

**Official Transcript of Proceedings**  
**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Title:                   Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant  
                              Public Scoping Meeting

Docket Number:       52-039

Location:               Berwick, Pennsylvania

Date:                    Thursday, January 29, 2009

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Pages 1-80

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1 THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2 + + + + +

3 NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

4 + + + + +

5 PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

6 BELL BEND NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

7 COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION

8 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

9 + + + + +

10 THURSDAY

11 JANUARY 29, 2009

12 + + + + +

13 The Public Scoping Meeting convened in the  
 14 auditorium at Berwick Area Senior High School, 1100  
 15 Fowler Avenue, Berwick, Pennsylvania 18603, pursuant  
 16 to notice at 7:00 p.m.

17 NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

18	ROBERT SCHAAF	BRANCH CHIEF
19	KEVIN WILLIAMS	BRANCH CHIEF
20	PAUL KROHN	BRANCH CHIEF
21	FRED JAXHEIMER	SR. RESIDENT INSPECTOR
22	MICHAEL CANOVA	SAFETY PROJECT MANAGER
23	STACEY IMBODEN	PROJECT MANAGER
24	LANCE RAKOVAN	FACILITATOR

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P R O C E E D I N G S

7:01 P.M.

1  
2  
3 MR. RAKOVAN: Good evening, everyone. My  
4 name is Lance Rakovan. I'm a communications  
5 specialist at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
6 or NRC, as you'll hear it tonight.

7 It's my pleasure to facilitate tonight's  
8 meeting and what I'm going to do is try to make sure  
9 that the meeting is effective and efficient for  
10 everyone and so we have a good meeting tonight.

11 The purpose of tonight's meeting is to  
12 provide you with an opportunity to give us your  
13 comments on what environmental issues the NRC should  
14 consider during its review of the combined license or  
15 COL application for the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant.

16 A term you're going to hear a lot tonight  
17 is scoping. And what that means is simply determining  
18 the scope of the environmental review in this case for  
19 the Bell Bend site. Tonight's meeting is just one way  
20 that you can participate in that process and there  
21 will be some information that we'll be going over  
22 later, specifically about that.

23 Tonight, the meeting is going to  
24 essentially have two parts. First, we'll hear some  
25 presentations from NRC staff on the combined license

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1 process and the environmental review process,  
2 information we think is important for you to  
3 understand when it comes to the Bell Bend application.

4 There are copies of the presentations on the same  
5 table as the sign-in sheet outside, but in case you  
6 didn't get a copy of that I'll have some copies and  
7 I'll run them around once I'm done giving my opening  
8 comments.

9 We're going to try to keep the  
10 presentations short so that we can get to the real  
11 reason we're here tonight which, of course, is to  
12 listen to you. There were yellow and blue cards on  
13 the sign-in table and hopefully if you knew that you  
14 wanted to speak tonight you filled out a yellow card  
15 and if you weren't sure, you filled out a blue card or  
16 you took a yellow card with you. Either way, if you  
17 didn't fill out one of the yellow cards, I have some.

18 Just flag me down. I can bring one over. Those are  
19 basically just a tool that we use, number one, to make  
20 sure we know how many people spoke, but also to make  
21 sure that we get your name spelled correctly in the  
22 transcription which goes right to the fact that we are  
23 transcribing tonight's meeting, so we can make sure we  
24 fully document everything that you say and we can be  
25 sure we fully understand the comments that you make in

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1 terms of environmental scoping.

2 Now there's a few things that you can do  
3 to help us make sure we get a clean transcript.  
4 Number one is to use a microphone every time you  
5 speak. So you'll notice that the speakers will be  
6 using the podium. We have a few microphones on the  
7 center aisles or also when we go to the comment period  
8 you can come up and use the podium as well. When you  
9 do make a comment, if you could introduce yourself,  
10 let us know who you are and any organization that  
11 you're with, again, this helps us make sure that we  
12 know who made a specific comment on the transcript so  
13 if we want to come back to you later with some  
14 questions or get some clarification on something,  
15 we'll know who made the comment.

16 Something else you can do to make sure we  
17 get a clean transcript, of course, is to turn off any  
18 electronic devices you have such as cell phones,  
19 pagers, etcetera, or at least put those on vibrate.  
20 Those tend to disrupt a meeting when they go off while  
21 someone is speaking.

22 We do have a number of people who are  
23 signed up to talk tonight, so when we do go to that  
24 portion of the meeting I'm probably going to ask that  
25 you keep your comments to about five minutes or less

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1 at least to start out with. We'll see how the night  
2 goes. We have a number of hours tonight, so we should  
3 have a chance to let everybody speak, but I do want to  
4 make sure that everybody who is signed up to speak and  
5 who wants to speak has a chance to do so.

6 And again tonight, we're hear primarily to  
7 listen to you. So if you do have some questions as  
8 opposed to some scoping comments, we might try to  
9 address your question briefly, but in general, a more  
10 in-depth response can probably be done better off to  
11 the side or after the meeting with one of the NRC  
12 staff members.

13 For those of you who haven't found them  
14 yet, the restrooms are kind of out that way once you  
15 leave the auditorium, just in case you need one. We  
16 don't plan to take any breaks so if you obviously need  
17 to step out, go ahead, and the meeting is going to  
18 keep going.

19 I wanted to take a moment to introduce  
20 some of the NRC staff that are in attendance tonight.

21 Stacey Imboden is the Project Manager of the  
22 environmental review for the Bell Bend site; Bob  
23 Schaaf is the Branch Chief of one of our environmental  
24 review branches in our Office of New Reactors; Kevin  
25 Williams, there he is. Kevin is a Branch Chief in our

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1 Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response.  
2 Mike Canova is the Safety Project Manager for the Bell  
3 Bend combined license application review. Paul Krohn  
4 is a Branch Chief in the Division of Reactor Projects  
5 in NRC Region 1 which is our office near Philadelphia  
6 and Susquehanna is one of the plants his branch  
7 oversees. And finally I wanted to introduce Fred  
8 Jaxheimer. Fred is the Senior Resident Inspector at  
9 Susquehanna which means he's a local and he lives in  
10 the area and goes to the plant every day.

11 With that, I'll hand things over to  
12 Stacey. Again, we'll go with a few short  
13 presentations by NRC staff and then I'll be back and  
14 we'll go ahead and dive into the cards that I have  
15 received of people who wanted to speak.

16 Stacey? Actually, Bob will be speaking  
17 first.

18 MR. SCHAAF: Yes, just for a moment.  
19 Thanks, Lance.

20 I just wanted to come up for just a moment  
21 and welcome everyone tonight. We appreciate you  
22 taking time out of your schedule to participate in  
23 this meeting. Once again, my name is Bob Schaaf. I  
24 am the Chief of the Environmental Projects Branch in  
25 the Office of New Reactors which will be responsible

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1 for overseeing the review of PPL's application to  
2 construct and operate an evolutionary power reactor at  
3 the Bell Bend site which is -- will be adjacent to the  
4 Susquehanna site.

5 First a little bit about the NRC. The NRC  
6 was created by Congress to provide independent  
7 oversight of public uses of nuclear material,  
8 including generation of power at nuclear power plants.

9 The NRC is not a proponent of the project. PPL has  
10 proposed constructing the project. The NRC's role and  
11 our responsibility is to ensure that if the facility  
12 is to be constructed that it can be constructed and  
13 operated safely and we make that determination before  
14 we decide whether to issue the requested license.

15 Just briefly, our main purpose here  
16 tonight is to solicit your input regarding issues we  
17 should consider as part of our environmental review.  
18 As Lance indicated, we call this scoping. It's an  
19 effort to determine the range of issues that we should  
20 be considering as we conduct our environmental review.

21 We'll also briefly review the COL application review  
22 process. Some of you may have been here for our  
23 earlier meeting last August prior to the submittal of  
24 the application where we came out and described the  
25 NRC's review processes and ways in which the public is

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1 invited to participate.

2 We'll also explain our environmental  
3 review process in a little more detail than was  
4 discussed at that prior meeting. We'll provide a  
5 tentative review schedule for major milestones in the  
6 review. And we'll explain the ways in which the  
7 public may participate in our review, both the  
8 environmental review and the safety review which will  
9 be taking place concurrently.

10 Next slide.

11 Just briefly, our environmental review  
12 will consider input from a broad range of  
13 stakeholders. It will include independent reviews by  
14 a licensing board which is composed of a number of  
15 Administrative Law Judges who will consider  
16 contentions under the hearing process. The safety  
17 portion of the review, the staff safety evaluation is  
18 evaluated by the Advisory Committee on Reactor  
19 Safeguards which is an independent panel of  
20 internationally-recognized experts in science and  
21 engineering.

22 We also engage other federal agencies with  
23 special expertise in areas such as water quality and  
24 wildlife, other areas. We engage with the state  
25 agencies. We talk with local agencies. We invite

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1 participation from public interest groups and from  
2 members of the community around the plant and that's  
3 part of why we're here tonight is that we find that  
4 the local community frequently is aware of unique  
5 characteristics of the site area that we may not be  
6 aware of and will help guide our review.

7 We believe this broad input helps us make  
8 a better informed decision on whether or not to issue  
9 the requested license. So our hope is for  
10 constructive and meaningful input focused on the  
11 environmental issues and our hope is that that will  
12 help us produce a better Environmental Impact  
13 Statement at the end of this process.

14 Again, I would like to express my  
15 appreciation for everyone taking the time to come here  
16 tonight and I'll invite Stacey to come up and provide  
17 a little more detail about the process.

18 MS. IMBODEN: Thank you, Bob. I'm Stacey  
19 Imboden and I'm the NRC Environmental Project Manager  
20 for the Bell Bend combined license application.

21 I'll start my presentation by briefly  
22 discussing the laws and regulations that apply to the  
23 NRC review of combined license applications and in  
24 particular to the environmental review.

25 In general, the NRC regulates civilian

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1 uses of nuclear material to protect the public health  
2 and safety and the environment. The NRC's regulatory  
3 and licensing functions including those for new  
4 nuclear reactors were established under the Atomic  
5 Energy Act of 1954.

6 The National Environmental Policy Act  
7 which we sometimes call NEPA, N-E-P-A, established  
8 national environmental policy for the protection,  
9 maintenance, and enhancement of the environment and  
10 provides a means for federal agencies to carry out  
11 that goal. For NRC's licensing of new reactors, this  
12 is through the development of an Environmental Impact  
13 Statement or EIS.

14 The NRC implements NEPA in a manner  
15 consistent with our licensing and regulatory  
16 functions, the requirements and procedures for which  
17 were specified in the NRC's regulations included in  
18 Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 51.

19 In addition, 10 CFR Part 52 governs the issuance of  
20 combined licenses.

21 The NRC's environmental review also  
22 includes compliance with other statutes, such as the  
23 National Historic Preservation Act, the Endangered  
24 Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act,  
25 and many other federal, state, and local environmental

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1 laws and regulations.

2 Next slide.

3 It is an NRC decision that authorizes an  
4 applicant to construct and operate a nuclear power  
5 plant at a specific site in accordance with applicable  
6 federal laws and regulations. The Applicant, PPL Bell  
7 Bend is seeking a combined license for a new reactor,  
8 the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant to be located  
9 adjacent to the existing Susquehanna Steam Electric  
10 Station.

11 The combined license, if issued by the  
12 NRC, would allow for the construction and operation of  
13 this facility with conditions. PPL Bell Bend  
14 submitted its combined license application on October  
15 10, 2008 for an Evolutionary Power Reactor to be built  
16 at the Bell Bend site. This application includes an  
17 environmental report which the NRC will review as part  
18 of the licensing process.

19 Next slide.

20 NRC regulations allow combined license  
21 applications to reference certified designs or designs  
22 that are docketed and under review by the NRC, but not  
23 yet certified. AREVA's Evolutionary Power Reactor or  
24 EPR design referenced by PPL Bell Bend for use at the  
25 Bell Bend site has not yet been certified, but it is

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1 currently under review by the NRC staff.

