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Public Meeting

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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SALEM/HOPE CREEK

NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

LICENSE RENEWAL PROCESS

and

ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING MEETING

+ + + + +

Thursday,

November 5th, 2009

+ + + + +

Woodstown, New Jersey

The Public Meeting was held at 1:00 p.m. at the Salem County Emergency Services Building, 135 Cemetery Road, Woodstown, New Jersey, Lance Rakovan, Facilitator, presiding.

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1 APPEARANCES:

2 LANCE RAKOVAN - Facilitator

3 BO PHAM - NRC Projects Branch 1

4 NEIL SHEEHAN - NRC/OPA

5 BRIAN G. HARRIS - NRC/OGC

6 DONNIE ASHLEY - Srr. Project Manager

7 CHARLES ECCLESTON - Project Manager

8 NATHAN FERRER - Project Manager

9 DANIEL DOYLE - Project Manager

10 DANIEL SCHROEDER, Srr. Resident Inspector, Salem

11 HARRY BALIAN - Resident Inspector, Salem

12 BLAKE WELLING - Sr. Resident Inspector, Hope
13 Creek

14 AMAR PATEL - Resident Inspector, Hope Creek

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WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS 4

OVERVIEW OF SCOPING PROCESSES

DONNIE ASHLEY **Error! Bookmark not defined.**8

CHARLES ECCLESTON 22

PUBLIC COMMENTS 35

CLOSING REMARKS 77

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

1:30 p.m.

1
2
3 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Good afternoon,
4 everyone. I have to say this is the most orderly
5 public meeting I think I have done in a really long
6 time.

7 Thanks to everyone for taking their seats
8 so we can get started on time. My name is Lance
9 Rakovan, I'm a Communications Specialist at the U.S.
10 Nuclear Regulatory Commission, or NRC, as you will
11 hear it referred to today.

12 It is my pleasure to facilitate this
13 afternoon's meeting, along with my colleague, Butch
14 Burton, who also comes to us from NRC, from our Office
15 of New Reactors.

16 What we are going to try to do is to just
17 kind of keep the meeting on schedule, and try to make
18 the meeting, this afternoon, productive for everyone
19 who is here.

20 The purpose of this meeting is to discuss
21 the license renewal and environmental scoping
22 processes, for the license renewal application from
23 Public Service Enterprise Group Nuclear, or PSEG
24 Nuclear, and Exelon Generation Company, for the
25 renewal of the operating licensees for the Salem

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1 Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, and Hope
2 Creek Generating Station.

3 And to provide members of the public and
4 opportunity to provide us comments regarding
5 environmental issues that the NRC should consider
6 during its review.

7 A term you are going to hear a lot today
8 is scoping. That simply means determining the scope
9 of an Environmental Review, in this case for the Salem
10 and Hope Creek sites.

11 Today is one way that you can participate
12 in the scoping process, and we will be going through
13 that as part of our presentations in a moment.

14 The meeting, today, is essentially going
15 to have two parts. First we are going to hear some
16 short presentations from some NRC staff on the license
17 renewal, and Environmental Review Processes,
18 information that we think is important that you
19 understand, when it comes to the license renewal for
20 Salem and Hope Creek.

21 There are copies of the presentation on
22 the sign-in table in the back. If you didn't happen to
23 pick one up, that is okay. I'm going to probably grab
24 a few and run them around in a moment.

25 So once I'm done giving my opening

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1 comments, just look for me, give me a hands-up, and
2 will bring a copy of the presentations over to you.

3 I'm going to try to keep these
4 presentations short, so we can get to the second half
5 of the meeting, which is for us to listen to your
6 comments, that you have on the Environmental Review.

7 There were yellow cards at the sign-in
8 table. If you knew you wanted to speak then,
9 hopefully, you filled one of those out. I'm going to,
10 essentially, just call people up one at a time, to
11 take the podium, and give us their comments, from
12 those cards.

13 If you weren't sure that you wanted to
14 speak, at the beginning of the meeting, and you decide
15 that you want to, we just ask that you fill one of
16 those cards out for us and then we will be more than
17 happy to let you come up to the podium and speak.

18 We ask that you fill out those cards so
19 that we have your name correctly, so we can get you
20 correctly on the transcript. And I want to make sure
21 that you are aware that we are transcribing today's
22 meeting.

23 You can help us get a clean transcript for
24 the meeting by silencing any electronic devices,
25 phones, blackberries, those kinds of things, right now

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1 if you would.

2 Keeping side conversations to a minimum,
3 so that we can make sure that the focus is on whoever
4 has the floor. And just generally trying to keep the
5 noise level down so that we can get, again, a clean
6 transcript.

7 If you are going to speak, once you come
8 up and take the microphone, if you could let us know
9 who you are, and any organization that you are with.
10 Again, this will help us identify, on the transcript,
11 who is speaking at each time.

12 Another item that I'm hoping you picked up
13 when you walked in, is our public meeting feedback
14 form. This is just a short form where you can give us
15 your opinion on how today's meeting went.

