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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
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LICENSE RENEWAL PROCESS  
SCOPING PROCESS SUMMARY REPORT  
BEAVER VALLEY POWER STATION

UNITS 1 & 2

PUBLIC MEETING

+ + + + +

Thursday,

October 30th, 2008

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Caraopolis, Pennsylvania

The Public Meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. at the  
Embassy Suites Hotel, 550 Cherrington Parkway,  
Caraopolis, Pennsylvania, Richard Barkley,  
Facilitator, presiding.

APPEARANCES:

- RICHARD BARKLEY - Facilitator
- MANNY SAYOC - Environmental Project manager
- BO PHAM - NRC Headquarters Branch Chief

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

1:30 p.m.

1  
2  
3 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Good afternoon. My  
4 name is Richard Barkley, I'm a Technical  
5 Communications Assistant for NRC Region One, I will be  
6 facilitating the meeting this afternoon, and this  
7 evening, so I will be helping to make sure the meeting  
8 goes smoothly.

9 I will be calling up the speakers, and I  
10 will be trying to hold them to time, if you tend to be  
11 a little bit long.

12 If you are interested in speaking please  
13 sign up at the back, on the sign-up card. I have six  
14 speakers now and there is plenty of time, this  
15 afternoon, as well as this evening, to ask questions.  
16 So if you would like to speak, do sign up.

17 The purpose of this meeting is to go over  
18 the preliminary results of the environmental review  
19 for Beaver Valley Power Station Units and 2, which has  
20 applied for an extension to its license from 40 to 60  
21 years.

22 And so the Staff will go over their  
23 preliminary results at this time. And then what will  
24 happen is that we will accept comments, from the  
25 public, which will be transcribed by the transcription

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1 service here.

2 And at the end, as time allows, we will  
3 answer questions for the public. I would ask that  
4 you, if you are called up to the podium, you make your  
5 discussion remarks from here, you speak clearly, you  
6 speak into the microphone, so that the transcriber can  
7 record that, and properly record your remarks.

8 If you have written remarks, as well, you  
9 can provide them to myself, and I will make sure that  
10 they also get entered into the written record.

11 I would ask you to try to limit your  
12 remarks in length. We do have a long block of time.  
13 Normally we limit people to 5 minutes, but I have a  
14 good bit more flexibility in that, as we work today.

15 But I would ask you to try to be concise  
16 in the course of making your remarks.

17 At this time I would like introduce the  
18 Environmental Project Manager for the Beaver Valley  
19 project, Manny Sayoc. And he will describe the  
20 environmental impact evaluation process, public  
21 opportunity for comment in the license renewal process  
22 overall.

23 He will discuss, again, the results of the  
24 environmental review, and the severe accident  
25 management alternatives review, or SAMA review.

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1 Manny?

2 MR. SAYOC: Thank you, Mr. Barkley. Thank  
3 you all for taking the time to come to this meeting.  
4 I hope the information we provide will help you to  
5 understand the process we are going through, what we  
6 have done so far, and the role you can play in helping  
7 us make sure that the Final Environmental Impact  
8 Statement is accurate.

9 I would like to start off by briefly going  
10 over the agenda, and the purpose of today's meeting.  
11 We will update you on the status of our environmental  
12 review for license renewal for Beaver Valley Power  
13 Station, which I will refer to here on out, as BVPS.

14 Then we are going to present the  
15 preliminary findings of our environmental review,  
16 which assesses the impacts associated with extending,  
17 or renewing, the operating licenses for BVPS, for an  
18 additional 20 years.

19 Then we will give you some information  
20 about the schedule for the remainder of our review,  
21 and how you can submit comments in the future.

22 And then, finally, really the most  
23 important part of today's meeting, is where we receive  
24 any comments that you may have. Next slide.

25 Some of you may have attended the public

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1 meeting we held here, in November 27th, 2007. It  
2 described the license renewal process. At that time  
3 we described the NRC in terms of what we do, and what  
4 our mission is.

5 I would like to take a few minutes to  
6 summarize our presentation. The Atomic Energy Act  
7 authorizes the NRC to issue licenses for up to a 40  
8 year term for power reactors.

9 This 40 year term is based, primarily, on  
10 economic considerations, and not on safety limitations  
11 of the plant. The NRC's mission is to ensure adequate  
12 protection of the public health and safety; to promote  
13 a common defense and security and to protect the  
14 environment.

15 The NRC accomplishes its mission through  
16 a combination of regulatory programs, and processes,  
17 such as conducting inspections, issuing enforcement  
18 actions, assessing licensee performance, and  
19 evaluating operating experience from nuclear power  
20 plants across the country and internationally.

21 The regulations that the NRC enforces are  
22 contained in Title 10 of the Code of Federal  
23 Regulations, which is commonly referred to as 10CFR.

24 Our regulations also provide for license  
25 renewal, which extends plant operation for an

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1 additional 20 years. The BVPS operating licenses will  
2 expire 2016, and 2027.

3 In August 2007, FirstEnergy Nuclear  
4 Operating Company, or FENOC, requested license renewal  
5 for BVPS units 1 and 2.

6 As part of the NRC's review, of that  
7 license renewal application, we are in the process of  
8 performing an environmental review to look at the  
9 impacts of an additional 20 years of operation, on the  
10 environment.

11 During our meeting here, in November 2007,  
12 we solicited your input on the issues we needed to  
13 evaluate. Now we have returned to present the  
14 preliminary results in our draft environmental impact  
15 statement.

16 At the conclusion of the Staff's  
17 presentation, we will be happy to receive any  
18 questions or comments that you may have on the draft  
19 supplemental environmental impact statement.