2 This design, if found acceptable, would be  
3 certified by rulemaking. In addition, as part of its  
4 Bell Bend combined license application review, NRC  
5 conducts both a site-specific safety review of the EPR  
6 design in relation to its proposed location at Bell  
7 Bend and an environmental review and analysis of the  
8 potential impacts of constructing and operating the  
9 proposed plant at Bell Bend.

10 Next slide.

11 The combined license application review  
12 process begins when an application has been accepted  
13 and docketed by NRC. The safety and environmental  
14 reviews I discussed earlier are then started and they  
15 are conducted in parallel. The safety review follows  
16 the top path shown on this slide and the environmental  
17 review follows the bottom path.

18 The safety review focuses on public health  
19 and safety in relation to a proposed facility and it  
20 ends with the issuance of a final Safety Evaluation  
21 Report.

22 The environmental review focuses on a  
23 proposed plant's potential construction and  
24 operational impacts on the environment and that ends  
25 with a final Environmental Impact Statement.

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1 Both of these reviews feed into the NRC's  
2 hearing process which follows the middle path shown on  
3 this slide. The hearing process factors in the  
4 results of both reviews and leads to the final step in  
5 the license application review process, the  
6 Commission's decision on whether or not to grant the  
7 license.

8 Next slide.

9 The NRC's environmental review is guided  
10 by the National Environmental Policy Act, also known  
11 as NEPA. NEPA requires federal agencies to use a  
12 systematic approach to consider environmental impacts  
13 associated with major federal actions that have the  
14 potential to significantly affect the human  
15 environment. This approach involves input from the  
16 public and requires development of an EIS.

17 The NRC has determined that issuance of a  
18 combined license for a nuclear reactor facility would  
19 be a major federal action and therefore, the staff  
20 will develop an EIS before the Commission takes final  
21 action on this application.

22 Next slide.

23 As part of the NRC's environmental review,  
24 the staff will evaluate the potential environmental  
25 impacts of construction and operation of a new EPR

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1 facility at the Bell Bend site. NRC's regulations for  
2 implementing NEPA are in 10 CFR Part 51. In addition,  
3 the Environmental Standard Review Plan which is NUREG-  
4 1555 and other documents provide guidance to the staff  
5 on how to conduct the environmental review and on how  
6 to document our findings in an EIS. These regulations  
7 and guidance documents can be found on the NRC's  
8 public website.

9 The NRC's environmental review provides  
10 opportunities for public involvement and the first  
11 opportunity for public involvement is during this  
12 scoping period. That's why we're here today.

13 After our environmental findings are  
14 clearly documented in the draft EIS for the Bell Bend  
15 project, the public will have an opportunity to  
16 comment on the draft EIS. We will be back in your  
17 community to hold another public meeting following  
18 publication of the draft EIS. Throughout the entire  
19 review, the NRC staff will maintain an open and  
20 transparent review process.

21 Next slide.

22 When a combined license application is  
23 received, the NRC staff reviews it to ensure that it  
24 meets our completeness and technical sufficiency  
25 guidance. If acceptable, the application is docketed

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1 and we proceed with both the environmental and safety  
2 reviews. The three white ovals on this slide identify  
3 periods at which the public is invited to participate  
4 in the review process.

5 To start the environmental review, the NRC  
6 publishes a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register.

7 This notice informs the public of our intention to  
8 prepare an EIS and to conduct the scoping process.  
9 The scoping process includes a public comment period.

10 This public meeting is part of that process. We're  
11 going to collect your comments here today and document  
12 them in our transcript. The public can also provide  
13 written comments through the end of the scoping  
14 period.

15 Additional information for preparing the  
16 EIS is gathered during the site audit and other data  
17 collection activities. At the site audit, the NRC  
18 staff visit the project site and vicinity and meet  
19 with the Applicant's representatives to conduct the  
20 NRC's independent evaluation of the information  
21 presented in the Applicant's environmental report.

22 After analyzing all of the information  
23 gathered, we develop a draft EIS and we issue that for  
24 public comment. At that time we hold another public  
25 meeting to present the results of our review and to

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1 invite your comments on the draft EIS. After  
2 evaluating your comments, the NRC may decide to modify  
3 the draft EIS at which point we will then issue a  
4 final EIS. The final EIS and the results of the  
5 safety review are used as inputs into the NRC's  
6 hearing process, the final result of which is a  
7 decision by the Commission on this application.

8 Next slide.

9 You are the ones that are most familiar  
10 with this community. The NRC staff have come here  
11 today so that you can share with us those  
12 environmental issues that you think are important for  
13 us to consider in development of the Bell Bend EIS.

14 In addition to providing comments and  
15 information here today, you have the opportunity to  
16 continue to share your comments or to provide  
17 additional information to us through March 9, 2009 and  
18 I will discuss that later. We will also solicit input  
19 from other agencies during the scoping period.

20 We will include all comments received in  
21 our scoping summary report which we expect to be  
22 available on the NRC website in July 2009. Comments  
23 applicable to the environmental review will be  
24 considered in the NRC staff's development of the draft  
25 Environmental Impact Statement.

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1 Next slide.

2 Many different sources of information will  
3 be used by the NRC to develop the EIS for the Bell  
4 Bend project. This EIS will be an independent  
5 evaluation of the effects of the proposed plant on the  
6 environment and the local community. Although the  
7 staff starts with the Applicant's environmental report  
8 in the combined license application, we investigate  
9 other possible sources of information as well.

10 The scoping meeting represents one point  
11 at which the NRC staff will gather comments and  
12 information from the public. We will also conduct a  
13 site audit and we will communicate with federal,  
14 tribal, state, and local agencies including social  
15 service agencies to gain information and insights.

16 Next slide.

17 A multi-disciplinary team of NRC staff  
18 with backgrounds in a variety of relevant scientific  
19 and technical disciplines have been assembled to  
20 conduct the Bell Bend environmental review. In  
21 addition, NRC has contracts with Pacific Northwest  
22 National Lab and Numark Associates to assist us in  
23 preparing the Environmental Impact Statement. The NRC  
24 and contractor staff have expertise on wide-ranging  
25 topics related to environmental issues and nuclear

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1 power.

2 The labeled subject areas on the slide are  
3 areas of our review and areas where we would also like  
4 your input.

5 Next slide.

6 The NRC's review of the environmental  
7 report has started and the notice of intent to prepare  
8 an EIS and conduct scoping was published on January 6,  
9 2009. We have copies of that at the registration  
10 table.

11 You can provide your oral and written  
12 comments for the scoping process today and your  
13 written comments through March 9, 2009. And the  
14 Federal Register notice that I just mentioned outlines  
15 ways for you to submit your scoping comments.

16 The NRC staff expects to complete the  
17 draft EIS in 2010 at which time we will make it  
18 publicly available to allow the public to provide  
19 comments. And also in 2010, we'll have another public  
20 meeting in the community in order to receive your  
21 comments on the draft EIS.

22 Your comments will be evaluated and  
23 addressed for the final EIS and we expect to issue the  
24 final EIS in 2011.

25 Next slide.

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1           As I discussed earlier, during the  
2 environmental review process you have the opportunity  
3 to comment during the scoping period and on the draft  
4 EIS. Public meetings are held at each of these points  
5 in the project. You also have access to the  
6 environmental review results in the form of the draft  
7 and final EIS on the NRC's website and in other  
8 locations.

9           Another opportunity for your involvement  
10 is the formal hearing process which covers both  
11 environmental and safety issues. This process may  
12 include a mandatory hearing and if necessary one or  
13 more contested hearings.

14           Interested persons can petition to  
15 intervene in the hearing process. You can obtain more  
16 information on public involvement in the Bell Bend  
17 combined license application review process on the NRC  
18 website.

19           Next slide.

20           Once the NRC publishes the notice of  
21 opportunity to participate in the hearing, the public  
22 will have 60 days to file a petition to intervene.  
23 The notice is not published yet, but it should be  
24 coming out within the next few weeks, so you want to  
25 keep an eye out for that. We'll also provide a link

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1 to that notice on our website for Bell Bend.

2 Anyone who wishes to file a petition to  
3 intervene should carefully read the hearing notice and  
4 review 10 CFR 2.309. Both of these provide important  
5 information related to intervention petitions. To  
6 file a petition to intervene, you must obtain a  
7 digital certificate from the NRC in advance or seek a  
8 waiver from the digital certificate requirement. It's  
9 important not to wait until the last week of the  
10 notice period to request the digital certificate  
11 because it can take up to 10 business days to receive  
12 it.

13 A digital certificate is required for e-  
14 filing which allows you to file documents  
15 electronically with the NRC for hearings.  
16 Instructions on e-filing will be in the hearing notice  
17 and on the website listed on the slide. And I also  
18 left a handout in the registration area that might  
19 have some helpful information for you on e-filing.

20 Next slide.

21 These are the NRC points of contact for  
22 the Bell Bend combined license application. I put  
23 myself on the slide and also Mr. Michael Canova who is  
24 the lead safety project manager and he's sitting right  
25 here.

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1           The Bell Bend application can be viewed on  
2 the internet at the Electronic Reading Room linked to  
3 the NRC's website which is [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov). If you have  
4 trouble accessing documents through the Electronic  
5 Reading Room, you can contact the Public Document Room  
6 for help at 1-800-397-4209 or by email at  
7 [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov).

8           Documents can also be reviewed on our  
9 project-specific website listed on the slide. In  
10 addition, the McBride Memorial Library and the Mill  
11 Memorial Public Library have been kind enough to  
12 provide some shelf space to keep the environmental  
13 report and the draft and final Environmental Impact  
14 Statement. So you can also view the documents at one  
15 of those libraries.

16           If you want to be added to the mailing  
17 list, make sure that you've provided your name and  
18 address at the registration table outside of the  
19 auditorium. That's one way of ensuring that you'll be  
20 notified of upcoming meetings and that you'll receive  
21 copies of both the draft and the final Environmental  
22 Impact Statement.

23           Next slide.

24           These are the ways that you can submit  
25 your comments regarding the Bell Bend environmental

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1 review. Remember that the comment period ends March  
2 9, 2009. You can provide comments here today at the  
3 transcribed public meeting. Your comments can also be  
4 sent to us by mail on the address listed on the slide  
5 or by email to BBNP.COLEIS@nrc.gov. That's a project-  
6 specific email address that I set up for this project  
7 and I check that every day.

8 Additional details are in the Federal  
9 Register notice of intent that we have out in the  
10 registration area and that will go through a whole  
11 process of how you can submit comments.

12 This concludes the presentation. And I  
13 want to thank you for participating in the meeting and  
14 I look forward to hearing your scoping comments.

15 MR. RAKOVAN: Thank you. Before we move  
16 on to the session where we listen to you, I wanted to  
17 point out a few things. Number one, we have these  
18 public meeting feedback forms that we had on the  
19 registration table and that I also handed out with the  
20 slides that I handed out. These are just a way that  
21 you can give us feedback on how we're doing on these  
22 public meetings, let us know if we're doing well. If  
23 there's ways you think we could improve them,  
24 etcetera.

25 So if you take a moment to fill those out,

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1 you can either leave it on one of the tables on your  
2 way out, hand it to anybody who is wearing one of  
3 these name tags or you can drop it in the mail,  
4 postage is free. And these actually do give us an  
5 idea of how we can improve these meetings and make  
6 them better for everyone. So taking a moment to do  
7 that will really help us out.

8           Again, at this point, we can transition to  
9 the time of the meeting where we listen to you. I do  
10 have a number of yellow cards and so I'm basically  
11 going to go through the cards in the order that I  
12 received them. Before I did that though, I just  
13 wanted to point out and let you know that there is a  
14 representative from Senator Ray Musto's office here  
15 and I just wanted to make sure that was on the record  
16 as well. If you do want to make a comment, but you  
17 haven't filled out one of the yellow cards, I will  
18 have them. I will be walking around. Just get my  
19 attention somehow, fill one out and we'll include you  
20 as part of the stack that I have here.