16 You can either hand that to any of the
17 NRC staff in attendance this afternoon, and we have
18 these badges on, or you can drop it in the mail,
19 postage is free, and that will get to us.

20 So that is just a way that you can kind of
21 give us an idea on how you think things went tonight.

22 Rest rooms are actually right behind me,
23 but in case you don't feel like going through the
24 central door, essentially, to the meeting, if you do
25 go through the elevator lobby, and make a left, there

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1 is a rest room that way.

2 Sam, is there any way to turn that down,
3 by any chance? We will see if we can have that not be
4 doing that during the meeting.

5 I want to take a moment to introduce some
6 of the NRC staff in attendance, here. Our presenters
7 are Donnie Ashley, who is the lead for the Salem Hope
8 Creek license renewal, and Charles Eccleston, who is
9 the lead for Salem Hope Creek environmental scoping.
10 We also have Bo Pham, who manages these gentlemen.

11 With that I'm going to hand things over to
12 Donnie, so that he can go through these presentations.

13 And once the presentations are over I will be back,
14 and we will start calling people up to give us their
15 comments on the environmental scoping. Donnie?

16 MR. ASHLEY: Thanks, Lance, we appreciate
17 it. Can everyone hear me okay? I'm an old
18 instructor, so sometimes I start getting louder and
19 louder. So if I see someone wince I will tone it down
20 a little bit.

21 It is good to see all of you here. We
22 appreciate your attendance at this meeting. We
23 appreciate Salem County, and Mr. Gage and the staff
24 here for the use of this facility.

25 As I said, we appreciate Salem County, and

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1 the administration for the use of this wonderful
2 facility, and we appreciate the turn-out from the
3 local community here.

4 As Lance said, I'm the senior project
5 manager for the Salem Hope Creek license review group.

6 And we want to provide you with an overview of the
7 license renewal process.

8 This includes both a Safety Review and an
9 Environmental Review. This afternoon most of the time
10 will be spent on the Environmental Review, and
11 discussing what that process is, and how you can
12 participate.

13 One of the things that we will do, as
14 Lance said, again, we will be taking questions from
15 you about the Safety Review, and the Environmental
16 Review, as well as allowing you time to comment.

17 I hope that the information that we
18 provide to you today will help you to understand this
19 process, and the roles that you can play in this
20 almost two year process, including helping us make
21 sure that the Environmental Review considers all the
22 relevant information that we need to look at.

23 Before I go into the discussion of the
24 process itself, I would like to take a few minutes to
25 talk about the NRC, in terms of what we do, and what

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1 our mission is.

2 The NRC is a federal agency, established
3 by the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, that
4 regulates the civilian use of nuclear materials.

5 The Atomic Energy Act of 1954 authorizes
6 the NRC to grant a 40 year operating license for
7 nuclear power reactors. This 40 year term was based,
8 primarily, on economic considerations, and on anti-
9 trust factors, not on safety or technical limitations.

10 The Atomic Energy Act also allowed for
11 license renewal. The National Environmental Policy
12 Act of 1969, which we refer to as NEPA, establishes
13 the national policy for considering the impact of
14 federal decision-making on the human environment.

15 And Charles is going to talk about that in
16 greater detail, in just a few minutes. The NRC's
17 regulations governing nuclear safety, security, and
18 environmental protection, are contained in Title 10 of
19 the Code of Federal Regulations, which is commonly
20 referred to as 10CFR.

21 In exercising its regulatory authority,
22 the NRC's mission is three-fold. To ensure adequate
23 protection of public health and safety; to promote the
24 common defense and security, and to protect the
25 environment.

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1 The NRC accomplishes this mission through
2 a variety of combined regulatory programs, and
3 processes, such as establishing rules and regulations,
4 conducting inspections, issuing enforcement actions,
5 assessing licensee performance, and evaluating
6 operating experience from these nuclear plants, as
7 well as other nuclear plants across the nation, and
8 around the world.

9 The NRC has resident inspectors at all
10 operating nuclear power plants. These inspectors are
11 considered the eyes and the ears of the NRC. They
12 carry out our safety mission on a daily basis, and are
13 on the front lines of ensuring acceptable safety
14 performance, and compliance with regulatory
15 requirements.

16 Mr. Blake Welling is with us this
17 afternoon, and we appreciate him taking the time to be
18 here. I'd like to mention a few more very important
19 areas of NRC oversight that routinely come up, during
20 our interaction with members of the public.

21 The NRC staff addresses these areas of
22 performance every day, as part of the ongoing
23 regulatory oversight provided for all currently
24 operating power reactors.

25 And they include the current safety

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1 performance as defined by NRC inspection findings
2 violations, and general assessment of plant
3 performance, emergency planning, and security.

4 For specific information on the current
5 performances of both Salem and Hope Creek, there is a
6 link provided on the hand-out that we gave you. Or if
7 you to the NRC website, nrc.gov you will be able to
8 locate it there, as well.

9 The NRC monitors and provides regulatory
10 oversight of activities in these areas, on an ongoing
11 basis, during the term of the current operating
12 license.

