15 just seems wrong. So in my body I need to fight
16 that that this seems wrong.

17 Tonight was my scout meeting. This is
18 my second one as scout master I ever missed. The
19 first one was for shoulder surgery. I had to miss
20 that. I'm also, as I mentioned, a relatively new
21 resident of Killingly. I was born in South
22 Deerfield, Mass. From there -- my father passed
23 away when I was two -- I moved to Brookfield,
24 Mass; Thompson, Connecticut; Springfield, Mass;
25 back to Thompson; back to Webster; and back to

1 Thompson. I have moved over all around.

2 In February I decided to buy a home. I
3 chose Danielson because of pure business
4 statistics. I've been in business for over 11
5 years. I chose it purely for the financial aspect
6 that I get a return investment on my home. I
7 moved in in February, so this situation is quite
8 new to me. And even though it was a business
9 statistic that I chose my home, I have fallen in
10 love with this town, and for the very first in a
11 very long time I'm able to call somewhere home.
12 And Killingly is my home. And I have heard a lot
13 of short-term benefits of this project. And maybe
14 it's because of the millennial in me, I prefer
15 long-term situations.

16 And I've heard a lot about the tax
17 crisis. But when I was buying my home I chose
18 business statistics, and I looked at taxes, of
19 course. And Killingly was high taxes. But I
20 looked at what my taxes got me. And I am very
21 willing to pay my taxes, even though they are
22 higher than other towns I could have chose to live
23 in. This is my first time in this high school
24 actually. This is amazing. This is what my taxes
25 get me, and I'm very proud to pay my \$1,000 a year

1 in taxes. So I'm okay with my tax rate the way it
2 is, and I will continue to pay it every year
3 knowing that Killingly, this is what I got for my
4 dollar.

5 Also, since my time I moved in in
6 February, I have gone around the town, going to
7 this local business, places I don't normally have
8 been because I lived in Thompson, which seems a
9 little bit away. But being here, I have learned
10 of this project, I've talked to many citizens, and
11 I do not find that it is the majority of this
12 town, this group of people, that would want this
13 project. It actually seems like a small majority.
14 And our elected officials here tonight seem to
15 represent that. They are our elected officials
16 for the majority, and the majority is here to say
17 we do not want this project.

18 And I understand that jobs can be
19 created, but that is a small term aspect. I've
20 had asthma my entire life. I can count and
21 remember every single asthma attack. It feels
22 like you're dying. Ever since I was three years
23 old I've had asthma. I can remember every single
24 asthma attack, and I do not wish that on any
25 child. And as a business student, to outweigh

1 financial gain over so few to health benefits of
2 so many, I just cannot come to terms with this
3 project.

4 So I believe I'm actually the last
5 signature on the list, but I hope you guys make
6 the ethical decision in this situation. I don't
7 know how you do your decision-making process as
8 this board sits. I don't know if you take a tally
9 of the goods and the bads, and the goods outweigh
10 the bads. I don't know how you do it, but I hope
11 you do make the right decision. Killingly will be
12 better off for it or not, one or the other.

13 So I thank you tonight for coming all
14 this way. And I hope you have safe travels on the
15 way home. Thank you.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Do you want to come up?
17 You're our last speaker.

18 (No response.)

19 THE CHAIRMAN: The Council will now
20 close the public comment session.

21 Please note that anyone who has not
22 become a party or intervenor, but who desires to
23 make his or her views known to the Council, may
24 file written statements with the Council until the
25 record closes.

1 Copies of the transcript, again, will
2 be filed at the Town Clerk Offices in Killingly,
3 Putnam, Pomfret clerk offices. And I hereby
4 declare this hearing adjourned. And thank you all
5 for your participation.

6 (Whereupon, the above proceedings
7 adjourned at 9:41 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 150 pages are a complete and accurate computer-aided transcription of my original stenotype notes taken of the Council Meeting in Re: DOCKET NO. 470, APPLICATION FROM NTE CONNECTICUT, LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF A 550-MEGAWATT DUAL-FUEL COMBINED CYCLE ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL INTERCONNECTION SWITCHYARD LOCATED AT 180 AND 189 LAKE ROAD, KILLINGLY, CONNECTICUT, which was held before ROBERT STEIN, Chairman, at the Killingly High School Auditorium, 226 Putnam Pike, Killingly, Connecticut, on October 20, 2016.

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Lisa L. Warner, L.S.R., 061
Court Reporter