21           I'm going to try to read about three names  
22 at a time just to give you an idea of the next few  
23 people that will come up, so those of you who are  
24 going to give a comment, have a little bit of time to  
25 get ready.

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1           Again, given the number of speakers that  
2 we have tonight, starting out, if you could just keep  
3 your comments maybe to about five minutes or less that  
4 will hopefully give us a chance to get through  
5 everyone.

6           If you do have any questions, NRC staff  
7 might have a chance to kind of give you a high-level  
8 answer, but in general again, we're hoping to hear  
9 from you tonight, so we're going to try to keep  
10 answers to a minimum and we'll certainly be happy to  
11 meet with you after the meeting or have a side  
12 conversation out in the back with you during the  
13 meeting to address your questions.

14           So the first three people that I had  
15 signed up, including two people who preregistered, we  
16 have Gene Stilp first from pulltheplugonppl.com; Karen  
17 Walsh will be going after Gene; and then third we have  
18 Stephen Phillips.

19           Gene?

20           MR. STILP: Hi, there. Let me figure this  
21 out here. I noticed that every -- it's hard talking  
22 to nobody. I'll talk this way. Okay.

23           MR. RAKOVAN: Gene, you can use the  
24 podium, if you'd like.

25           MR. STILP: Hi, Gene Stilp. I just

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1 noticed that public meetings, especially one of this  
2 scope, every one I've been to, this is a government  
3 meeting, and I didn't hear a Pledge of Allegiance to  
4 the flag, so I'd like you all to stand and we'll  
5 pledge allegiance to the flag.

6 (Pledge of Allegiance)

7 Now don't you feel better? This is what  
8 it's all about. It's about the people. I never heard  
9 such a bunch of malarkey in my life. I've been doing  
10 anti-nuclear stuff ever since the accident at Three  
11 Mile Island. That's where I learned about nuclear  
12 power. I'm from Wilkes-Barre, living in Harrisburg.  
13 The accident at Three Mile Island opened my eyes. I  
14 came here to Bell Bend to fight this.

15 As a matter of fact, when I was a Boy  
16 Scout I used to look down from the cliffs when I was a  
17 boy and see a pristine piece of land across the river  
18 and I was aghast when they put a nuclear plant there.

19 Over the years, I spent ten years working and writing  
20 for the state. I spent six years on the Environmental  
21 Quality Board for the state.

22 Many years ago, you put a nuclear plant  
23 here against many people's wishes and in that time  
24 let's put it this way, everybody in this room who has  
25 lived in Berwick all their lives, they have become of

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1 the key people, one of the key aspects of the scope of  
2 the environmental scoping for this new plant.  
3 Everybody should be looked at, the human health of all  
4 those people should be looked at.

5 There's never been a complete study of the  
6 people in this area during the past 25 years. There's  
7 never been a study of all the people who come in from  
8 out of town to do the transition when they put the new  
9 fuel storage in there. So there's two aspects that  
10 people should be studying.

11 Now you say I feel fine, but at a genetic  
12 level, who knows? You're messing with your children's  
13 lives. You're messing with your future generations'  
14 lives. You do not know what constant low-level  
15 nuclear radiation does to you.

16 I've had the opportunity during my  
17 lifetime of going to Chernobyl and seeing that  
18 firsthand at the plant at Chernobyl. Had the  
19 opportunity to go to White Sands Missile Range where  
20 the Trinity site down there to see all that. And  
21 especially Chernobyl, you don't want to experience  
22 anything like that. It's a different type of plant,  
23 but -- if anything goes wrong, the human health  
24 effects are the same.

25 Tonight, we're supposed to set up the

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1 scoping document for the NRC to look at. Actually,  
2 the NRC, to me, goes part and parcel with the nuclear  
3 power industry in this country, and they're worth  
4 anything. You might as well have the NRC people here  
5 wearing the I Support Bell Bend buttons tonight,  
6 because that's what you'll get out of them.

7           Environmentally, we have to look at the  
8 air, the water, the people's health and safety,  
9 everything that goes into that.

10           One of the main things though and this is  
11 why this is such a joke is because how can you build a  
12 nuclear power plant, a new nuclear power plant next to  
13 a site that is a disaster already? By disaster, I  
14 mean there is a nuclear, high-level nuclear waste dump  
15 sitting up the road, so how can you actually build a  
16 new nuclear power plant next to a nuclear waste dump?

17           It makes no sense to me.

18           Some day when they take care of that maybe  
19 then they can consider it, but not now. Now my five  
20 minutes will go quick, so I'll keep it short and I'll  
21 come back later. I urge everybody who is anti-nuclear  
22 against this plant to stay to hear what the other  
23 people have to say so you learn things to add to your  
24 routine. Don't be beat down in this company town,  
25 it's simple as that.

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1 Today, I did a walk from Bloomsburg,  
2 Senator Gordner's office to Representative Millard's  
3 office to protest the 40 percent PPL rate hike. As a  
4 matter of fact, there's a sign underneath this sign,  
5 there's a sign that says Pull the Plug on PPL's 40  
6 Percent Rate Hike. You were promised nuclear power at  
7 the beginning that was too cheap to meter. Then you  
8 promised a deregulation that would bring you  
9 competition. What a joke. We fought that then.  
10 We're fighting this 40 percent rate hike now because  
11 it's not what they promised, simple as that.  
12 Competition was a PR joke a long time ago that  
13 everybody bought into, that the Representatives bought  
14 into.

15 Right now we're going to put the  
16 Representatives and Senators between a big rate  
17 increase and the people and we're going to squeeze  
18 them hard and whoever is here from Senator Musto's  
19 office, make sure he does something about the 40  
20 percent rate hike. Give a reregulation or through the  
21 -- or extending the rate caps for many years to come.

22 I'm going to sit down now, but later on  
23 for those people who want them, I have the forms to  
24 pulltheplugonPPL.com. That's against their rate  
25 increase and also will help people if they want to

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1 later, develop their other comments they can submit on  
2 the environmental scoping.

3 So tonight is actually a very big joke on  
4 the people of this area. You know in Alaska, that  
5 Governor up there who ran for office. I'm a Democrat,  
6 but I know what they do up there is they give out  
7 checks to people when they ship the oil out. They  
8 give everybody a check. Everybody who is sitting in  
9 this room who is from Berwick, even you people who  
10 work at the plant, you people are at the center of  
11 risk, if you will. Why do you pay anything for your  
12 energy? There should be an energy dividend to you for  
13 the risk you take. The closer you are to the plant,  
14 the less you have to pay for energy. It's as simple  
15 as that.

16 Where is your health dividend check?  
17 Where is it? It's not coming. You're here to be  
18 radiation sponges so the people in Jersey, people in  
19 New York can enjoy this power from this new reactor.  
20 PPL is only in business to make big profits off of  
21 your backs.

22 Good luck. I'll be back later. Thanks so  
23 much.

24 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, we'll go to Karen  
25 Walsh, who preregistered and then Stephen Phillips and

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1 then to Bill Davenport.

2 Is Karen here? Okay, she did preregister,  
3 so maybe she changed her mind. I don't have an  
4 organization. I just have residence.

5 Stephen Phillips then, please, and then  
6 Bill Davenport.

7 MR. PHILLIPS: Good evening. My name is  
8 Stephen E. Phillips. I currently serve as the  
9 Executive Director of the Berwick Industrial  
10 Development Association, Incorporated, commonly  
11 referred to as BIDA.

12 BIDA is the premiere economic development  
13 agency serving the greater Berwick area.  
14 Historically, PPL and its predecessor companies have  
15 been strong allies of the economic development  
16 community. BIDA and its sister economic development  
17 organizations in the greater Berwick area have been  
18 recipients of assistance from PPL in numerous ways,  
19 including, but not limited to marketing aid, direct  
20 financial contributions to help underwrite the cost of  
21 administering a conference of economic and community  
22 development programs and construction of an industrial  
23 shell building.

24 BIDA and its economic development peers  
25 are directly involved in job retention as well as job

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1 creation. PPL's current workforce of approximately  
2 1100 persons is a key component of the Berwick area's  
3 economic base. Those employees are among the highest  
4 compensated in the entire region. The payroll  
5 generated in the greater Berwick area would be the  
6 envy of many other locales. The proposed 400 to 500  
7 positions expected to be created by the proposed third  
8 reactor will add substantial economic benefit to the  
9 greater Berwick area.

10 The current facility underwrites  
11 approximately 20 percent of the tax revenue generated  
12 by the Berwick area school district. Construction of  
13 the anticipated new facility will certainly greatly  
14 increase the existing tax revenue. Without this tax  
15 revenue, the burden on other property owners would  
16 greatly increase. No one could dispute the fact that  
17 the utility has been a good corporate citizen. It's  
18 contributions in both the monetary and personnel sense  
19 to area municipalities have been well documented.

20 PPL's employees have historically  
21 exhibited a great degree of civic involvement. A  
22 project of this magnitude can logically be expected to  
23 contain some elements which will need to be modified  
24 during the implementation phase. The historical  
25 willingness of PPL to adjust the changing conditions

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1 and rectify actual and perceived shortcomings is what  
2 should be applied.

3 PPL quite simply has been and will  
4 continue to be a good neighbor and friend to the  
5 economic development community.

6 Thank you.

7 MR. RAKOVAN: We'll go to Bill Davenport  
8 and then I have Mary and David Creasy.

9 MR. DAVENPORT: My name is Bill Davenport  
10 and I'll try to keep my comments to the environmental  
11 part this meeting was meant for.

12 I have major concerns about living next to  
13 a nuclear waste dump. I'm not against nuclear power.

14 It's far better than reading by candlelight. We have  
15 many of our citizens, especially in Salem Township  
16 living within a quarter mile of a nuclear waste dump.

17 President Bush did sign legislation to  
18 open Yucca Mountain, however, Harry Reid has stopped  
19 it. It's up to you to get to your Congressmen and  
20 your Senators and your legislators to get Yucca  
21 Mountain opened for safe storage of nuclear waste or  
22 for reprocessing waste.

23 Another concern is when they were doing  
24 the test boring back at the site and I haven't been  
25 there, I only know this from people that were doing

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1 the boring and have talked, they've practically hit  
2 underground rivers which are just lots and lots of  
3 water, what's flowing our way. Water flows downhill.

4 I'm concerned about building where our water table  
5 can be that disruptive.

6 Thank you.

7 MR. RAKOVAN: Thank you, sir. I've got  
8 Mary or David Creasy, whoever would like to come first  
9 or if you'd like to come together. And then after  
10 that, I've got Ken Fatula.

11 Mary has handed me a written statement  
12 which, of course, any of you can do tonight and this  
13 will be put directly into the transcript regardless of  
14 what she does or does not say. So if there's anything  
15 in particular you want to make sure we get, you can  
16 hand that to me.

17 Mary?

18 MS. CREASY: These two existing reactors  
19 at Beach Haven, Pennsylvania were built with a life  
20 span of 20 years. It has now been 30 years. This  
21 equipment was not made with the ability to regenerate  
22 itself. You can't just put a new engine in your car  
23 and expect the rest of it to not degenerate. These  
24 reactors were built without a budget to decontaminate  
25 the facility when their ability to continue to

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1 generate financial gains for whoever may own them at  
2 that point in time. We cannot expect PPL to own this  
3 facility indefinitely since they were trying to sell  
4 it a few years ago.

5           These nuclear power plants were built  
6 without a defined plan for safe waste disposal or  
7 transportation. This issue has never been solved. We  
8 now not only have a facility without a plan or money  
9 for decontaminating, we now have a high-level  
10 radioactive waste dump.