13 Thus we, and license renewal, do not
14 reevaluate them. That is not to say they are not
15 important it is just that we don't duplicate anything
16 that is being done in the regulatory processes for
17 these areas of license.

18 The NRC received the applications for
19 license renewal of all three units, on August 18th,
20 2009. For those of you who would like an electronic
21 copy of those applications, we have cds in the back of
22 the room, for you, just see one of the NRC
23 representatives, and we will get you a copy of that.

24 You can also look on the NRC website, and
25 see it there, if you need to. The current operating

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1 licenses for Salem expire in 2016, 2020, and for Hope
2 Creek in 2026.

3 Salem unit 1 was initially licensed in
4 August 13th, 1976, with unit 2 following in April of
5 1980. Hope Creek was licensed in April of 1986.

6 A licensee can submit an application for
7 license renewal after 20 years of operations. The
8 length of any given license cannot exceed 40 years.
9 Renewed license is superseding. That is, it will
10 replace the original license that the plant received.

11 The first step of the license renewal
12 process is to perform an acceptance and sufficiency
13 review of the application. When the NRC receives the
14 application, the staff examines it to determine
15 whether the application contains sufficient
16 information to justify a review.

17 The staff looks to see whether the
18 Applicant has provided enough information in terms of
19 technical information, technical specifications, and
20 the Environmental Report, so that the staff can begin
21 its work.

22 If the application has enough information
23 in it to warrant the staff's review, then the
24 application is considered acceptable, and sufficient,
25 and is placed on the NRC's formal docket.

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1 You will hear the NRC use that term a lot,
2 because we place things on the docket. And this is
3 the formal body of in that is the official license of
4 the plant, and any information that changes that
5 license, goes on that docket.

6 So most everything that we do goes on the
7 docket. And the docket information is publicly
8 available for the most part, except for security
9 information.

10 Within the application, itself, there is
11 general information such as the Applicant's name, and
12 addresses, and business, and administrative
13 information.

14 The technical information is specific to
15 the plant's structures and components, and how the
16 Applicant proposes to manage the aging of those
17 components.

18 This information is the focus of the
19 Safety Review. Technical specifications, which define
20 the operating parameters of the plant, indicates what,
21 if any, changes or additions to technical
22 specifications are necessary to manage the effects of
23 aging during the period of extended operation.

24 That period of extended operation we refer
25 to is the time after the old license would have

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1 expired. The application also includes the
2 environmental report, which is the assessment of the
3 environmental impacts of continued operation.

4 This information is the starting point for
5 the staff's Environmental Review that Charles is going
6 to discuss.

7 Salem and Hope Creek's applications were
8 found to be acceptable, and placed on the docket on
9 October the 23rd of this year.

10 Hopefully you can see that. This is the
11 license renewal process and it does go into two paths,
12 and right now I'm talking about the path for the
13 Safety Review.

14 And there is another review there with the
15 environmental. But these two reviews merge at the
16 very end in the NRC's decision-making process. They
17 are separate aspects of license renewal.

18 And one of the considerations is an
19 independent review of our work, by the Advisory
20 Committee on Reactor Safeguards. And we refer to that
21 as the ACRS.

22 Its statutory mandates, by the Atomic
23 Energy Act of 1954, the Advisory Committee on Reactor
24 Safeguards is a group of scientists, and nuclear
25 safety experts, who serve as the consulting body to

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1 the Commission.

2 The ACRS reviews the license renewal
3 application, the NRC's staff Safety Review, and the
4 regional staff's inspectionary findings. The ACRS
5 then reports their findings, and their
6 recommendations, directly to the Commission.

7 Hearings may also be conducted if
8 interested stakeholders submit concerns, or
9 contentions and their request for a hearing is
10 granted.

11 The Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will
12 conduct those hearings. This is an adjudicatory
13 panel, and the Commission considers the outcome of the
14 hearing process in its decision on whether or not to
15 issue a renewed license.

16 As part of the Environmental Review, the
17 staff will consult with local, state, and federal
18 authorities, such as the EPA, and with tribal
19 officials.

20 The staff also holds public meetings to
21 receive comments on the Draft Environmental Impact
22 Statements. In this schedule, in the process, the
23 schedule that we follow normally takes 22 months.

24 Hearings, if they are granted, will add
25 additional time to that 22 months schedule. We have

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1 only had, I think, one or two hearings, and it added
2 at least eight months to a year to each of the
3 schedules.

4 Salem and Hope Creek are scheduled to be
5 completed in June of 2011, if there are no hearings.

6 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Donnie, it looks
7 like you are going backwards on the slides right now.
8 So I think maybe you are hitting the wrong button.

9 MR. ASHLEY: Well, they have reversed
10 buttons on me.

11 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: There we go.

12 MR. ASHLEY: Thanks, Lance.

13 To better understanding the license
14 renewal process it is good to know the safety
15 principles that guide license renewal. The first
16 principle is that the current regulatory process is
17 adequate to ensure that the licensing basis of all the
18 operating plants provides and maintains an acceptable
19 level of safety.