20 This slide represents the environmental  
21 review for license renewal. I would like to point out  
22 that the symbols in yellow, on the slide, indicate  
23 opportunities for public participation. The first  
24 opportunity was during the scoping period, and the  
25 meeting back in November 2007.

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1           Many of you may have attended that  
2 meeting. This meeting on the draft environmental  
3 impact statement is another opportunity. The draft  
4 SEIS has been published for comment.

5           And we are here, today, to briefly discuss  
6 the results and to receive your comments. I will  
7 explain more about the SEIS in the next slide.

8           In May 2009 we plan to issue the final  
9 version of this Environmental Impact Statement, which  
10 will address the comments we received on the draft  
11 SEIS, included those provided today at this meeting.

12           The environmental review is being  
13 conducted in accordance with the National  
14 Environmental Policy Act, of 1969, or NEPA. NEPA  
15 requires federal agencies to follow a systematic  
16 approach in evaluating potential environmental impacts  
17 associated with certain actions.

18           We are required to consider the impacts of  
19 the proposed action and, also, any mitigation for  
20 those impacts that we consider to be significant.  
21 Alternatives to the proposed action, including taking  
22 no action, on the Applicant's request, are also to be  
23 considered.

24           The National Environmental Policy Act, and  
25 our Environmental Impact Statement are disclosure

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1 tools. They are specifically structured to involve  
2 public participation.

3 And this meeting facilitates the public  
4 participation in our environmental review. So we are  
5 here today to collect public comments on the draft  
6 environmental impact statement. And these comments  
7 will be included in our final Environmental Impact  
8 Statement.

9 We developed a generic Environmental  
10 Impact Statement, or GEIS, that address a number of  
11 issues that are common to all nuclear power plants.  
12 The Staff is supplementing that generic Environmental  
13 Impact Statement, with site-specific Environmental  
14 Impact Statement that will address issues that are  
15 specific to this individual site.

16 The Staff also evaluates the conclusions  
17 reached in the GEIS to determine if there are any new  
18 and significant information that would change any of  
19 those conclusions.

20 When the team evaluated the impacts from  
21 continued operations at BVPS, we considered  
22 information from a wide variety of sources. We  
23 considered what the licensee had to say in their  
24 environmental report.

25 We conducted a site audit during which we

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1       toured the site, interviewed plant personnel, and  
2       reviewed documentation of plant operations.

3               We also talked to federal, state, and  
4       local officials. Lastly, we considered all of the  
5       comments received from the public during the scoping  
6       period.

7               These comments are listed in appendix A,  
8       along with the NRC's responses. This body of  
9       information is the basis for the analysis and  
10      preliminary conclusions in this BVPS supplement.

11              The environmental review team consisted of  
12      experts in the fields represented on this slide. As  
13      I explained, before, the NRC developed a generic  
14      Environmental Impact Statement, or GEIS, that  
15      evaluated the impacts of all operating nuclear power  
16      plants across the US.

17              The NRC looked at 92 separate impact areas  
18      and found that for 69 of these areas, the impacts were  
19      all the same for the plants with similar features.

20              The NRC was able to make generic  
21      conclusions that all the impacts on the environment  
22      are small. These generic issues are called category  
23      1 issues. For this presentation the terms category 1  
24      issues, and generic issues, are used interchangeably.

25              The NRC was unable to make similar

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1 determinations for the remaining 23 issues. And, as  
2 a consequence, the NRC decided that we would prepare  
3 a supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for each  
4 plant to address the remaining 23 issues.

5 The plant specific issues are also called  
6 category 2 issues. And these terms will also be used  
7 interchangeably. The Staff supplements the generic  
8 Environmental Impact Statement with a site-specific  
9 Environmental Impact Statement that addresses issues  
10 specific to units 1 and 2 at BVPS.

11 Together the generic EIS and the  
12 supplemental EIS form the Staff's analysis on the  
13 environmental impacts for license renewal for BVPS.

14 Also, during the review, the NRC Staff  
15 looks for, and evaluates, any new and significant  
16 information that might call into question the  
17 conclusions we reached, previously, in the generic  
18 EIS.

19 In addition, the Staff searches for new  
20 issues not addressed in the generic EIS. This slide  
21 features our decision standard for the environmental  
22 review, simply put, is a license renewal acceptable  
23 from an environmental standpoint?

24 The central analyses, in the BVPS  
25 supplement, are presented in chapters 3 through 8.

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1 Chapter 3 we discuss the environmental impacts of  
2 refurbishment activities.

3 In chapter 4 we looked at the  
4 environmental impacts of routine operations during the  
5 license renewal term. The team also reviews issues  
6 related to the cooling system, transmission lines,  
7 radiological impacts, socioeconomic impacts,  
8 threatened and endangered species, and cumulative  
9 impacts.

10 Whereas chapter 4 discusses the impact of  
11 normal operation of the plant on the environment,  
12 chapter 5 describes severe accidents. Though these  
13 accidents are not likely to occur, the Commission  
14 determined that the Staff must analyze the  
15 alternatives to lessen the impacts of severe  
16 accidents.

17 Chapter 8 describes the alternatives to  
18 the proposed license renewal, and their environmental  
19 impacts. Each of these issue areas are discussed in  
20 detail in the BVPS supplement.

21 But, today, I'm going to give you just the  
22 highlights of what the NRC looked at, and conclusions  
23 for each of these topics.

24 For each environmental impact identified,  
25 such as threatened and endangered species, an impact

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1 level is assigned as small, moderate, or large. For  
2 a small impact the effect is not detectable, or too  
3 small to destabilize, or noticeably alter, any  
4 important attribute of the resource.

5 For a moderate impact the effect is  
6 sufficient to alter, noticeably, but not destabilize  
7 important attributes of the resource.