11           And I might add it is being stored in  
12 temporary storage units. How temporary is 30 years?  
13 Who builds a home without a sewage system? And let's  
14 face it, you haven't come up with any kind of safe,  
15 radioactive honey trucks.

16           Now not only do we have a more devastating  
17 target than the World Trade Center for terrorists, I  
18 might add in the '60s when this plant was being  
19 developed, there was a study done with the scenario of  
20 the devastation that would be created if a small plane  
21 were to collide with one of the reactors. The death  
22 rate and contamination were insurmountable. It took a  
23 Freedom of Information Act to reveal this report.

24           The reality is this community would not be  
25 capable of evacuating for any possible accident or

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1 event. There just aren't enough ambulances, buses,  
2 service vehicles or emergency personnel to handle the  
3 nursing homes, hospitals, schools, or individuals.  
4 The emergency system in place has never been taken  
5 seriously. It hasn't worked properly in the past and  
6 the community doesn't even take it seriously,  
7 unfortunately.

8 When the sirens do go off, the system put  
9 in place has the community listen to radio stations or  
10 TV stations to find out necessary information. When  
11 there is a mistake or a misfire of the sirens, the  
12 system breaks down. They don't put anything on the  
13 radio or televisions stations announcing the misfire.

14 When you follow the protocol after there  
15 is nothing on the radio or television, and call the  
16 800 number, you get Allentown. The answering service  
17 at this number has no clue what is going on.

18 We have been given the answer after they  
19 find an emergency director on their end. The  
20 emergency director hasn't been paged, so it probably  
21 is a mistake. Let me take your number and I will call  
22 you back. I still haven't got the calls back.

23 After four hours waiting to see whether  
24 the sirens were a mistake, I thought I'll call the  
25 borough. Our borough building has become the last

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1 fallback for information and this was not a publicized  
2 protocol.

3 And the scenario has taken place too many  
4 times. The sirens can't be heard in the winter with  
5 the houses closed tight. I found out months after  
6 they misfired one night from the borough manager and I  
7 never heard them. Most people think they are testing  
8 them when they go off and just ignore them. The  
9 system is pointless anyway. It is just pacification  
10 for the community and legality.

11 These issues, which have never been  
12 addressed or are a prop to meet guidelines for safety  
13 will never be taken care of due to the insurmountable  
14 financial burden for PPL.

15 The bottom line is this plant spits out  
16 immense amounts of energy making incredible amounts of  
17 money for PPL, its stockholders and employees. The  
18 community has lost revenue from property taxes, school  
19 taxes, building permits, and will end up with the cost  
20 for decontamination when the cost usefulness has been  
21 met.

22 It was created, it has created a high-  
23 waste dump, stress, a target for terrorists and a  
24 questionable future. There are no requirements for  
25 PPL to deal with the high-waste dump, high waste which

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1 has accumulated over these 30 years.

2 What is keeping them from selling the  
3 facility and walking away, leaving the burden on the  
4 government or the community?

5 The obvious point in adding another  
6 reactor is that the two reactors have met their useful  
7 age and since we already have this mess here, why not  
8 continue with the obvious mistake?

9 These proceedings are nothing more than  
10 the same old dog and pony show that the requirement  
11 for public town meetings are met. Unfortunately, the  
12 financial gains will always outweigh the environmental  
13 reality.

14 My name is Mary Kelchner Creasy and I hope  
15 we can all look at this a little more realistically.

16 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, let's -- David Creasy,  
17 if you'd like to have the microphone and then we'll  
18 move on to Ken Fatula and then to Ryan Search. And  
19 again, if you haven't signed up, I do have some yellow  
20 cards, so just wave me down and I can bring one to  
21 you.

22 MR. CREASY: Good evening. My name is  
23 David Creasy, a citizen of Berwick. A little  
24 reference material. Half a liter of water. The tap  
25 water contains 1/100th picocuries per liter, twice

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1 this amount, 1/100th picocuries. A picocuries is one  
2 trillionth of a curie. From documents on the Federal  
3 Register, Wednesday, December 5, 2007, draft  
4 environmental assessment to increase maximum reactor  
5 power level. Currently, Susquehanna has 3439  
6 megawatts per unit. In this environmental draft  
7 statement, they were asking or talking about  
8 increasing to 3952 megawatts per reactor, a 13 percent  
9 thermal power increase.

10 What this means is that they would be  
11 generating more waste. In looking over the  
12 radioactive waste assessments for the history of the  
13 plant, the single year highest radioactive releases  
14 between 2000 and 2005. In 2005, 1,470,000 gallons of  
15 radioactive, liquid radioactive waste was released  
16 into the Susquehanna River. In 2003, they don't list  
17 the amount released, but it contained 70 curies of  
18 tritium and in 2000, contained 36.9 curies of fission  
19 and activation products.

20 Now remember, twice this much, 1/100th of  
21 a picocurie which is one trillionth of a curie and  
22 they have released millions of gallons before the  
23 increase in megawattage. And now with the third  
24 reactor anticipated, that has to be potentially  
25 increased by at least 33 percent. I'm not math

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1 wizard, but if you've got two and you add one, that's  
2 a third.

3 In response to a couple of other  
4 statements, Mr. Bishop alluded that PPL is a great  
5 neighbor. If your neighbor were to dump his garbage  
6 in the yard and let it pile up for 20 years would he  
7 be a good neighbor? I don't think so.

8 We're not talking about smelly garbage  
9 here. We're talking about radioactive waste. We're  
10 talking about a containment, a spent fuel pool that  
11 has been filled to capacity that has been over-filled,  
12 condensed to a point where it can't store any more so  
13 now the old rods are being encased in concrete and put  
14 into the back yard, the back 40. And this will  
15 continue and continue and continue.

16 The other part that I don't care for about  
17 this process is that we're talking about the plant.  
18 And it's just one little piece in the a la carte menu  
19 of the fuel cycle and the environmental impact. We're  
20 here to talk about environmental impact, but yet we  
21 can't speak about the mining and the milling process  
22 that takes place somewhere else. And they don't care  
23 about us. But the tailings, the tons, the acres of  
24 tailings that are emitting radiation because we only  
25 want the Uranium-235 which is 1 percent of what they

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1 take out of the ground. Ninety-nine percent is  
2 Uranium-238, but that's no good, so we just leave that  
3 there for those people that we have to process, that  
4 we have to reprocess it. Then we have to formulate it  
5 into the ceramic pellets. All along the chain,  
6 there's environmental impact.

7 It seems to me that we're creating an  
8 environmental impact and we're increasing that  
9 exponentially at our expense. We're the ones that  
10 have been here and lived here long enough to know that  
11 this is a beautiful area, but to sacrifice it for a  
12 few extra megawatts or a few more days of air  
13 conditioning, I think is ludicrous.

14 The fact of the location of the plant. We  
15 are approximately 100 miles upwind of New York City  
16 metro area. We are approximately 100 miles upstream  
17 from Chesapeake, one of the largest ecosystems in  
18 North America, yet we're at the triangulation point  
19 where if something catastrophic were to occur, and God  
20 forbid that would ever happen for all of our sakes, we  
21 have the potential of losing some of the most valued  
22 property, resources, and population centers in North  
23 America.

24 I have a lot more I'd like to say, but my  
25 thoughts were pretty scattered because I didn't get

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1 here in time. I appreciate your time. Thank you.

2 MR. RAKOVAN: Next, we'll go to Ken  
3 Fatula. After that I have cards for Ryan Search and  
4 then Jim Cleary.

5 MR. FATULA: My name is Ken Fatula, I live  
6 in Salem Township, about three and a half miles as the  
7 crow flies from the reactor site.

8 I moved here in 1982 and there were a lot  
9 of people that were working on the facility and they  
10 were all pretty bright people. I took a tour of it  
11 back in '83 before it went up. Actually, one of the  
12 units was on line.

13 From what I understand, there's a lot of  
14 redundancy in the plant. I believe it only required  
15 three generators for site power in the event of an  
16 outage and they have five, is that correct?

17 It does matter to me because I think that  
18 quite honestly, are there any documented cases of  
19 death to radiation exposure as a result of a nuclear  
20 power plant?

21 I'm asking the question. And the answer  
22 would be there's no study done on it. Okay. If there  
23 are, then that's something to look at. If there  
24 aren't, then that sounds like a lot of smoke.

25 Does nuclear power generation release

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1 environmentally damaging gases or pollution? We've  
2 been told about picocuries. My question is how many  
3 picocuries kill? How many do you have to ingest?  
4 What is their decay rate? There are a lot of  
5 statements, I refer to them as alarmism, quite  
6 honestly.

7 I hear people talk about the fact that we  
8 shouldn't have nuclear energy at all. Does somebody  
9 have any other option?

10 More birds are killed, and bats by wind  
11 generation than by a nuclear power plant. Talk to  
12 somebody who operates a site that tries to synchronize  
13 wind power with the grid. Have you ever seen a wind  
14 tower come down? Check it out. You can see it  
15 because it's on You Tube. Sometimes they virtually  
16 come apart and explode.

17 Ask the people that work in coal mines if  
18 that's not dangerous and then the people who object to  
19 or complain about strip mining and yet we all want  
20 electricity.

21 And people are complaining about the fact  
22 that well, we have on-site storage. This could have  
23 been addressed decades ago. The problem was that we  
24 have politicians that are more concerned about getting  
25 votes from environmentalists and their lobby than they

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1 are about doing what we know to be right.

2 Yucca Mountain, from what I understand,  
3 isn't that dangerous. We know that shipping this  
4 stuff, they've designed some containers that are very,  
5 very secure.

6 I don't work for PPL. I live close to the  
7 plant. I know people that do work for them and quite  
8 honestly I have confidence that they're pretty bright  
9 people. They don't want to die any more than I do.  
10 I support having the unit.

11 Now, there are some interesting objections  
12 and I think that they're legitimate. What does happen  
13 to the site if they have to abandon it in 10, 20, or  
14 30 years?

15 I do want to have an answer to that. Who  
16 is going to be responsible because certainly if it is  
17 the taxpayer, I don't like that answer.

18 In terms of the procedure to extract, and  
19 I guess refine uranium, I know that it can be dirty,  
20 but folks, your Prius, if you bought one, has a nickel  
21 battery in it that has created an environmental  
22 disaster up in Canada. There is no cheap way to get  
23 power, but I think that there are some economical ways  
24 or more economical ways and I think that we should  
25 permit PPL to do this responsibly.

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1           And references to Chernobyl and I think  
2 that that's appropriate only from the standpoint that  
3 yes, you can have a disaster if you build a reactor in  
4 a communist country. That was, as I understand it, a  
5 graphite reactor. Do we have any of those in  
6 operation in the United States today? No. Because we  
7 know they're stupid.

8           Pebble bed reactors, I don't know that  
9 much about them, but I understand that there are some  
10 brand new technologies that are coming out that are  
11 even safer than what we've got now.

12           I say before you make a decision, that is,  
13 individually, whether you oppose it or otherwise, do  
14 as much research as you can. I've tried to do some.  
15 I'm always skeptical no matter what anybody says. But  
16 I for one am tired of all of the alarmism that has  
17 come from certain groups because I think it's not a  
18 matter of the environment. I think it's a matter of  
19 just anti-capitalism. I'm done.

20           MR. RAKOVAN: Stacey, Bob, do either one  
21 of you want to try to get with Mr. Fatula after the  
22 meeting? He asked a couple of questions that I think  
23 we could definitely get him the information on or  
24 answer directly so if one of you could connect with  
25 him or one of the other NRC staff.

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1 Ryan Search? Then we'll go to Jim Cleary  
2 and then Bruce Spencer.

3 MR. SEARCH: Good evening. My name is  
4 Ryan Search. I'm here tonight as a representative of  
5 Belles Signs Company. Belles Signs has been in  
6 business over 40 years and we're located in the shadow  
7 of Unit 1 and Unit 2. Not once in the last 25 years  
8 working so close to the nuclear facility was safety  
9 ever threatened, nor did we ever have any  
10 environmental issues with the nuclear plant.