20 The second principle is that the current
21 plant-specific licensing basis must be maintained
22 during the renewal term, in the same manner, and to
23 the same extent, as the original operating license
24 term.

25 In other words, the same rules that apply

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1 under the current license condition will apply in the
2 renewal period. In addition renewed license will
3 include additional conditions that must be met to
4 ensure aging of structures and components, important
5 to safety, is adequately managed, so that the plant's
6 current licensing basis is maintained throughout the
7 period of extended operation.

8 In other words, what is being done today
9 will continue, plus additional requirements.

10 The Safety Review focuses on the aging of
11 passive and long-lived structures, and components, and
12 systems, that the NRC deems important to safety.

13 The safety related systems, structures,
14 and components, are covered, that we evaluate, are
15 covered in 10CFR54.4, paragraph A1.

16 Non-safety related structures, systems,
17 and component failures are those things which could
18 prevent satisfactory accomplishment of safety related
19 SSC functions, and those are considered in 54.4 A2.

20 We evaluate failures that are part of the
21 current licensing basis of the plant. And it may
22 require that we evaluate second, third, and fourth
23 level support systems. So it may not be just primary
24 systems that we evaluate.

25 Structures, systems, and components relied

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1 on, in safety analysis or plant evaluations to perform
2 a function that demonstrates compliance with
3 regulations in 10CFR54.4 A3.

4 These would be SSCs that are in fire
5 protection, environmental qualification, pressurized
6 thermal shock, anticipated transients without SCRAM,
7 and station black-outs. Those are specifically
8 described in regulations that we evaluate.

9 The passive functions of these components
10 are functions that are made without moving parts, or
11 change in configuration, or properties, such as
12 buildings and supports.

13 They are long-lived SSCs, they are not
14 replaced on qualified life, or a specified time
15 period. Active components within the plant, pumps,
16 circuit breakers, those kinds of things, are
17 generically excluded from the review, because those
18 are part of the review that is being done on a daily
19 basis.

20 The staff's main objective, in this review
21 of license renewal, is to determine if the effects of
22 aging will be adequately managed by the Applicant.
23 The result of the Safety Review are documented in a
24 Safety Evaluation Report, which we refer to as an SER.

25 Since there were two applications that we

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1 received, one from Salem, one from Hope Creek, we will
2 produce two Safety Evaluation Reports.

3 The Safety Review, or the technical staff
4 reviews the Applicant's license renewal application,
5 and all of its supporting documentation, to determine
6 that the Applicant's methodology, to identify the
7 structures and components, within the scope of license
8 renewal, and subject to an aging management review.

9 To determine if the methodology has been
10 properly implemented, and to determine, with
11 reasonable assurance, if the effects of aging, for
12 certain SSCs will be adequately managed, or monitored,
13 by new and existing programs, and surveillance
14 activities.

15 The staff uses site audits, make visits to
16 the site to verify the technical basis of the license
17 renewal application, and to confirm that the
18 Applicant's aging management programs, and the
19 activities, conform with how they are described in the
20 application.

21 The staff documents the basis and the
22 conclusion of its review, in the Safety Evaluation
23 Report. Those Safety Evaluation Reports will be
24 publicly available, when they are completed.

25 In addition, a team of specialized

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1 inspectors will travel to the reactor site, from the
2 regional office, to verify that the aging management
3 programs are being implemented, modified, or planned
4 consistent with the license renewal application.

5 Finally, as I mentioned, the Advisory
6 Committee on Reactor Safeguards, the ACRS, performs
7 that independent review of the license renewal
8 application, the SER, and the inspection findings, and
9 makes that recommendation to the Commission, regarding
10 the proposed action to issue a renewed operating
11 license.

12 Only after all of those activities are
13 completed will the NRC make a decision on renewing the
14 operating licenses. The public will have several
15 opportunities to participate, and be heard, during the
16 license renewal process.

17 This slide lists three opportunities for
18 involvement through the safety track of the process.
19 And the fourth is this meeting today. In addition
20 there will be two ACRS meetings that would be open to
21 the public, and those are tentatively scheduled for
22 October of 2010, and the full Committee meeting in May
23 of 2011.

24 That concludes the safety side of this
25 presentation. And do you want to take questions now,

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1 Lance, on safety side, or wait?

2 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: I think we would
3 like to get through the presentation and then we are
4 going to pause, briefly, to see if there are any
5 clarifying questions. So I think we should move on to
6 Charles.

7 MR. ASHLEY: Thank you. Charles?

8 MR. ECCLESTON: As Donnie stated, my name
9 is Charles Eccleston, I'm the environmental project
10 manager for the Salem and Hope Creek license renewal
11 project.

12 I, quite often, give my presentations
13 without a microphone. So if I get too loud, or if I'm
14 not loud enough, please anybody feel free to raise
15 their hand and let me know.

16 NEPA is the National Environmental Policy
17 Act of 1969. And NEPA is noted for two basic
18 attributes. The first is that it establishes the
19 basic environmental charter, the basic environmental
20 policy for the entire United States.