8 And, finally, for an impact to be  
9 considered large, the effect must be clearly  
10 noticeable and sufficient to destabilize important  
11 attributes of the resource.

12 Now I'm going to use the fishery in the  
13 Ohio river to illustrate how we use these three  
14 criteria.

15 The operation of BVPS plant may cause a  
16 loss of adult and juvenile fish at the intake  
17 structure. If the loss of fish is too small, that it  
18 cannot be detected, in relation to the total  
19 population of fish in the Ohio river, then the impact  
20 would be small.

21 If the loss causes the populations to  
22 decline, and then stabilize at a lower level, the  
23 impact would be moderate.

24 If losses at the intake cause the fish  
25 population to decline to the point where it cannot be

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1 stabilized, and continues to decline, then the impact  
2 would be large.

3 This methodology is applied to each  
4 resource area studied in the review, such as  
5 socioeconomics and air quality.

6 One of the issues we looked at, closely,  
7 is the cooling system for BVPS. The category 2, or  
8 site-specific issues that the team looked at, include  
9 water use conflicts and microbiological organisms.

10 We found that the potential impacts in  
11 these areas were small, and that there was no  
12 additional mitigation measures that would provide  
13 noticeable effect on the impacts.

14 Now there are, also, a number of category  
15 1, or generic issues related to the cooling system.  
16 These issues include plant discharges, nuisance  
17 organisms, intake structure effects on aquatic  
18 species, and others.

19 The NRC determined that these impacts were  
20 small for all power plants. The team evaluated all the  
21 information we had available to see if there was any  
22 that was both new and significant for these issues.

23 We did not find any and, therefore, we  
24 adopted the NRC's generic conclusions that the impact  
25 of the cooling system is small.

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1 Radiological impacts are generic issues  
2 and the NRC made a determination of radiological  
3 release, during nuclear power plant operations, when  
4 in the license renewal term, are small.

5 But these releases are of public interest  
6 and so I want to discuss them more in detail. Nuclear  
7 plants are designed to release radiological effluents  
8 to the environment.

9 BVPS is no different than any other plants  
10 in that it, too, releases radiological effluents to  
11 the environment. During our site visit we looked at  
12 effluent releases and monitoring program  
13 documentation.

14 We looked at how the gaseous and liquid  
15 effluents were treated and released, as well as how  
16 the solid wastes were treated, packaged, and shipped.

17 We looked at how the Applicant determines  
18 and demonstrates that they are in compliance with the  
19 regulations for release of radiological effluents.

20 We also looked at data from on-site, and  
21 near site locations, that the Applicant monitors for  
22 airborne releases. We looked at direct radiation in  
23 other monitoring stations beyond the site boundary,  
24 including locations where water, milk, fish, and food  
25 products are sampled.

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1           We found that the maximum calculated  
2 doses, for a member of the public are well within the  
3 annual limits. Since releases from the plant are not  
4 expected to increase, on a year to year basis during  
5 the 20 year license renewal period, and since we also  
6 found no new and significant information related to  
7 this issue, we adopted the generic conclusion that the  
8 radiological impact on human health, and the  
9 environment, is small.

10           The NRC contacted the U.S. Fish and  
11 Wildlife Service, and the National Marine and  
12 Fisheries Service, to request information on federal  
13 and state listed threatened, endangered, and candidate  
14 species potentially occurring on or near the Beaver  
15 Valley site.

16           There are no federally listed, threatened  
17 or endangered species occurring in the vicinity of  
18 BVPS, or along its transmission corridors.

19           As documented in the draft SEIS, the NRC  
20 submitted an assessment of impacts to the U.S. Fish  
21 and Wildlife Service, that no adverse impacts are  
22 expected for any species due to continued operation of  
23 the plant.

24           The NRC is still in consultation with the  
25 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The NRC Staff

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1 preliminary determination is that there would be no  
2 impact of operation of BVPS during the period of  
3 extended operation on threatened and endangered  
4 species.

5 Socioeconomic impacts are both generic and  
6 site-specific issues. In the GEIS, the NRC has made  
7 a generic determination that socioeconomic impacts of  
8 nuclear power plant operations, during the license  
9 renewal period, range from no impact to small.

10 The team evaluated all the information we  
11 had, available, to see if there was any that was both  
12 new and significant for these generic issues. We did  
13 not find any and, therefore, we adopted a generic  
14 conclusion that the socioeconomic impact, from license  
15 renewal, is small.

16 For the site-specific issues we found that  
17 the potential impacts, in these areas, range from no  
18 impact to small. And that there was no additional  
19 mitigation measures that would provide noticeable  
20 effects on the plant-specific impacts.

21 For refurbishment impacts, we also  
22 analyzed generic and site specific issues related to  
23 a possible unit 2 steam generator replacement project.

24 For the generic issues the team evaluated  
25 all the information we had available. We did not find

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1 any that was both new and significant to these issues.  
2 Therefore we adopted the generic conclusion that the  
3 impact from license renewal is small.

4 For site specific issues we found that the  
5 potential impacts, in these areas, ranged from no  
6 impact to small. We identified no additional  
7 mitigation measures that would provide noticeable  
8 effects on the plant-specific impacts.

9 There are two classes of accidents  
10 evaluated in the GEIS; design basis accidents and  
11 severe accidents. Design basis accidents are those  
12 accidents that the plant is designed to withstand  
13 without risk to the public.

14 The ability of the plant to withstand  
15 these accidents has to be demonstrated before the  
16 plant is granted a license. The licensee has to  
17 demonstrate acceptable plant performance, for the  
18 design basis accidents, for the life of the plant.

19 Therefore the Commission found that the  
20 environmental impact of design basis accidents is  
21 small for all plants.

22 The second category is severe accidents.  
23 Severe accidents are, by definition, more severe than  
24 design basis accidents, because they would result in  
25 substantial damage to the reactor core.