11 Belles Signs strongly feels that the  
12 proposed Bell Bend unit would not only create much  
13 needed employment in this area, but it will attract  
14 more business to our local retail stores, restaurants,  
15 and boost the housing market in these dire of economic  
16 conditions that we are currently experiencing.

17 Belles Signs not only welcomes the  
18 proposed Bell Bend unit, as we have shown by our sign  
19 of support along Route 11, we feel it is our  
20 responsibility to encourage and promote the use of  
21 nuclear energy as the immediate answer to the growing  
22 concerns with greenhouse gases that are being released  
23 into the atmosphere with the use of fossil fuel and  
24 energy production.

25 We believe nuclear energy is the way of

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1 the future and look forward to the positive impact  
2 that construction will have on our area. Thank you.

3 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, next I've got cards  
4 for Jim Cleary, Bruce Spencer and then Cindy Hartman.

5 MR. CLEARY: My presentation won't be as  
6 erudite as those before me. My name is Jim Cleary.  
7 I'm not representing any organization. I'm a citizen.  
8 I have lived in Bloomsburg for the past 30 years.

9 I support PPL's application. I have in-  
10 laws living in New York and our cost for kilowatt is  
11 less than half of what they pay there. So efficiency-  
12 wise, PPL has been very good to us for our power  
13 needs.

14 Service has been very consistent. In the  
15 30 years I've been here I think there was one time I  
16 remember being without electrical power for four hours  
17 and that was it. They've been good providers.  
18 They've been safe. As far as I read when the NRC has  
19 been published in the papers and we look at the NRC  
20 for being neutral arbitrator of what's safe and what's  
21 not safe, I think despite this morning's press, things  
22 have been pretty safe at PPL. They've done a good job  
23 using power, delivering power to us in a safe way.

24 People at PPL have been very good  
25 corporate citizens. That word was used before. I

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1 serve on the Boy Scout Board and PPL has not only  
2 helped with people and they're very involved with  
3 that, but they've had volunteers up at our camp and  
4 they've helped out. I know they've helped many of the  
5 not for profit organizations here. They've been  
6 extremely supportive of United Way, which helps a lot  
7 of different organizations. So they've been very good  
8 out there.

9 And for the area here, you know, our  
10 Chambers of Commerce are out there trying to scrounge  
11 up employers coming in here who will bring in new  
12 businesses and maybe they're going to bring in 50 jobs  
13 or 100 jobs. And here we have an employer who has  
14 proven themselves to be good corporate citizens. I've  
15 had neighbors who worked at PPL for many years. They  
16 provide good jobs. And they're willing to expand and  
17 have a project that will bring in hundreds of jobs to  
18 the local area and the effect in the economy. So I  
19 just say let them do it. Let's go. We need the power  
20 and we need the jobs.

21 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, if we could go to  
22 Bruce Spencer next, followed by Cindy Hartman and then  
23 to Dave Superdock.

24 MR. SPENCER: Hi, I'm Bruce Spencer. I  
25 live in New Nembolla section of Mountain Top and maybe

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1 about a month ago I had the chance of visiting the  
2 Kielbasa capital of the world which is as you all know  
3 is Shenandoah and I couldn't believe the dust as I was  
4 driving through that town and then I got on Route 61,  
5 well, picked it up in Frackville and made it all the  
6 way to Shamokin and we're talking about an  
7 environmental impact, I think there's a lot less than  
8 when I drove past the Salem plant than I've ever seen  
9 driving down through there.

10 I am a member of the Mountain Top Kiwanis  
11 and in November we also were invited to take a tour of  
12 the plant. And my biggest concern being ten and a  
13 half miles away from the plant, other than when the  
14 siren goes off, I'm not sure what it is, is the  
15 security since 911. And I want to tell you after I've  
16 been there and went through the security and the  
17 checks and saw the other people getting into the  
18 plant, I'm a lot more comfortable about the security  
19 that happened if a terrorist or anybody else would  
20 come at the plant. Thank you.

21 MR. RAKOVAN: Cindy Hartman, please, and  
22 then Dave Superdock.

23 MS. HARTMAN: I'm Cinda Hartman. I live  
24 in Salem Township. I'm also on the Luzerne County  
25 Planning Commission.

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1 I was going to bring up an issue of the  
2 spent fuel rods that are up there. It's been brought  
3 up by several people before me. But I remember going  
4 to such meetings as this 35 years ago and I asked the  
5 -- one of the gentlemen conducting the meeting, Bill  
6 Begdin, his name was, what are you going to do about  
7 the spent waste? And he said we feel very comfortable  
8 that the Federal Government will find a place to put  
9 it.

10 Well, now I'm in the twilight of my  
11 mediocre career and we still don't have a place to put  
12 the waste and I am concerned about that because the  
13 waste is my neighbor. Nothing makes me feel good  
14 about it. But this has been addressed before.

15 During the earlier presentations, I do  
16 have a question. You talked about AREVA's  
17 evolutionary power reactor and I don't know what that  
18 is and I wonder if they would tell us, somebody from  
19 the NRC, what is this and how is it different from the  
20 reactors that we have now and it has not yet been  
21 certified, but it's under review and what is the time  
22 table for the certification process and what if it  
23 doesn't meet the certification process?

24 I would like to have -- can we have this  
25 addressed at the public meeting or is this something I

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1 have to do privately afterwards? But anybody that has  
2 the same questions as I do perhaps we could meet after  
3 the meeting.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. RAKOVAN: We're going to try to  
6 address that real quick. Is that okay?

7 Mike, do you want the microphone here? I  
8 would walk away from the speakers. It tends to have  
9 feedback.

10 Mike, why don't you introduce yourself and  
11 see if you can give a quick answer to that?

12 MR. CANOVA: Hi, I'm Mike Canova. I am  
13 the project manager for Safety Site Review for the  
14 Bell Bend Plant.

15 The first question is what is this  
16 evolutionary power reactor? It's literally the name  
17 given to AREVA's four-loop pressurized water reactor  
18 design. There's a lot of detail that goes on and  
19 you've probably seen some stuff in the literature.  
20 There's more information on the web page. It's  
21 basically an active safety system plant, very similar  
22 to the ones that were built by Westinghouse, very  
23 similar to some of the other plants that are already  
24 out there.

25 With an additional margin built in,

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1 there's a large containment. There is actually four,  
2 full independent safety-system trains. They're not  
3 co-located. They're separated in such a way to  
4 protect any two trains from aircraft impact. There's  
5 work that's been done on that, too.

6 Those are actually the basics of it. If  
7 you don't know what a four-loop pressurized water  
8 reactor is, I can go through that quickly.

9 MR. STILP: What percentage of AREVA is  
10 owned by the French?

11 MR. CANOVA: The exact percentage of AREVA  
12 owned by the French, I don't actually know.

13 MR. RAKOVAN: It's okay.

14 MR. CANOVA: AREVA, EDF which is  
15 Electricité de France, which you've also heard in the  
16 news also, are both co-owned by the French government.  
17 That is true, there's some percentage. I am not  
18 aware of the amount. It is not a controlling amount,  
19 but it is a significant number.

20 MR. RAKOVAN: I think the other question  
21 that she asked was what the time frame in terms of the  
22 review of the certification.

23 MR. CANOVA: Both time frame and timing, I  
24 think is what you're interested in. I've actually  
25 forgotten the exact number of months. The way this

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1 works out is we should be completing Phase 2 -- it's  
2 actually a six-phase review that's done for the design  
3 certification which I believe is going to run us into  
4 2011 at which point we're going to be then they're  
5 going to be going to rulemaking if it actually makes  
6 it that far through the process.

7 In terms of the COL license itself, the  
8 COL, since they are referencing a design that has not  
9 been certified this is, to a degree, held hostage by  
10 that design certification, because this is part of  
11 their application. And so the certification has to  
12 continue. So the hearing process really can't start,  
13 we can't actually talk about issuing a license for  
14 this.

15 We can actually start the hearing process,  
16 but we cannot make a determination on the license  
17 until the design certification has completed. So  
18 there is a staging here, but they do kind of run on  
19 top of each other in terms of review. And the reason  
20 for that is because each section is being reviewed  
21 independently and any particular piece of information  
22 is only going to be reviewed once at a time.

23 MS. HARTMAN: How many other such plants  
24 are in operation in the United States right now, like  
25 this one?

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1 MR. CANOVA: Because these are advance  
2 designs, I don't think any of the current licenses are  
3 actually in operation in the United States. Of the  
4 applications we've received, none of them are  
5 operational at this point. They're all under, in some  
6 form of licensing. This is actually a licensing phase  
7 and you've probably seen many times where they're  
8 saying we have not committed to building the plant  
9 which sounds like rhetoric, but the purpose of the  
10 Part 52 process was to give them some risk management  
11 in getting there. And they're willing to put money  
12 down on going through the licensing process to get to  
13 the point where they think they have some kind of  
14 certainty that they can move forward and build this  
15 plant and reach licensing and run forward. So they  
16 wind up with a license under Part 52 to construct and  
17 operate subject to a hold on when they can load fuel.

18 The rest of that process is kind of  
19 cumbersome, but essentially Part 52 allows for  
20 inspections, tests, analyses, that have to be  
21 performed during the COL construction period and they  
22 have to be resolved and accepted. And then they  
23 certify all those and send them forward and we inspect  
24 a significant number of them because we have people on  
25 site during the entire process. And at that point

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1 where all of those ITAAC have been met, then the  
2 Commission makes a ruling under --

3 MR. RAKOVAN: Can you let us know what  
4 ITAAC is real quick?

5 MR. CANOVA: Inspections, tests, analysis  
6 and acceptance criteria.

7 MR. RAKOVAN: Thanks.

8 MR. CANOVA: So as I said, they are tied  
9 together because they are run on top of each other and  
10 I've heard my office management say several times Part  
11 52 is not envisioned to actually run this way. We  
12 actually thought because it started with manufacturers  
13 working on the design certification process that we  
14 would not run on top of ourselves like this, but a  
15 couple of incentives later and people started tying in  
16 and frankly we need power now, so we actually need to  
17 get operational on some of this stuff.

18 MR. RAKOVAN: I'm going to go back to the  
19 cards. Thanks for taking that question, Mike.

20 MR. CANOVA: Was there a last part? I  
21 thought there was one more piece.

22 MR. RAKOVAN: There might be, but I want  
23 to get back to the cards. So if you want to get with  
24 Ms. Hartman, that would be great. I just want to make  
25 sure we're allowing enough time for comments.

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1           The next card that I have is for Dave  
2 Superdock; then Stephen Bodnar and third, Marvin  
3 Metzger.

4           MR. SUPERDOCK: My name is Dave Superdock.

5           And my background, I've taught physics for about 30  
6 years and served at Bloomsburg University as  
7 Department Chairman. And I have a past connection  
8 with PPL that I want to explain so nothing will be  
9 hidden and that is when I became Chairman after TMI, I  
10 received a number of calls from people whose children  
11 were at Bloomsburg and they were concerned. That led  
12 me to an interest in trying to secure some method of  
13 radiation monitoring independent of the plant so that  
14 we could see when these plants went online here; have  
15 a study of what the radiation levels were before, what  
16 the profile of radiation were, that is, what isotopes  
17 were present in our surroundings; and after the plants  
18 went online what changes would we see in that  
19 operation.

20           I set that system up and it gradually was  
21 improved. It was funded by PPL, that is the equipment  
22 was funded by PPL. I received no compensation or  
23 personal salaries in that operation. What I found, of  
24 course, was there was no change, no change at all in  
25 terms of the levels of radiation, before and after the

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1 Bell Bend operation went into effect, and no change in  
2 the profile of the radiation, what particular types of  
3 isotopes were present.