21 In fact, it has been called the grand-
22 daddy of all modern environmental legislation.
23 Virtually every major environmental statute, and
24 regulation, followed on the footsteps of NEPA's
25 policy.

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1 Everything from clean air, to clean water,
2 to endangered species, TOSHKA, RECRA, SERCLA, this
3 endless array of acronyms that most of us can't
4 pronounce, those all followed on the wake of NEPA.

5 But NEPA is also important for one other
6 aspect. And that is it requires an EIS, or an
7 Environmental Impact Statement for all major federal
8 actions significantly affecting the quality of the
9 human environment.

10 And there is one other requirement, here,
11 and that is this, and it is quite important. It
12 requires an objective, inter-disciplinary and
13 systematic process be used --

14 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Charles, microphone?

15 MR. ECCLESTON: -- in preparing the EIS.

16 In other words, you need a structured
17 scientific process, an objective process, be used in
18 preparing the EIS.

19 Did I go backwards?

20 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Donnie, do you want
21 to give him a hand to --

22 MR. ASHLEY: Yes, I already know how to go
23 back.

24 MR. ECCLESTON: The EIS must rigorously
25 investigate the environmental impacts of license

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1 renewal project, and the alternatives.

2 The purpose of the EIS is to inform
3 federal decision-makers, and to publicly disclose the
4 impacts of the proposal, and the reasonable
5 alternatives. And that includes the alternative of
6 no-action. In this case the alternative of no-action
7 involves denial of license extension.

8 Again, as Donnie said earlier, NRC's
9 environmental regulations can be found at 10CFR Part
10 51.

11 What I wanted to do here was give you a
12 basic outline, and an idea of how the entire EIS
13 process works. Pay special note to the boxes that are
14 in yellow over here.

15 This is a simplified process. There are a
16 lot more boxes that go into it. This, basically,
17 shows the overall process of what we will be doing
18 over the course of this license renewal project.

19 The EIS begins with an issuance of a
20 Notice of Intent, or an NOI. The NOI is published in
21 the Federal Register. And it basically announces that
22 a federal agency plans to prepare an EIS.

23 That step has already taken place. The
24 NRC published, in the Federal Register, a notice
25 indicating that we intend to prepare an EIS for the

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1 Salem Hope Creek license renewal project.

2 Once you get past the NOI stage, you go
3 into a public scoping process. And that includes a
4 public scoping meeting. And that is what we are doing
5 here today. We are at the public scoping meeting.

6 The purpose of this meeting is to solicit
7 input and comments regarding the scope of EIS. So we
8 are going to take the information we get from the
9 public, we are going to feed that in, and we are going
10 to use that to help determine the scope of the EIS
11 that we prepare.

12 We will be preparing a Draft Environmental
13 Impact Statement, in this case it is an SEIS, or a
14 supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, but just
15 to simplify it, I'm going to call it an EIS, okay?

16 Once the draft EIS is prepared, we then
17 take that EIS and we publicly issue it to the public,
18 and we again ask the public for comments and input
19 regarding that draft EIS.

20 Anything that we obtain from the public,
21 in terms of comments, or issues, or concerns, we
22 consider and then we use those to revise the draft
23 EIS, and we prepare a final EIS.

24 Once the final EIS is prepared, we then
25 prepare, then we publicly issue that final EIS.

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1 Again, it goes out the public, the public has an
2 opportunity to review it, and once that step is
3 completed, and only at that step, does the federal
4 agency, in this case the NRC Commission, issue what is
5 known as an ROD, or Record of Decision.

6 The Record of Decision documents the NRC's
7 Commission decision with respect to license renewal.
8 And then only after that point can any action be taken
9 with respect to licensing the Salem Hope Creek
10 reactors, or possibly denying the license, or even
11 pursuing some kind of reasonable alternative.

12 But, again, the yellow boxes there show
13 you the steps, where you have an opportunity to
14 prevent, or to provide comments, or be engaged in the
15 public process.

16 Now, again, I want to emphasize that the
17 purpose of this public scoping meeting that we are
18 having today, is to solicit public input and comments
19 regarding the scope of the EIS.

20 It is not to make a decision regarding the
21 proposed action which is license renewal. Again, the
22 EIS will assist the NRC in reaching a final decision
23 regarding the license renewal application.

24 This brings us to the scoping process.
25 Specifically, what are we looking at, at this scoping

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1 process, and this scoping meeting right now.

2 We are looking for the scope of actions
3 that should be considered in the EIS. What types of
4 actions should that EIS be evaluating, and addressing?

5 In addition to that we are looking at the
6 potentially significant impacts, environmental impact,
7 and environmental issues, that you think are important
8 that that EIS needs to address.

9 And the third thing is the alternatives.
10 What are the reasonable alternatives that you think
11 should be evaluated. Because one of the requirements
12 of an EIS is to look at reasonable alternatives, and
13 to evaluate the impacts, and compare those impacts
14 with the impacts of the proposed action, which in this
15 case is license renewal.

16 Now, what does the EIS evaluate? Well,
17 take a look at the left side here. It looks at a host
18 of different impacts on resources. Everything from
19 fish, and wildlife impacts, to water resource impacts,
20 historical and cultural resource impacts, socio-
21 economic impacts.