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1           The Commission found, in the GEIS, that  
2 the risk of severe accidents is small for all plants.  
3 Nevertheless the Commission determined that  
4 alternatives to mitigate severe accidents must be  
5 considered for all plants.

6           There is a term that we use called SAMA,  
7 which means severe accident mitigation alternatives.  
8 The SAMA evaluation is a category 2 issue and, thus,  
9 requires a site specific analysis.

10           The purpose of the SAMA evaluation is to  
11 ensure that the plant changes that have potential for  
12 improving severe accident safety performance are  
13 identified and evaluated.

14           The scope of potential plant improvements,  
15 considered, included hardware modifications,  
16 procedural changes, training program improvements, and  
17 basically a full spectrum of potential changes.

18           The scope includes SAMAs that would  
19 prevent core damage, as well as SAMAs that would  
20 improve containment performance if core damage event  
21 occurs.

22           The preliminary results, of the BVPS SAMA  
23 evaluation, are summarized on this slide. Sixty-three  
24 and fifty-six potential SAMA candidate improvements  
25 for units 1 and 2, respectively, were identified for

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1 BVPS; five for unit 1, and 3 for unit 2 SAMAs were  
2 identified as potentially cost beneficial.

3 However, none of the potential costs  
4 beneficial SAMAs are related to managing the effects  
5 of plant aging during the license renewal period.  
6 Accordingly, they are not required to be implemented  
7 as part of the license renewal.

8 Regardless, FENOC has indicated, in their  
9 ER, that they will further evaluate, or implement  
10 these mitigation alternatives.

11 The team also looked at environmental  
12 impacts of other issues, besides continued operation,  
13 as shown up on the screen. They are uranium fuel  
14 cycle, and decommissioning.

15 All issues related to these areas are  
16 considered generic issues. During the review no new  
17 and significant information was identified. Therefore  
18 the Staff adopted the NRC's generic conclusion that  
19 impacts on these areas are small.

20 Cumulative impacts are the impacts of  
21 license renewal taken together with other past,  
22 present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions,  
23 regardless of what agency, or person undertakes these  
24 actions.

25 The NRC Staff has identified reasonably

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1 foreseeable actions occurring in the future that are  
2 considered, in this review, for its cumulative impacts  
3 on the environment.

4           The BVPS region is highly industrialized.  
5 Among the identified regional industrial actions, and  
6 major facilities included in our analysis are the  
7 operation of the Bruce Mansfield Coal Power Plant,  
8 Army Corps of Engineers dredging, Army Corps of  
9 Engineers locks and dams, a zinc recycling plant, two  
10 chemical plants and a gypsum wallboard manufacturer  
11 and, of course, BVPS.

12           The cumulative environmental impacts of  
13 these actions and facilities, in the region, range  
14 from small to moderate, with the greatest impact due  
15 to industrialization in the region, is aquatic  
16 ecology.

17           BVPS units 1 and 2 are ready for a  
18 combined electrical output of approximately 2,900  
19 megawatts. The Staff evaluated the potential  
20 environmental impact associated with BVPS' continuing  
21 operation, and replacing this generation without  
22 alternate power sources.

23           The team at no-action alternative, new  
24 generation from coal and gas fired, nuclear, purchased  
25 power, alternative technologies, such as wind, solar,

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1 and hydro-power, and then a combination of  
2 alternatives.

3 For each alternative we looked at the same  
4 types of issues; for example, water use, land use,  
5 ecology and socioeconomics that were looked at for the  
6 continued operation of BVPS.

7 The team's preliminary conclusion is that  
8 the environmental impacts of alternatives would reach  
9 small to moderate significance in some impact  
10 categories, primarily due to the need for new  
11 construction.

12 Turning, now, to our conclusions. We  
13 found that the impacts of license renewal are small in  
14 all the areas. We also concluded that the alternative  
15 actions, including no-action alternative, may have a  
16 small to moderate environmental effects.

17 Based on these results our preliminary  
18 recommendation is that the adverse environmental  
19 impacts of license renewal for BVPS units 1 and 2 are  
20 not so great that preserving the option for license  
21 renewal, for energy planning decisionmakers, would be  
22 unreasonable.

23 This slide shows important milestone dates  
24 for the environmental review process. The highlighted  
25 dates indicate future milestones in the environmental

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1 review.

2 Our draft is a supplement to the generic  
3 Environmental Impact Statement, as discussed earlier.  
4 We published the draft site-specific supplement, to  
5 the GEIS, on September 23, 2008.

6 It is also known as supplement 36 for BVPS  
7 units 1 and 2. We are, currently, accepting public  
8 comments on the draft until December 17th, 2008.  
9 Today's meeting is being transcribed and the comments  
10 provided here carry the same weight as written  
11 comments submitted to the NRC.

12 Once the comment period closes, we will  
13 develop a final SEIS, which we expect to publish in  
14 May 2009.

15 This slide identifies Kent Howard and  
16 myself, Emmanuel Sayak, as your primary points of  
17 contact with the NRC for the preparation of the  
18 Environmental Impact Statement.

19 It also identifies where documents,  
20 related to our review, may be found in the local area.  
21 The BVPS SEIS and GEIS are available in the Beaver  
22 Area Memorial Library, and the Beaver County Library  
23 System.

24 All documents, related to the review, are  
25 also available on the NRC's website, at [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov).

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1 In addition, as you came in, you were asked to fill  
2 out a registration card at our reception table.

3 If you included your address, on the card,  
4 we will mail you a copy of the final SEIS. Now, in  
5 addition to providing comments, at this meeting, there  
6 are other ways that you can submit comments for our  
7 environmental review process.