4 In addition to that research grant, I was  
5 also given research grants by PPL to do a five-year  
6 solar study, solar energy, and a five-year wind study.

7 Again, none of that provided for me with income for  
8 myself. Of particular interest in the radiation  
9 monitoring project, however, was about a month before  
10 I was going to retire in '86, Chernobyl happened and I  
11 had the system all set up and calibrated and I was  
12 able to detect, measure, and identify the presence of  
13 radioactive fallout from Chernobyl. Now you must  
14 understand that we have the ability to detect  
15 radioactive materials at extraordinarily low levels.  
16 That fallout caused no change in the radiation levels  
17 as detected by the other equipment, even though we  
18 could identify the isotopes, there was no increase in  
19 radiation exposure that was measurable to the  
20 population.

21 In addition to those energy projects, I  
22 was asked by PPL to become the lead instructor in a  
23 program called NEST, Nuclear Energy Seminar for  
24 Teachers. The idea was to take in teachers from K  
25 through 12 and give them a one-week course on the

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1 elements of radioactivity and the operation of a  
2 nuclear reactor, in particular, a boiling water  
3 reactor. I taught that for about 12 years and I was  
4 paid by Bloomsburg University because that was a joint  
5 program, so PPL provided facilities and equipment. We  
6 provided equipment also and I was paid by Bloomsburg  
7 University for that.

8 The only payment I ever received from PPL,  
9 after I was retired six years, I was asked to write  
10 text material for a seminar for teachers on radiation,  
11 biological effects of radiation. PPL wanted to bring  
12 in a number of highly-qualified health physicists, not  
13 the nation of radiologists, and provide a seminar for  
14 teachers on these effects. And so I did write the  
15 text material for that course and I was compensated  
16 for that.

17 Having said all that, and I've taken too  
18 much time with that, I guess, I support the  
19 application. I support nuclear energy. I've studied  
20 it for 50 years. And I really believe that as we look  
21 at the world, we see 438 reactors operating throughout  
22 the world, 104 of them are in the United States.  
23 Japan has 55. That, to me, is extraordinary. This is  
24 the only nation in the world that had the destruction  
25 of nuclear bombs dropped on it and yet, they are able

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1 to go ahead and recognize the opportunities available  
2 in this source of energy and are not afraid as we have  
3 become in the United States. We see France up to 80  
4 percent of their electrical energy from nuclear power.

5 We're at about 20 percent.

6 There are currently under construction  
7 throughout the world 44 nuclear power plants. And one  
8 of those is in the United States. There are many in  
9 Japan, India, China and what that indicates to me is  
10 the world, generally speaking, has accepted nuclear  
11 power as being safe and economical and I concur with  
12 that.

13 The primary concerns with nuclear power  
14 plants, of course, is radiation. And those concerns  
15 are true. Biological effects, that's basically  
16 cancer. What are the carcinogenic effects of  
17 radiation and what are the genetic effects?

18 We can spend a great deal of time on this,  
19 but I'll just give you two pieces of information. For  
20 example, at TMI, there were over 12 studies done,  
21 National Cancer Institute, Columbia University, in  
22 other words, agencies and groups that are not a part  
23 of the industry. The result of those studies indicate  
24 that in a 50-mile radius involving 2 million people  
25 where the normal number of cancers would be 17

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1 percent, in other words those people 2 million, 17  
2 percent of them will die from cancer. That would be  
3 340,000 people. For the exposures of radiation  
4 release from TMI, how many of that 340,000 could be  
5 credited to TMI? The answer is one.

6 Genetic effects, one of the most  
7 interesting and we generally assume that they are  
8 present, but there were 840,000 survivors in Japan,  
9 Hiroshima, Nagasaki, that were exposed to very high  
10 levels of radiation, didn't die. Subsequently, they  
11 married, some of them to each other and gave birth to  
12 children. The studies that have been done on the  
13 children of those 84,000 exposed people shows no  
14 significant difference in terms of birth defects over  
15 what you would have normally for that population. No  
16 significant difference.

17 MR. RAKOVAN: Mr. Superdock, if you could  
18 wrap it up, please. I'd like to keep things moving.

19 MR. SUPERDOCK: I agree with the problem  
20 with high-level waste and I look forward to the point  
21 when the politicians will get together and solve that  
22 problem. Technologically, it's solved. Politically,  
23 it hasn't been solved. Thank you for your time.

24 MR. RAKOVAN: Thanks. Next I have cards  
25 for Stephen Bodnar, Marvin Metzger and then Joseph

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1 Siecko. Stephen Bodnar, please.

2 MR. BODNAR: Hi, I'm Steve Bodnar. I'm an  
3 area businessman. I do masonry and construction work.

4 I've worked for a lot of guys in the power plant and  
5 honestly, if it wasn't for the power plant, this  
6 community would be -- it would be here, but we'd be  
7 very short of jobs.

8 One thing is when the new plant comes in,  
9 there will be a lot of jobs coming up. The people  
10 that work at the plant now, where will they be if this  
11 plant does get shut down? We're going to be without a  
12 lot of jobs and one of the things is that people are  
13 talking about the water.

14 Years ago, when I fished in the river, it  
15 was disgusting. It was orange, dirty, none of that  
16 came from the plant. It came from sulphur from coal,  
17 a lot of it was. A lot of the streams were polluted  
18 in the area. All the fish were dead and this had a  
19 lot to do with coal mines.

20 Global warming, that's another thing.  
21 This is going to help that. I'm not much on it, but I  
22 do know that in Alaska and stuff the fisheries and all  
23 the different things are all being affected from  
24 global warming. Atomic power doesn't have anything to  
25 do with that. We need power. I don't see anybody

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1 that goes home without turning on a light switch at  
2 night. What are we going to do?

3 We have hydro. We have coal. There's  
4 other things coming up, but atomic power is going to  
5 be the answer. Like I said, it's going to create a  
6 lot of jobs in the area. It's going to help a lot of  
7 businesses.

8 I, for one, plan on doing a business  
9 that's going to be a campground and motel. I can  
10 employ approximately 20, 25 people. That's that many  
11 more jobs. There is going to be a lot of jobs from  
12 this, a lot of business. They're going to hook into  
13 our sewer systems. It's going to help the community.

14 It's going to help pay for the sewer systems for the  
15 community. Hopefully, they'll get water from the  
16 water company. That's going to help the water  
17 company. I mean we can go on for hours and hours  
18 about who this is going to help in the area.

19 I'm a firm believer in backing PPL. There  
20 is radioactivity. It is in the ground. That's the  
21 only thing that we should really be worried about  
22 right now; if they could get that out, if they do have  
23 a place to store it or if they can find a place to  
24 store it.

25 I live within not even a mile to the

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1 plant. I'm one of the closest homes. I see the  
2 towers every day. That's the only thing I don't like.

3 They look like chimneys on my house. Besides that,  
4 this plant is going to be lower, so the effect won't  
5 be there as much. It still covers a lot of grounds.  
6 I used to work on the farm that this power plant is  
7 going to be on. There were a lot of kids raised on  
8 that farm. The guy that owned it employed a lot of  
9 kids. It will affect us in that way because it takes  
10 away some of the beauty, but like I said, jobs are the  
11 thing with the economics today, we have to get every  
12 job we can get.

13 We don't have the ability to create that  
14 many jobs in this area. A lot factories and things  
15 are going down every day.

16 Look in the news. We're losing jobs. We  
17 have to do something. If we can help this area a  
18 little bit with this plant, I'm all for it. That's  
19 all I have to say.

20 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, Marvin Metzger, then  
21 we'll go to Joseph Siecko and Nick Pajovich.

22 MR. METZGER: My name is Marvin Metzger.  
23 I'm a resident of Mountain Top, Pennsylvania. Like  
24 our previous speaker, a lot of what I have to say  
25 focuses a lot on the jobs and opportunities that a

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1 third unit will create. You can tell by my button  
2 that I support the program that they have in place.

3 I'm here to speak as a business person, a  
4 community member, and as a parent of three children.  
5 Sure, we're all interested to see a great, see great-  
6 paying jobs that could pay an average of \$50,000 to  
7 \$60,000 a year. All those employees will certainly  
8 support our local economy. We know nuclear power is  
9 not new. However, we know we have to be careful with  
10 its environmental impact and safety issues.

11 As a resident and active community member  
12 in Mountain Top, we have a chance to witness the  
13 integrity of PPL's employees. They're our neighbors.

14 For example, my neighbor across the street is one of  
15 the general managers at the plant. He has the highest  
16 integrity. I fully trust him with my family's safety.

17 As president of the Mountain Top Kiwanis,  
18 one PPL employee, I still say PP&L, sorry, PPL  
19 employee is a member of our club who serves our  
20 community unselfishly. Two of her co-workers also  
21 plan to join Kiwanis in the next week. We know these  
22 people. I believe we can trust these people with our  
23 safety and adherence to the environmental regulations.

24 Nuclear power is a clean technology. It  
25 is the best energy alternative we have. Let's keep

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1 this economic jewel in our backyard. If our community  
2 does not support a third unit, a separate community  
3 will take this multi-billion dollar opportunity from  
4 us. None of us want our children to move away to get  
5 a good job in another community that seizes this  
6 opportunity. Thanks.

7 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, if we could go to  
8 Joseph Siecko now. After that, Nick Pajovich and also  
9 to Bill Soberick.

10 MR. SIECKO: My name is Joseph Siecko.  
11 I've been a resident of Salem Township for the past 34  
12 years. And I've seen the plant when it first started.

13 I've seen some of the economic development in our  
14 area from the plant being there. But I would like to  
15 say one thing. The permission to build a new plant  
16 from the studies that I've found out, does not come  
17 from the federal, state, or local government. It  
18 comes from our counties which is Luzerne County and  
19 Columbia County. They give the permission for PPL to  
20 build the plant.

21 PPL is an economic -- has an economic  
22 impact in our area. It employs over one thousand  
23 people and in an outage time, almost 1500. It is the  
24 largest payer of school taxes. It pays to the Berwick  
25 Area School District -- \$2,769,000 is paid to the

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1 Berwick Area School District. If they were not there,  
2 calculating everything, our school taxes would be 20  
3 percent higher.

4 County taxes, it pays -- Luzerne County,  
5 it pays over \$778,000 or \$790,000, goes to Luzerne  
6 County. We, down in the Salem Township area, receive  
7 none of that money. It pays \$62,500 which is the one  
8 percent tax that comes directly to Salem Township.

9 I would like to see PPL do something that  
10 would benefit every resident living in Salem Township  
11 near the plant, and areas around the plant, something  
12 economically to impact the area to the residents.

13 Thank you very much.

14 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, let's go Nick  
15 Pajovich, followed by Bill Soberick and then Joy  
16 McGinnis.

17 MR. PAJOVICH: Good. My name is Nick  
18 Pajovich and I'm the CEO of the Berwick Area YMCA. In  
19 my position in the community, I get to work alongside  
20 a lot of the employees and leaders at PPL. I've  
21 worked on a lot of community projects with them. They  
22 serve on our Boards of Directors. They contribute  
23 money to our nonprofits and to say that they are a  
24 responsible or good neighbor is an understatement.  
25 Okay?

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1           Our communities would be a heck of a lot  
2 poorer without their contributions, not just monetary,  
3 but the time. And what's most impressive when you  
4 work alongside these folks is not the money angle.  
5 It's the amount of care. It's the amount of  
6 compassion. It's the way they believe in our  
7 community that is just so impressive.

8           And as I sit back and think about it, you  
9 know, it's easy to categorize PPL as this corporate  
10 entity, but you know, they're not. They're our  
11 neighbors, they're our friends, and I believe it was  
12 Mr. Fatula who said something that was really profound  
13 and really true. They don't want to die any more than  
14 we do.