22 Impacts such as impacts to taxes,
23 community development, what about impacts to your
24 infrastructure, environmental justice impacts. We
25 also look at human health impacts.

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1 We will be looking at impacts to land use.
2 It will be a host of impacts. And some of it will
3 drive what we evaluate will come from the comments
4 that we receive from the scoping meeting, and the
5 scoping process in general.

6 Now, that leads to the question, how is a
7 decision made? If you look up at the very top here,
8 we have the public scoping comments. That is what we
9 are doing right here today.

10 We are trying to obtain public input,
11 trying to determine what you think is important, that
12 will feed into a supplemental Environmental Impact
13 Statement, which we will prepare.

14 And when that EIS is complete, it will
15 feed into the license renewal decision. It will feed
16 into the license renewal decision process. But note
17 that that is not the only thing that feeds into the
18 decision-making process.

19 There are other things as well. We have
20 detailed Safety Evaluation Report which Donnie, over
21 here, is responsible for. We will be conducting
22 regional inspections, we will have the license renewal
23 application.

24 There is also the Advisory Committee on
25 Reactor Safeguards, which Donnie had talked about

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1 briefly a few minutes ago. And they will provide an
2 independent review, and an independent recommendation
3 that will feed into the decision-making process.

4 And last, but not least, in some cases
5 there will be public hearings, and that will also feed
6 into the decision-making process. So it is a host of
7 factors.

8 But one of the very important factors, up
9 here, is the EIS process. So we are here to receive
10 input, comments, ideas, on what the scope of this EIS
11 should be.

12 I would like to just give you some
13 examples of what we are looking for. What is unique
14 about your community? What would you like to see in
15 the EIS that is unique about your community?

16 What are some of the local environmental
17 issues that should be examined? Do you have specific
18 concerns about environmental impacts, or environmental
19 issues? If so, let us know, we will do our best to
20 get those incorporated into the EIS.

21 Socio-economic interests are often quite
22 important to the local citizens. Things such as the
23 impacts on jobs, taxes, infrastructures, things of
24 that sort. Anything along those lines, those are
25 important things that can be feeding in to help

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1 determine the ultimate scope of the EIS.

2 And then last, but not least, the
3 reasonable alternatives. What types of alternatives
4 do you think should be addressed in the EIS? And I
5 will give you a good example of this.

6 I was the environmental project manager
7 for another license renewal project. I went to a
8 public scoping meeting. One of the gentlemen stood
9 up and went over a very lengthy detailed discussion.

10 And quite a bit of that had to do with
11 wind energy. He felt wind energy was a very important
12 alternative, and it needed to be given a lot of
13 consideration in the EIS.

14 We took his comment, we reviewed it, we
15 addressed it, we considered it. And, sure enough, if
16 we didn't develop an entire alternative right around
17 that wind energy alternative.

18 So I put that out just to show you that
19 whatever input or comments you are giving us we are
20 taking seriously, and that will help shape the final
21 EIS.

22 How can you provide input and comments?
23 In addition to the public scoping comments that we are
24 receiving here at the scoping meeting today, you can
25 provide comments by mail to the address up there, and

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1 that is in your handouts.

2 You can also provide comments by email,
3 and there are the two email addresses that you can
4 provide comments to. And, third of all, if you have a
5 lot of energy, you can go down to the NRC headquarters
6 and hand deliver them to the NRC headquarters.

7 So there are three very specific ways of
8 getting us the comments that you think are important.

9 This leads us to some important milestones. And,
10 again, this is in you packet. Some of the critical
11 milestones, but pay attention to the ones in yellow,
12 which are coming up.

13 The opportunity for a hearing ends on
14 December 22nd of this year. And, again, as I said
15 before, the scoping comments are due by December 22nd,
16 so keep that in mind.

17 Now, if you would like to contact either
18 Donnie or myself, our contact information is here, we
19 will be glad to talk to anybody that wants to contact
20 us, and get back to you with any concerns, or any
21 questions that you might have, there is our
22 information to contact us.

23 Documents, there are a number of documents
24 that are important. For example, the Applicant's
25 Environmental Report is on file. You can find it at

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1 the web address shown there on the bottom.

2 Hard copies are also on file at the Salem
3 Free Library, if you choose to look at a hard copy.
4 So there are documents there you can get, if you want
5 additional information on what is going on.

6 And let me bring you back to this one more
7 time, because that is the purpose of why we are here
8 today. What is unique about your community that you
9 want to see included in the EIS; what are the
10 significant impacts, or issues, positive or negative,
11 beneficial or adverse, that you want to see evaluated?

12 What are the socio-economic concerns that
13 you might have, again, positive or negative,
14 beneficial or adverse. And then, again, what are the
15 reasonable alternatives that you think are important,
16 that you think should be evaluated in the EIS.

17 So I just brought that back here, again,
18 because that is what we are doing here today, is
19 trying to get this type of information.