8 You can provide written comments to the  
9 Chief of our Rules and Directives Branch, at the  
10 address on the screen. You can also make comments in  
11 person if you happen to be in the Rockville, Maryland  
12 area.

13 We have also established a specific email  
14 address that the NRC uses for purposes of receiving  
15 your comments on the draft Environmental Impact  
16 Statement. And that email address is  
17 beavervalleyeis@nrc.gov.

18 All of your comments will be collected and  
19 considered. This concludes my remarks. Thank you,  
20 again, for taking the time to attend this meeting.  
21 Now I will turn you over to our facilitator, Mr.  
22 Barkley.

23 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you, Manny.  
24 At this point in time I would like to call people up,  
25 individually, to make remarks. Typically the order in

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1 which I call people is first elected officials, if  
2 there are any in the audience, followed by people who  
3 have signed up, and I typically take it in order such  
4 that all groups get a chance to speak, and then work  
5 my way through the list, until everyone has gotten a  
6 chance to speak.

7 At this point my understanding is that  
8 there are no elected representatives in the audience.  
9 If I have overlooked somebody please speak up.

10 (No response.)

11 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Given that, I have  
12 seven people signed up to speak, and they are all from  
13 seven different organizations, so I will just call  
14 them up in alphabetic order.

15 So the first speaker will be Robin Canei,  
16 of AVI Food Systems.

17 MS. CANEI: Hi, my name is Robin Canei,  
18 I'm with AVI Food Systems. AVI provides vending  
19 services, catering services, and offers coffee service  
20 for the FENOC Beaver Plant.

21 AVI has been proudly serving this facility  
22 for more than 14 years. The loss of FENOC Beaver  
23 Valley Plant would be detrimental to the Beaver Valley  
24 economy immediately, and well into the future.

25 There are more than 1,000 people employed

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1 at this facility, not to mention the contractors that  
2 rely on FENOC, including AVI.

3 They own homes here, they do their  
4 shopping here, they dine in restaurants here, they pay  
5 taxes here. The State of Pennsylvania is experiencing  
6 an unemployment rate of 5.7 percent, an increase of  
7 1.3 percent in the past year.

8 And with the current economic climate we  
9 cannot expect these people to find jobs in this  
10 market. The loss of more than 1,000 people, and their  
11 families, would severely hurt this area.

12 From my company's perspective the loss of  
13 this facility would have lasting negative impact as  
14 well. The employees at this facility represent more  
15 than six percent of my branch services, and are one of  
16 my top customers.

17 There are two people dedicated exclusively  
18 to serving this facility. We also have four support  
19 staff people, and myself, that would be unemployed,  
20 and countless more that would be negatively affected.

21 This type of decision cannot be taken  
22 lightly. I respectfully request that you consider the  
23 thousands of people that would be negatively impacted  
24 by the closing of the FENOC Beaver Valley Plant.  
25 Thank you for your time and consideration.

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1 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you, Robin.  
2 Were you able to hear that clearly? Okay, great.

3 Next speaker is Jeff Davis, IBEW Local  
4 Union 29.

5 MR. DAVIS: Hello, good afternoon. My  
6 name is Jeff Davis, I'm the business manager of Local  
7 Union 29 of the International Brotherhood of  
8 Electrical Workers.

9 We represent four different employers, one  
10 of which is Beaver Valley Power Station employers. We  
11 represent, approximately, 460 full-time employees. At  
12 times we also represent some temporary employees,  
13 sometimes during outages there can be as many as 60 or  
14 70 additional people.

15 Obviously, as a labor organization that  
16 represents employees here, there are times that we  
17 don't always get along with certain issues with the  
18 company, when it comes to hours of work, working  
19 conditions, benefits, and contract adherence.

20 However, I'd like to say when it comes to  
21 other things, and how we consider the plant as far as  
22 safety, impact, and the value of jobs, I think that  
23 the Beaver Valley Power Station and FirstEnergy do a  
24 very good job.

25 In fact, our personnel safety records are

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1 outstanding, in my opinion. Recently we had the  
2 assistance of another employer, the local power  
3 service company, Ducane Light Company, that is being  
4 challenged with safety problems.

5 And I asked, and was granted permission to  
6 bring a couple of management people, and a couple of  
7 union people from Ducane Light, and Mr. John Kowolski,  
8 and Mr. Wayne McIntyre assisted us in showing how well  
9 we run the program of Beaver Valley, and how they  
10 manage to keep the safety record so good, particularly  
11 discussing pre-job and post-job briefings, and how  
12 they are done there, and how effective they are.

13 I'm very proud of the record we have, and  
14 I'm full-time with the local union, but I'm an  
15 employee on leave, under our union contract, from the  
16 plant.

17 I have had the chance to observe,  
18 personally, as an employee there how the plant is  
19 operated. And I feel totally and completely safe  
20 living in the area with my family.

21 I think the company uses very conservative  
22 judgement, at all times, on anything concerning  
23 nuclear safety. And I think, also, the company has  
24 been very good to the area.

25 I think they are a good neighbor, involved

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1 in the community, and in the area, and I certainly  
2 hope that this application process goes through for an  
3 extension of the license. Thank you.

4 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you, Jeff.  
5 Again, if you could speak closely to the microphone,  
6 that would be helpful. It helps in the recording, as  
7 well as people hearing in the back.

8 Thanks again, Jeff. The next person I  
9 would like to call up is Larry Foulke, of the  
10 University of Pittsburgh. Larry?

11 MR. FOULKE: My name is Larry Foulke, I'm  
12 a resident of Allegheny County, and I have had a  
13 career of over 40 years, as a nuclear engineer at the  
14 Bechtel Bettis Laboratory and Westinghouse Electric  
15 Company.