15           I believe and trust in them with my  
16 family's safety. I think they do a tremendous job up  
17 there. I have no reason to believe that if the third  
18 reactor went in, they wouldn't continue to do a  
19 tremendous job. I have no reason not to believe that  
20 there wouldn't be even more employees involved in our  
21 communities. The economic impact, too, it's easy to  
22 categorize that as money, and it's easy to say that  
23 money wins, but money is something that our community  
24 desperately needs.

25           In my capacity to lead our YMCA, I see the

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1 poverty in our community. Four in ten kids in our  
2 school district live below the poverty level, folks,  
3 and that's real. That's not a made-up statistic. I  
4 see the kids we help at the Y. I see the kids that  
5 other agencies, I believe I've heard the Boy Scouts  
6 mentioned. But the fact is there's not one nonprofit  
7 in our community that isn't touched by PPL whether  
8 it's in terms of time, in terms of finances, in terms  
9 of expertise. And quite honestly, we couldn't operate  
10 without them. They are that important and that  
11 significant.

12 That, in turn, I would challenge anybody  
13 to say, touches all of us. Because when our  
14 communities are better, when our communities are  
15 stronger, we all benefit. And PPL definitely makes  
16 Berwick and the surrounding communities, Salem  
17 Township, a stronger community. We're all happier.  
18 We're all better off. We have better police services.  
19 We have better fire services. We have better  
20 nonprofit service groups, social organizations.  
21 There's not one piece of our community that isn't  
22 touched by their corporate citizenship, so to speak,  
23 and that term has been thrown around tonight. Again,  
24 I suggest it's an understatement.

25 It is true they are in business to make

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1 money. Well, you know, we all are. In the United  
2 States, we live under a capitalist society and  
3 capitalism is a reality. They shouldn't be faulted  
4 for that. They should be applauded for that, because  
5 again, the best way you can help a community, the best  
6 way you can contribute is to have the financial  
7 resources to do that. PPL has done that. They've  
8 proven it time and time again and I believe with all  
9 my heart the community will be a stronger, better  
10 community if Bell Bend becomes a reality. Thank you.

11 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, if we could go to Bill  
12 Soberick and then finally to Joy McGinnis.

13 MR. SOBERICK: Good evening. I wanted to  
14 speak to you as a husband and a father and a  
15 grandfather, but first I think I have to put my other  
16 hat on and speak to you as an elected official and a  
17 County Commissioner.

18 I have to take issue with the statement I  
19 heard earlier that is very important to me about our  
20 evacuation plans for our citizens in case there is an  
21 emergency at the plant. I can tell you personally  
22 over the last 17 years how outstanding our EMA and our  
23 municipalities, our townships and our borough are well  
24 prepared and the proof is in the pudding in the  
25 natural disasters we've had in Columbia County, how

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1 well prepared we are.

2 I've talked to people throughout the state  
3 and throughout the nation and because of PPL's support  
4 and working with us in our emergency management, we  
5 are more than well prepared to meet any natural or  
6 plant disaster if that should happen.

7 I do want to talk here just for a moment  
8 about my children and my grandchildren. We have a big  
9 economy mess right now and a lot of it is because of  
10 the billions of dollars that we've been sending over  
11 to the Middle East. I'm very scared for my children  
12 and grandchildren and how their life and their  
13 economics is going to be if we don't do something  
14 about stop sending all our money over to the Middle  
15 East for oil.

16 We have a power. We have a nuclear power  
17 that's proven. We've known for 25 years it is safe  
18 here. If it's well managed as it has been with PPL, I  
19 can rest assured that that's the future that I want to  
20 see for our country to help solve our energy problems.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, Joy McGinnis.

23 MS. MCGINNIS: I'm Joy McGinnis. My  
24 husband and I live in Briar Creek Township and we can  
25 see the plumes of water vapor from the cooling towers

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1 from our front porch. We moved here in 2003 from  
2 South Jersey. I remember Three Mile Island. I  
3 remember the hysteria. I remember the fear. And I  
4 remember most of all that it was mostly pushed by the  
5 media that much of the things that everybody was  
6 afraid of never really happened. So when we moved up  
7 here and I knew that we were going to be living as  
8 close as we are to a nuclear power plant, I wasn't  
9 really terribly comfortable, but I also wasn't really  
10 terribly concerned either.

11 A few years ago, I became CEO of the  
12 Berwick Area United Way. In that capacity, I have  
13 toured the nuclear power plant, I have been in the  
14 power plant a number of times for meetings, and every  
15 single time I am there, I am so impressed by the level  
16 of safety, care, and concern the PPL employees have  
17 for the plant, for the operation, and for the  
18 community in which they are located.

19 One of my favorite stories about that is  
20 shortly after I became CEO, I attended the PPL  
21 motorcycle run that they use to raise money for our  
22 annual campaign. I talked with the coordinator and  
23 asked her how she would handle it if one of the  
24 employees showed up without all of the safety  
25 equipment. She simply looked at me and said they're

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1 PPL employees. A few minutes later, I knew what she  
2 meant. Every single motorcycle rider and passenger  
3 came in with a helmet, goggles, leather jacket,  
4 leather pants, motorcycle boots and gloves. And this  
5 was on a day when the temperature was about 75  
6 degrees. Safety permeates the PPL culture and they  
7 bring it out into the community when they join us.

8 Some cynics might say that because PPL  
9 gives the Berwick Area United Way about 45 percent of  
10 our annual campaign, that I'm sort of offhandedly  
11 being paid to stand up here and say that. I can tell  
12 you that that is absolutely not true. PPL employees  
13 are generous to our campaign. That is true. But they  
14 are also generous of their time and their talent.

15 As Nick said, there is not a nonprofit in  
16 this area that has not benefitted from the abilities  
17 that they bring to this community and to the time that  
18 they're willing to give to the nonprofits in this  
19 area. This community is made better and stronger  
20 because of PPL.

21 As CEO of Berwick Area United Way, we are  
22 seeing some real concerns about the economic  
23 conditions in this community. As Nick said, four out  
24 of every ten of the kids in the School District are  
25 eligible for the subsidized meal programs. Thirty-

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1 three percent of the people who live in Berwick have a  
2 disability. Over a third of the residents are  
3 tenants, they are not homeowners. The average salary  
4 in Berwick is \$40,000 and that's for a family of four.

5 Even the State of Pennsylvania says that the  
6 sustainability standard in Columbia County is \$43,994.

7 So even from the get-go, people in Berwick are at a  
8 disadvantage. We need the jobs that this power plant  
9 will bring. We need the jobs of the construction that  
10 the plant will bring. And I very strongly welcome PPL  
11 to expand.

12 And with regard to the nuclear storage  
13 facility, I have seen those concrete coffins and they  
14 don't scare me at all. Thank you very much.

15 MR. RAKOVAN: That was the last card that  
16 I had. I wanted to give an opportunity for anyone who  
17 hasn't had a chance to make a comment, specifically if  
18 you're going to make an environmental scoping comment  
19 to take the microphone and fill out a yellow card for  
20 our records.

21 Anyone who hasn't had a chance to speak  
22 yet?

23 Okay, seeing no hands, I just want to make  
24 sure if anyone that has already spoken would like to  
25 take the microphone again for a short time.

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1 Sir, if you could reintroduce yourself.

2 MR. STILP: Hi, Gene Stilp. I'd like now  
3 for all the PPL employees now to leave. Will you  
4 please get up and leave so we can have a real  
5 discussion about the environmental facts? Thank you  
6 so much.

7 Okay, I'm glad that the -- it is necessary  
8 for a community to have jobs and I'm glad many of the  
9 speakers spoke about the jobs that this plant will  
10 bring. That's very good. But this is an  
11 environmental hearing about the scope of what the  
12 environmental impacts should be studied. So let's get  
13 to that.

14 One of the key impacts we've heard tonight  
15 from a lot of the anti-nuclear people is the high-  
16 level nuclear waste. There's also low-level nuclear  
17 waste that has to be looked at. Low-level nuclear  
18 waste -- well, it's all nuclear waste, but it emits  
19 different items. Now low-level nuclear waste should  
20 be looked at.

21 The storage facility in Pennsylvania,  
22 which I had the honor of helping defeat many years ago  
23 in the '90s, I had the honor of writing that  
24 legislation, helping to write that legislation back in  
25 '88, '87, '89 there, and developing the regulations.

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1 I had the honor of defeating that. They wanted to put  
2 that in Salem Township and I remember going to a  
3 meeting across the river, I think it was in -- well,  
4 right across the river, there was a meeting helping  
5 defeat it for Luzerne County, etcetera. But that has  
6 to be looked at also, the low-level nuclear waste, the  
7 big place down in North Carolina -- South Carolina is  
8 closing.

9 Also, you have to look at during the  
10 mining process and all through it, what is emitted?  
11 Are there CFCs emitted by the nuclear mining and the  
12 nuclear development process? You have to look at  
13 everything that's attached to the reprocessing of  
14 nuclear -- highly controversial aspects of  
15 reprocessing nuclear waste.

16 You have to look at in the environmental  
17 scoping document, you have to look at -- I'd like to  
18 expand that to look at the alternatives, all the  
19 alternatives that are available instead of nuclear  
20 power and as an aside, those items also create many,  
21 many jobs. If you have \$5 or \$10 billion to invest,  
22 you can invest that into many job-producing things,  
23 but we're talking about the environment and what has  
24 to happen.

25 So I'd like you to look at all the other

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1 processes that are involved. When you look at this,  
2 you have to compare them and also to either rule them  
3 out after studying them or -- well, you do have to  
4 study them. I'd like them studied in the  
5 environmental scoping document. And also look at the  
6 efficiencies that are involved. I think nuclear power  
7 is one of the least efficient processes.

8 So you have to look at that. Also, again,  
9 in case we missed it before, the human aspect of this  
10 is very important. Everybody in this room, excuse me,  
11 every female in this room who raises children or has  
12 children or your grandkids or are going to have  
13 children think of them and also that has to be looked  
14 at.

15 Also, we think of the traditional items in  
16 the scoping document, the air, the water, the fauna  
17 and foliage, whatever that is, the animals and plants  
18 also have to be studied. Interestingly enough, I  
19 never saw any animals evacuated during a nuclear  
20 emergency. Anyhow, that whole aspect has to be  
21 studied also.

22 If you're looking at the environment,  
23 excuse me, if you're looking at the economics of this  
24 whole thing, any kind of nuclear accident would also  
25 involve everybody involved in the dairy industry, the

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1 farming industry, and who knows how many billions of  
2 dollars that generates and how many jobs that creates  
3 in Pennsylvania. Isn't Pennsylvania the leading  
4 economic thing for jobs? Isn't it farming?

5 So anyhow, look at the whole aspect and  
6 how far out are you going to go? Usually, they say  
7 right next to the plant or five miles, ten miles. I  
8 don't know what the scope of your past scoping  
9 documents says has been, but I would study it not in  
10 concentric circles, but you have to study, I believe,  
11 which way the wind blows and the wind blows pretty  
12 far.

13 Your scoping documents shouldn't be  
14 limited to the Berwick area or across the river.  
15 Which way does the wind blow? Does it blow through  
16 Hazle or Mountain Top? All those communities have to  
17 be involved too in this scoping document if your  
18 prevailing winds are mostly that way. And what about  
19 your percentage of the time the winds are blowing some  
20 other way? So the scope should not be just left to  
21 the immediate area.

22 Let's see, what else? Let's go from  
23 there, but I'll be sending more written comments.  
24 Today is just off-the-cuff. I just happened to be  
25 walking down urging people to pull the plug on the 40

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1 percent PPL hike.

2 Oh, the last thing I'd like to say is that  
3 there was talk, ahead of the line, talked about the  
4 free enterprise system and this is America. Well, I  
5 think the past few months shows that capitalism is  
6 just about dead the way it has been understood, all  
7 these bailouts going on. Don't forget, this whole  
8 deregulation came about during the late '90s because  
9 of the shareholders from PPL and other nuclear plants  
10 across the state needed money, the shareholders, so  
11 you with the help of the Representatives and Senators  
12 of Pennsylvania, Governor Ridge at the time bailed out  
13 the industry in Pennsylvania to the tune of \$14  
14 billion, one of the biggest bailouts yet way back in  
15 the '90s. So bailouts are nothing new. PPL got a  
16 bailout way back then.