20 And, finally, I leave it with this slide
21 here. Again, these are the three different ways that
22 you can contact us and provide comments, and input to
23 the NRC regarding the scope of this EIS.

24 With that I will turn it over to Lance.

25 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Thanks, guys.

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1 Before we go ahead and start calling people up, to
2 give us their comments, I just wanted to pause,
3 briefly, to see if anyone had any clarifying comments
4 on the material that Donnie and Charles went over.

5 We don't want to make this kind of like an
6 open dialogue about various issues, again, because we
7 want to focus the meeting on listening to your
8 comments, and give you a chance to comment.

9 But just in case there was any material
10 that was covered, in that presentation, that there
11 might be a little confusion about, just raise your
12 hand, and I can bring you a microphone and, hopefully,
13 we can provide you with some clarity on that.

14 Any questions, right now?

15 (No response.)

16 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: If you do have a
17 question about anything that was covered in the
18 presentation, or anything else that falls under the
19 NRC's regulatory purview, grab one of us that has one
20 of these name tags on.

21 If we are not the person who can answer
22 the question, hopefully, we can find someone who can
23 speak to it for you. Or we can get you the
24 information back at a later date. So just keep in
25 mind that after the meeting is over we will be kind of

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1 hanging out.

2 So if you have any questions about
3 anything, let us know. We are trying to make this
4 meeting, again, as productive for you as possible. So
5 when you came in, a number of you filled out yellow
6 cards to let us know that you wanted to give comments
7 to.

8 What I would like to do now is to start
9 calling people up to take the podium, and give us your
10 comments on environmental scoping. Given the amount
11 of cards that I have, and the amount of time that we
12 have, I'm going to ask that you stick to about ten
13 minutes, or under, with your comments if that is
14 possible.

15 Depending on how things go we might allow
16 for a little bit more than that. But I would like to
17 give everybody who has expressed interest in speaking
18 a chance to get up here.

19 So holding it to about ten minutes, or
20 less, I think will help make sure that can happen.
21 Again, when you come up here, if you can identify
22 yourself, and any group you are with, that will make
23 sure that we understand who made a particular comment
24 on the transcript.

25 And I will try to give you a heads up as

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1 to what order I will be going in, giving you kind of
2 three-deep, if you will, before I bring you up.

3 And if you do decide that you want to make
4 a comment, and you didn't fill out a yellow form,
5 Butch has some blank ones, so he would be happy to
6 bring one over to you.

7 And, again, we ask that you fill it out
8 just, you know, for our sake, so we can have a good
9 record as to who spoke and to make sure, again, that
10 we get your name correctly on the transcript.

11 So I will go, again, calling three people
12 up, just to give you an idea. First I'd like to offer
13 the microphone to Lee Ware, a Freedholder Director of
14 County of Salem.

15 After Mr. Ware I'd like to go to Greg
16 Gross, from Delaware State Chamber of Commerce. And,
17 third, to Brian Duffey, Salem County Chamber of
18 Commerce. So, Mr. Ware, if you would like to come to
19 the microphone?

20 MR. WARE: Thank you, Lance. My name is
21 Lee Ware, Director of Salem County Freeholders Board,
22 starting my tenth year as a Freeholder. I'm a little
23 down today because my beloved Phillies went down.

24 And I guess it is only appropriate, since
25 I was a baseball coach, for 38 years, I will be the

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1 lead-off hitter here today, Lance.

2 I'm coming before you, today, to let you
3 know that PSEG Nuclear is a valuable asset to our
4 county. Not only are they great community partners,
5 but they are the county's largest employer.

6 They have been good neighbors, and good
7 partners. A majority of their employees are local
8 residents, who live in our community. PSEG takes a
9 very proactive role in developing positive
10 relationships with members of Salem County community.

11 Whether it is providing funding and
12 support to local community groups, or attending every
13 community event. A lot of members here can attest to
14 that. We see each other quite a bit.

15 They are always demonstrating their
16 commitment to Salem County's proud heritage and bright
17 future. We understand the hesitation of those within
18 and surrounding our county, towards PSEG Nuclear.

19 Their concerns regarding safety, and plant
20 performance, are valid. However, PSEG Nuclear has
21 consistently demonstrated its commitment to safety,
22 and excellence, through proper planning and
23 transparency.

24 As life-long residents of Salem County,
25 six miles as the crow flies from the reactors, I feel

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1 safe around the power plant, I have raised my children
2 here, and they still reside here.

3 We have seen no negative impact to our
4 environment, or community. I support PSEG Nuclear and
5 license renewal for the Salem and Hope Creek stations.

6 Their continued success is our success. Thank you.

7 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Thank you. Just to
8 let you know, if you do have a written statement, that
9 you have brought with you today or if, in fact, you
10 write one down while you are here today, if you will
11 hand that to me, we will have that included as part of
12 the transcript.

13 So that can be something that you come up
14 and read and, also, you submit. Or it can be an
15 individual statement as well. Again, we can take
16 those and have those incorporated into the transcript
17 for today's meeting.