16 In this career I have contributed to, and  
17 managed, groups of engineers and nuclear reactor  
18 research, safety analysis, reactor performance  
19 analysis, environmental engineering, training, and  
20 security.

21 After my retirement from Bettis in 2006 I  
22 was asked, by the University of Pittsburgh, to develop  
23 and deliver courses in nuclear engineering to students  
24 and there I currently serve, as director of nuclear  
25 programs.

1 I was the manager of the group of  
2 engineers and scientists that developed the safety  
3 analysis report, and the Environmental Impact  
4 Statement for the operation of the light water breeder  
5 core in the Shippingport Atomic Power Station.

6 After proving the technology of breeding  
7 nuclear fuel with the uranium-thorium fuel cycle, the  
8 Shippingport Station was shut down in 1982 and,  
9 subsequently, decommissioned.

10 That reactor operated safely from 1957 to  
11 1982 with no adverse impact on the environment.

12 I am here, today, to speak in favor  
13 obvious Beaver Valley's license renewal application.  
14 An extension of their operating license will permit  
15 continuation of the generation of cheap, reliable,  
16 secure, safe and environmentally friendly electricity.

17 James Lovelock, a leading environmentalist  
18 would agree. He writes: "Nuclear Energy is the Only  
19 Logical Solution." "Opposition to nuclear energy is  
20 based on irrational fear fed by Hollywood-style  
21 fiction, the Green lobbies and the media. Nuclear  
22 energy has proved to be the safest of all energy  
23 sources."

24 Today, it is safer to work in a nuclear  
25 power plant than in the manufacturing sector and even

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1 in real estate and finance industries, according to  
2 statistics from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

3 The industrial accident rate, in the  
4 industry, continues to decline, with a record low of  
5 only one industrial accident per 800,000 work hours.

6 The big impact, environmental impact of  
7 nuclear power is the cost and the impact of new plant  
8 construction. The cost and environmental impact of  
9 building new nuclear power plants is much greater than  
10 the cost to build a natural gas power plant.

11 But here at Beaver Valley we have nuclear  
12 plants that are already built. It would be foolish to  
13 shut these plants down early when the world and the  
14 region needs energy.

15 Once the plant is built and the  
16 construction loan is paid off, there are few ways of  
17 producing electricity that have lower operating costs,  
18 that is operations, fuel, and maintenance, than  
19 anything else you can conceive.

20 On the average for nuclear plants in the  
21 United States, nuclear electricity is produced for  
22 about 1.7 cents per kilowatt-hour.

23 The cost of fuel and operations is a minor  
24 cost factor for nuclear power. Increasing the price  
25 of uranium would have little effect on the overall

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1 cost of nuclear power.

2 A doubling in the cost of natural uranium  
3 would increase the total cost of nuclear generated  
4 electricity by about 5 percent. On the other hand, if  
5 the price of natural gas were doubled, the cost of  
6 gas-fired electricity would increase by about 60  
7 percent.

8 While the long-term radioactive waste  
9 storage problems of nuclear power may have been solved  
10 technically, they have not been fully solved  
11 politically.

12 The fact is that nuclear energy is one of  
13 the cleanest ways we know to produce huge amounts of  
14 electricity. However, like all ways of generating  
15 electricity, it does generate wastes

16 But those nuclear wastes provide one of  
17 the greatest benefits of nuclear power that I feel the  
18 public does not fully understand and appreciate yet.  
19 Nuclear wastes are sequestered and segregated from the  
20 outset, their volume is extremely small, relative to  
21 the amount of energy produced, and we have sensitive  
22 instruments to monitor and ensure we have control of  
23 the wastes.

24 With a total generating capacity of over  
25 1,600 megawatts of electricity the Beaver Valley Power

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1 Station is a major producer of electricity for Western  
2 Pennsylvania, generating enough electricity to power  
3 more than a million homes.

4 Nuclear power is a clean and  
5 environmentally friendly way to generate electricity.  
6 The Beaver Valley Power Station emits no greenhouse  
7 gases, or sulfur dioxide to the environment while it  
8 produces electricity.

9 It saves the emission of over four million  
10 pounds of greenhouse gases annually. Environmental  
11 monitoring programs, dating all the way back to the  
12 1950s, before the now dismantled Shippingport Atomic  
13 Power Station began operation, verify that Beaver  
14 Valley has had no negative radiological impact on the  
15 environment.

16 Technicians and automated equipment  
17 collect samples 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.  
18 These monitoring programs show that Beaver Valley has  
19 had, and continues to have, no negative impact on the  
20 environment.

21 In addition to Beaver Valley's monitoring  
22 program, state and federal agencies have their own  
23 programs to independently monitor the environment.  
24 These independent checks verify Beaver Valley's  
25 monitoring results.

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1           The Beaver Valley Nuclear Stations have  
2 operated safely since the plants were commissioned.  
3 I'm personally acquainted with many employees at  
4 Beaver Valley, and I know they are committed to  
5 producing energy safely and responsibly.

6           The design, construction and operation of  
7 the plant are based on a multi-level safety philosophy  
8 used in all U.S. commercial nuclear power plants.

9           This philosophy, combined with excellence  
10 in management, training and operations, helps ensure  
11 a safe plant.

12           The Beaver Valley Nuclear Station is  
13 clearly a regional asset that provides electricity  
14 safely and economically. It is in the best interest,  
15 in my opinion, of all citizens and businesses, to  
16 extend the operating life of the two units for another  
17 20 years. Thank you.

18           FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you, Larry.  
19 We are having some speaker problems. Do we have it  
20 all on -- we are going to take a break here. And,  
21 also, Larry did provide me his remarks in a written  
22 form, and if other speakers have their remarks in a  
23 written form, if you would like to turn them in, that  
24 helps the transcriber out.