17 So sure, people know those good things,  
18 etcetera, but it's not just about jobs. It's about  
19 this is an environmental scoping thing, you have to  
20 look at it. So there's much more to consider.

21 So I want to wish you all luck in getting  
22 to the bottom of this and I would say to the people  
23 who are interested just in jobs, don't put your eggs  
24 in one basket because there's many hoops for this to  
25 go through and you're going to be surprised at the

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1 level of difficulty here and also at the level of  
2 questions you never thought would arise and questions  
3 that will be answered, of course, not to everybody's  
4 satisfaction, but there's going to be a lot more  
5 questions than have come up tonight.

6 So good luck, and I'll be out there  
7 walking and thank you very much for nobody hitting me  
8 on the road today. I appreciate that and I'll keep  
9 walking against the 40 percent pay increase for PPL  
10 and we'll go from there.

11 Let's reregulate PPL so they're a better  
12 corporate citizen.

13 MR. RAKOVAN: Anyone else have any remarks  
14 that they'd like to make before we close the meeting  
15 tonight?

16 Mike, Bob, do one of you want to give some  
17 closing comments or -- okay, looks like Bob would like  
18 to.

19 MR. SCHAAF: Yes, just a couple of  
20 comments and just again to thank everyone for coming  
21 out. I appreciate all of the input that you've  
22 provided. I appreciate Mr. Stilp's remark about the  
23 hard questions that will be asked. That is a point  
24 that I think is important to make is that this review  
25 process that the NRC undergoes involves literally

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1 thousands of hours of staff time to review both the  
2 environmental impacts and the safety of the proposed  
3 facility.

4 We did receive a number of good comments  
5 tonight that relate to areas that we'll look at in a  
6 review including waste transport and disposal, health  
7 impacts, the economic impacts, and also the fuel-cycle  
8 impacts.

9 If anyone has more specific information  
10 about any of these issues or any other issues, the  
11 comment period is open until March 9th. We encourage  
12 you to provide any information you have, any studies  
13 that we should look at and once again, thank you for  
14 coming out and sharing your thoughts with us.

15 (Applause.)

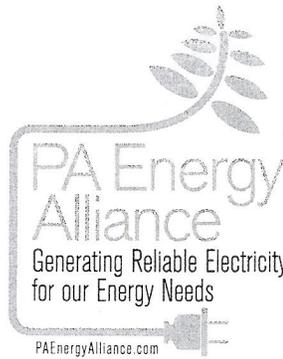
16 (Whereupon, at 8:51 p.m., the public  
17 scoping meeting was concluded.)  
18  
19  
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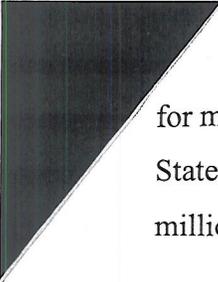
**Statement of Karen L. Walsh  
Executive Director, PA Energy Alliance  
January 29, 2009**

Thank you for the opportunity to speak here tonight in support of the proposed Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant.

As the executive director of the Pennsylvania Energy Alliance, I speak for a group of independent community leaders and organizations representing environmental, business, scientific, labor, and health care interests. We have formed this coalition to support nuclear energy and to advocate for additional clean, safe and reliable sources of electricity generation in our Commonwealth.

As you know, Pennsylvania is the nation's second largest producer of nuclear energy. One-third of our electricity comes from this carbon-free source. Unfortunately, Pennsylvania also has the distinction of ranking 4<sup>th</sup> highest in the nation in carbon dioxide emissions, 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in sulfur dioxide emissions and 5<sup>th</sup> highest in nitrogen oxide emissions. Over the next 10 years, our electricity demand is expected to rise 1.5% a year.

To meet our ever-increasing demand for electricity in a way that does not destroy our environment, we need a diverse energy mix that includes nuclear power, cleaner fossil fuels, renewable sources, and energy efficiency. However, conservation alone will not offset the expected growth in our electricity use and renewable sources like wind and solar are unreliable.



Nuclear energy is the only source that can reliably generate electricity around-the-clock for millions of consumers with no harmful greenhouse gas emissions. Each year in the United States, nuclear-generated electricity avoids almost 700 million tons of carbon dioxide, three million tons of sulfur dioxide and one million tons of nitrogen oxide.

The environmental benefits of nuclear power are just some of the reasons why the PA Energy Alliance supports the continued safe operation of Pennsylvania's nuclear industry.

The Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant would significantly increase the percentage of electricity that PPL generates from non-carbon sources – currently at 40 percent – and provide a reliable source of electricity that does not contribute to global warming.

Furthermore, there is no evidence that the Bell Bend project will negatively impact the Susquehanna River or the surrounding area. The river, we all agree, is a precious public resource that is effectively managed by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission and deserving of our utmost protection.

Our confidence in the environmental benefits of the Bell Bend project rests, in large part, on PPL's proven history of responsible monitoring in the area near the Susquehanna plant. PPL's commitment to protecting Pennsylvania's environment extends to voluntarily protecting nearby wildlife and their habitats. For nearly four decades, PPL has conducted radiological studies of the air, water, soil, crops, plants and wildlife and found no significant environmental impact.

The PA Energy Alliance appreciates this opportunity to formally voice our support for the proposed Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant and its goal of providing a clean, safe and reliable source of electricity for over one million homes in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Thank you.

TESTIMONY      Association  
**BERWICK INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, INC.**

**U.S. NRC  
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING  
JANUARY 29, 2009**

**Good Evening:**

**My name is Stephen E. Phillips. I currently serve as the Executive Director of the Berwick Industrial Development Association, Inc., commonly referred to as BIDA.**

**BIDA is the premiere economic development agency serving the Greater Berwick Area.**

**Historically, PPL, and its predecessor companies, have been strong allies of the economic development community. BIDA and its sister economic development organizations in the Greater Berwick Area have been the recipients of assistance from PPL in numerous ways including, but not limited to marketing aid, direct financial contributions to help underwrite the cost of administering a comprehensive economic and community development program, and construction of an industrial shell building.**

**BIDA and its economic development peers are directly involved in job retention as well as job creation. PPL's current workforce of approximately 1,100 persons is a key component of the Berwick Area's**

**economic base. Those employees are among the highest compensated in the entire Region. The payroll generated in the Greater Berwick Area would be the envy of many other locales.**

**The proposed 400 to 500 positions expected to be created by the proposed third reactor will add substantial economic benefit to the Greater Berwick Area.**

**The current facility underwrites approximately 20 percent of the tax revenue generated by the Berwick Area School District. Construction of the anticipated new facility will certainly greatly increase the existing tax revenue. Without this revenue, the burden on other property owners would greatly increase.**

**No one can dispute the fact that the utility has been a good corporate citizen. Its contributions in both a monetary and personnel sense to Area municipalities have been well documented. PPL's employees have historically exhibited a great degree of civic involvement.**

**A project of this magnitude can logically be expected to contain some elements which will need to be modified during the implementation phase. The historical willingness of PPL to adjust to changing conditions, and rectify actual and perceived shortcomings is what should be applauded.**

**PPL quite simply has been, and will continue to be a good neighbor and friend to the economic development community.**

January 29, 2009

These two existing reactors at Beach Haven, Pa. were built with a life span of 20 years. It has now been 30 years. This equipment was not made with the ability to regenerate itself. You can't just put a new engine in your car and expect the rest of it to not degenerate.

These reactors were built without a budget to decontaminate the facility when their ability to continue to generate financial gains for who ever may own them at that point in time. We can not expect PPL to own this facility indefinitely since they were trying to sell it a few years ago.

These Nuclear Power Plants were built without a defined plan for safe waste disposal or transportation. This issue has never been solved. We now not only have a facility without a plan or money for decontaminating, we now have a high level radioactive waste dump. And I might add it is being stored in "temporary" storage units. How temporary is 30 years? Who builds a home without a sewage system? And let's face it, you haven't come up with any kind of safe radioactive honey trucks.

Now, not only do we have a more devastating target than the World Trade Center for terrorists. I might add in the 60's when this plant was being developed, there was a study done with a scenario of the devastation that would be created if a small plane were to collide with one of the reactors. The death rate and contamination were insurmountable. It took a Freedom of Information Act to reveal this report.

The reality is, this community would not be capable of evacuating for any possible accident or event. There just aren't enough ambulances, buses, service vehicles or emergency personal to handle the nursing homes, hospitals, schools or individualuals. The emergency system in place has never been taken seriously. It hasn't worked properly in the past and the community doesn't even take it seriously. When the sirens do go off, the system put in place has the community listen to radio stations or T.V. stations to find out necessary information. When there is a mistake or misfire of the sirens the system breaks down. They don't put anything on the radio or T.V. stations announcing the misfire. When you follow

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protocol after there is nothing on the radio or T.V. and call the 800 number you get Allentown. The answering service at this number has no clue what is going on. We have been given the answer, after they find an emergency director on their end, " the emergency director hasn't been paged so it probably is a mistake, let me take your number and I will call you back." I still haven't got the call back. After four hours, our Borough building has become the last fallback for information. And this was not a publicized protocol. And this scenario has taken place too many times. The sirens can't be heard in the winter with the houses closed tight. I found out months after they misfired one night (from the Borough manager) and I never heard them. Most people think they are testing them when they go off and just ignore them. The system is pointless anyway. It is just pacification for the community and legality.

These issues which have never been addressed or are a prop to meet guidelines for safety will never be taken care of due to the insurmountable financial burden for PPL.

The bottom line is this plant spits out immense amounts of energy making incredible amounts of money for PPL, its stock holders and employees. The community has lost revenue from property taxes, school taxes, building permits and will end up with the costs for decontamination when the cost usefulness has been met. It has created a high waste dump, stress, a target for terrorist and a questionable future. There are no requirements for PPL to deal with the High waste which has accumulated over these 30 years. What is keeping them, from selling the facility and walking away leaving the burden on the government or community? The obvious point in adding another reactor is that the two reactors have met their useful age and since we already have this mess here why not continue with the obvious mistake. These proceedings are nothing more than the same old dog and pony show so that the requirement for public town meetings are met. Unfortunately, the financial gains will always outweigh the environmental reality.

Mary Kelchner Creasy

Public Scoping Meeting related to the Bell Bend COL Application  
Thursday, January 29, 2009

Commenter Name:

Seray A Hess

Organization Name (if any):

Address:

124 Hess Rd.  
Maplewood Pa.  
18660

Email Address:

Comment

I would like to comment about the steam vapor affecting the atmosphere part of the present stacks. I don't really need any more of the same problem I already have. It is like having a irrigation system that you can't turn off. You cannot get your crops to dry down to an acceptable moisture level. It creates mildew on the siding on the siding on the home's. When the steam leaves the stacks it rises and completely covers the sun practically all day.

Public Scoping Meeting related to the Bell Bend COL Application  
Thursday, January 29, 2009

Commenter Name: Deborah Bogard

Organization Name (if any): citizen

Address: 90 Dennis Road

Berwick, Pa. 18603

Email Address: dbogard@eventlink.com

Comment

my concern is about the safety of the existing & future "temporary" storage of nuclear waste onsite. Can this be returned to the mine that it came from? Can it be recycled?

When local emergency services are put on alert due to an incident @ PPL Susquehanna, we, the public, would like the courtesy of a radio or TV announcement that an alert has been called, & whether or not we need to pack bags. At this time, we are packing bags & trying to track down any information that says no need to worry.

What is the distance of safe living from not only the reactor, but the storage facilities?

When is PPL going to contribute their "fair share" toward school taxes?