25           We will break for two minutes, here, while

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1 we make sure we have our sound system corrected.

2 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter  
3 went off the record at 2:15 to 2:20 p.m.)

4 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: I think we are ready  
5 to get started again, if we could have a seat.

6 Thanks very much for your patience. It  
7 seems we had a little battery problem with our  
8 microphone, so we have corrected that, and our  
9 transcriber was able to get the remarks of the last  
10 speaker.

11 So we should be fine for the rest of the  
12 afternoon. Our next speaker is Joanna Greco, of  
13 Beaver County Rehab Center. Joanna?

14 MS. GRECO: Hello, I'm Joanna Greco, from  
15 the Beaver County Rehabilitation Center. I'm their  
16 director of contract acquisition.

17 At the rehabilitation center we help  
18 people with disabilities work. We have 300 clients,  
19 at any given time, coming in to our facility to work.

20 The reason I'm speaking on behalf of the  
21 license renewal for the Beaver Valley Power Plant is  
22 more of a personal reason. The community involvement  
23 that FENOC has shown BCRC has been wonderful, either  
24 with monetary donations, or with showing our clients  
25 the importance of safety in the workplace.

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1           They participate in our safety carnivals  
2 each year, and they show our guys personal wear, the  
3 costumes, the hats, the glasses and all that, that is  
4 needed to be safe in your work environment.

5           They also have supported us in other ways  
6 by using the services that we provide. We have the  
7 candy bouquet and gifts delivered franchise in our  
8 area. We provide gift for the community.

9           FirstEnergy has helped us with that by  
10 using for their different events. So they are a very  
11 big supporter of the BCRC, and they are very important  
12 to have in the community.

13           I'd also like to state that I'm a native  
14 of Midland, I grew up in the '70s and '80s in Midland,  
15 and was part of the whole mill crash, where all the  
16 neighbors, friends, family, everybody lost their jobs.

17           And I really believe without Shippingport,  
18 which I still call it, that if it wasn't there, I  
19 think that Midland would be almost non-existent. They  
20 were very supportive in getting Midland through that  
21 crisis.

22           So I'm here to be in favor of the license  
23 renewal. Thank you.

24           FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you, Joanna.  
25 Also I would make one announcement. If you would like

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1 to have a copy of these slides, it is available here,  
2 please sign up at the table, just as you are leaving,  
3 and we can email them to you.

4 Our next speaker is Kevin Ostrowski of  
5 FENOC. Kevin?

6 MR. OSTROWSKI: Thanks, and good  
7 afternoon. My name is Kevin Ostrowski, and for the  
8 last 28 years I have had the privilege of working  
9 either as an operator, a supervisor, a manager, and  
10 today a director of site operations, at the Beaver  
11 Valley Power Station.

12 Over that period of time I'm here,  
13 certainly, to attest to and recommit to our company,  
14 and the Beaver Valley's employees, to all of those  
15 things that we have spoken to, or you've heard spoken  
16 to, with regards to our focus on safety.

17 We consider, and look at, our  
18 responsibility to design, operate, and maintain our  
19 facility, with all the various aspects of safety in  
20 mind, that includes nuclear safety, radiological  
21 safety, personal safety, and the topic of today's  
22 discussion, environmental safety.

23 Our company, and our employees, work every  
24 day, and work very hard, to maintain those margins of  
25 safety. We are very proud, and look forward to the

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1 opportunity to operate our plant for the next 20  
2 years, with those principles in mind.

3 We recognize, and will continue to hold to  
4 the highest esteem the health and safety of our  
5 neighbors, and their communities, the people who work  
6 at our plant, and to take care of the equipment that  
7 supports both of those.

8 So with that we appreciate the opportunity  
9 to provide our comments today, and also look forward  
10 to the safe operation of our facility for the next 20  
11 years.

12 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you, Kevin.  
13 Next Linda Swaney, of Habitat for Humanity. Linda?  
14 Where do you have a chapter out, around here, Linda?  
15 Beaver Falls, okay.

16 MS. SWANEY: Good afternoon. My name is  
17 Linda Swaney, and I'm the executive director of  
18 Habitat for Humanity of Beaver County.

19 And I appreciate the opportunity to share  
20 my comments with you today, on the Beaver Valley Power  
21 Station and our community.

22 Habitat is a non-profit grass-roots  
23 organization that provides homes for families in need,  
24 that do not have the means to purchase a home without  
25 our assistance.

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1           Our program does not promote dependency,  
2 but encourages empowerment. We often use the motto:  
3 "We give families a hand-up, not a hand-out."

4           At zero percent interest our mortgage  
5 payments are usually far less than a family with  
6 limited income would pay for rent. Our homes are sold  
7 to families at zero percent interest.

8           We take blighted property and houses,  
9 throughout Beaver County, and rehab or build new  
10 construction homes in order to put them back on the  
11 tax rolls.

12           Economically we support our local  
13 community by purchasing our construction materials in  
14 Beaver County. Many local non-profits have benefitted  
15 from the community spirit that the Beaver County Power  
16 Station has shown in our county.

17           In the case of Habitat they have been a  
18 key sponsor for a major fundraiser, our Walk for  
19 Humanity. And we have been offered fundraising  
20 opportunities during their shut-downs.

21           In addition, the Beaver Valley Power  
22 Station is one of Beaver County's largest employers  
23 and taxpayers. Beaver County would suffer  
24 economically with the loss of more than 1,000 good  
25 jobs.

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1           As a grass roots organization that depends  
2 on individual's donations, in order to meet our  
3 mission, the elimination of these jobs with above-  
4 average salaries would definitely affect us.

5           During the outages Beaver Valley Power  
6 Station provides more than 1,000 temporary jobs in  
7 Shippingport. These outages provide both non-profits,  
8 and local businesses increased economic benefits.

9           I'm grateful for the partnership that we  
10 have formed and feel confident that our goals are  
11 similar. We are working together to build our  
12 community.

13           The power station contributes more than  
14 four million dollars, annually, in payroll, property,  
15 and utility taxes, and Habitat, by putting families in  
16 homes, provides municipalities with additional  
17 property taxes.

18           I appreciate their presence, and consider  
19 them a vital part of our community, and I'm glad to be  
20 here today. Thank you.

21           FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you, Linda.  
22 I would offer one last opportunity for people to sign  
23 up to speak. I have one last speaker signed up, and  
24 that is Denise Taylor. Denise? It says community  
25 involvement/outage worker. I'm not clear what that

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1 means.

2 MS. TAYLOR: Good afternoon. My name is  
3 Denise Taylor, I'm a life-long resident of Columbiana  
4 county. I'm a quite frequent visitor, and I go to  
5 church, in the Beaver County. And I have a lot of  
6 friends and relatives throughout the tri-state area.

7 I have a very unique position, today,  
8 because I am the executive director of a community  
9 center in East Liverpool, as well as I have been given  
10 an opportunity to work several outages at Beaver  
11 Valley.

12 First I will talk about my community  
13 involvement. The Community Resource Center is a non-  
14 profit community-based organization. It was  
15 established in 1967 for the purpose of helping people  
16 meet basic daily needs.

17 And it serves the economically  
18 disadvantaged throughout the tri-state area. Our  
19 motto is "people helping people." And we have been  
20 doing that for over 40 years.

21 Beaver Valley Power Station has been a  
22 friend and a supporter to this facility, which helps  
23 to maintain vital services throughout the tri-state  
24 area.

25 Beaver Valley Power Station is not just

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1 that plant over the river, across the bridge, but  
2 there is a face to that plant. I grew up in this  
3 area, without telling you my age, but I grew up here,  
4 and I remember going across the bridge and my children  
5 often saying, mommy, see those big cigarettes? That  
6 is what they thought they were.

7 But the opportunity to put a face with  
8 what was across the bridge, I learned many life-  
9 changing lessons. They are not untouchable, they are  
10 good neighbors, they help support the local economy,  
11 they assist with food drives.

12 At CRC they help with the computer lab,  
13 with our day care, with our soup kitchen, with the  
14 community dinners. They have assisted in so many  
15 ways, and that helps us keep our focus of "people  
16 helping people", alive.

17 Now, on the flip side, as a worker, I had  
18 the opportunity to start working outages at Beaver  
19 Valley. I started about four or five years ago, and  
20 I started in the radioactive waste department.

21 I came in, I was clueless as to what to  
22 expect. I was trained, I was given the right  
23 prescription to get the job done. There were things  
24 that were given us as tools, that I still use in my  
25 life every day.

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1 I wear many hard hats at Beaver Valley.  
2 Like I said, I came in through rad waste, but I have  
3 also worked house and yard, when there was no outage.  
4 I've worked MPS labors, and now I work with the health  
5 physic technicians, with Bartlett Nuclear Services.

6 And not only do I work the three plants,  
7 for FENOC, but I work other plants throughout the U.S.  
8 And what I have found is Beaver Valley Power Station  
9 has a safety program that is bar none.

10 There are two things that constantly stand  
11 out in my mind when I'm out there on the job, is no  
12 job is routine, and we take the time to do it right  
13 the first time. That is a FENOC way of doing things.

14 I really considered it an opportunity to  
15 come and speak in support of Beaver Valley Power  
16 Station. It employs so many, and it allowed me, a  
17 worker from another facility, to take time and to come  
18 in, and to work outages, that helped put four children  
19 through college, as a single mother.

20 So there is a face to Beaver Valley, and  
21 I appreciate it, and I thank you for the opportunity  
22 to publicly say that I thank you for that, and I can't  
23 even imagine being in this area without those two  
24 cigarettes, and without Beaver Valley Power Station.  
25 Thank you.

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1 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Okay, thanks very  
2 much, Denise. Did any other speaker sign up by  
3 chance?

4 (No response.)

5 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: We have allotted  
6 some time available to answer any questions you might  
7 have on this process. Is there anyone who would like  
8 to ask any other question? It doesn't have to be a  
9 statement, it can be a question, and our project  
10 managers or staff can answer that.

11 (No response.)

12 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: If not in this  
13 formal forum, some of the Staff will be here after  
14 this meeting, you are welcome to ask them questions  
15 informally.

16 And where did Manny go? With this I'd  
17 like to wrap it up. We will have Bo Pham make a few  
18 comments. Bo?

19 MR. PHAM: Hello, my name is Bo Pham, I'm  
20 a branch chief at the headquarters for the NRC. In  
21 fact the team that put together the pieces of the  
22 Environmental Impact Statement that Manny issued,  
23 there, works for me.

24 And I just want to take this opportunity  
25 to thank everyone for coming out. The essence of what

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1 the NEPA process is about is public involvement,  
2 informing the public of what we are doing, and what we  
3 are looking at in this review.

4 I do want to note that this isn't the only  
5 opportunity to make comments. Manny has the  
6 information up on the screen. And based on personal  
7 experience I would just say that the email method is  
8 probably the most sure fire way to get any additional  
9 comments that you may have in.

10 The Chief and Rules Directive Branch  
11 address tends to take a little time, due to the snail  
12 mail process.

13 And with that I just thank everyone, and  
14 I will be available, after the meeting, as well as  
15 tonight, if any of you are sticking around. Thank  
16 you.

17 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you, Bo. With  
18 that I will wrap up the meeting. Thanks again for  
19 coming.

20 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter was  
21 concluded.)

22

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