18 So I just wanted to remind you that that
19 is possible. Let's go with Greg Gross, from the
20 Delaware State Chamber of Commerce, then to Brian
21 Duffey, Salem County Chamber of Commerce, and third,
22 Fred Stein, Delaware Riverkeeper.

23 MR. GROSS: Good afternoon. I'm Greg
24 Gross, I'm director of government affairs with the
25 Delaware State Chamber of Commerce, and we represent

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1 about 1,700 plus members of the business and corporate
2 communities in the Delaware, throughout Delaware.

3 And when I was invited, and I want to
4 thank you for the opportunity to come here and speak
5 in support of one of our most valued partners. And,
6 quite frankly, when I was invited to come speak in
7 support, I knew about it, I wasn't totally educated
8 about it, but I took a few minutes yesterday, and
9 educated myself about what it means to the Delaware
10 community.

11 I didn't realize that we have about in
12 excess of three hundred employees, from Delaware, that
13 come across that bridge each day. But it is not just
14 about the 300 folks that come across that bridge, it
15 is also about the families they support.

16 About the economic structure in our
17 community that it supports. And also, too, I took a
18 few minutes to query a few of our elected officials
19 that are very involved, and plugged into the
20 environmental community and said, you know what, Greg?

21 We don't worry about them, we don't worry, because
22 they are safe, because they have gone that extra mile
23 to be safe.

24 If there is something there that they know
25 may be troublesome, they address it before it happens.

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1 So that means something. I said, we don't worry.

2 There always will be, I'm sure,
3 apprehensions to what goes on, and there always will
4 be fear, I'm sure. But as each year goes by I'm sure
5 that that fear will slowly dissipate as things often
6 do, with such things of this nature.

7 But we are happy that we do have such a
8 strong partner involved in every facet of our
9 community in Delaware. As I said, I didn't realize
10 how much, until I went back and I looked over some
11 things.

12 And I was saying, wow, I mean it is just
13 incredible what a strong partner. And when you are
14 going down the years of 2016, I think the other one
15 was 2026, I don't know if I will be around in 2026.

16 I'm hoping I will be around in 2026. But
17 I hope that I am, and I hope I am back even more
18 educated, and being able to speak more passionately
19 about what I believe is the great work that is done.

20 And, most importantly, the safety and just
21 preparing for what we are going to be facing in the
22 years, as far as what we are going to need for our
23 energy, and our needs. It doesn't get any easier.

24 And, Lord knows, the need doesn't get any
25 smaller, it gets even larger. So with that said, you

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1 know, we give our total support in any way we possibly
2 can, whether we -- whether in a letter, from our
3 President, or any folks that are needed, within our
4 community there, please don't hesitate to let us know.

5 Thank you, again, for allowing me to take
6 a few minutes of your time to be here with you today,
7 and I look forward to hearing additional comments,
8 thank you.

9 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Let's go to Brian
10 Duffey, then to Fred Stein and, third, to Charles
11 Hassler, IBEW Local Union 94.

12 MR. DUFFEY: Good afternoon. I'm the
13 current vice-chair, and the 2010 incoming chair of the
14 Salem County Chamber of Commerce.

15 Approximately 400 businesses and community
16 organizations are members of the Salem County Chamber
17 of Commerce, and this includes PSEG Nuclear, who is a
18 long-time member.

19 On behalf of the Chamber, I would like the
20 NRC to know that PSEG Nuclear plays a leading role in
21 our community. They have supported the Chamber's
22 efforts to build relationships, within the community,
23 and to make Salem County a premier place to live,
24 work, and conduct business.

25 They purchase goods and services from

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1 dozens of local businesses, and Chamber members, and
2 with our support they are helping to drive the local
3 economy.

4 Earlier this year PSEG Nuclear, hosted the
5 Chamber Board of Directors for a tour of the Salem and
6 Hope Creek facilities. It became very clear, to the
7 Board of Directors that PSEG operates in a culture of
8 safety and security.

9 That visit also reinforced the Board's
10 belief that PSEG Nuclear operations provide a safe and
11 clean source of energy. We also believe that nuclear
12 power can help to combat climate change, and that
13 PSEG's operations will continue to play a positive
14 role in Salem County's future.

15 Without these plants hundreds of people
16 would be left without jobs, dozens of local businesses
17 would struggle, and our local economy would suffer a
18 great loss.

19 The Salem County Chamber of Commerce
20 supports PSEG Nuclear, and its plans for license
21 renewal, for an additional 20 years of operation for
22 Salem and Hope Creek. Thank you for your time.

23 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Let's go to Fred
24 Stein, then Charles Hassler and, third, to Carl
25 Fricker, PSEG Nuclear.

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1 MR. STEIN: Thank you very much. My name
2 is Fred Stein, I work with the Delaware Riverkeeper
3 Network, it is a non-profit environmental advocacy
4 organization.

5 I would like to thank the NRC for the
6 opportunity to speak to the license renewal
7 application submitted by PSEG and Exelon. We
8 understand the purpose of today's meeting, of the dual
9 meetings, today, is to discuss the process around the
10 license renewal and the requisite EIS scoping.

11 And I will speak directly to that. But,
12 first, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network wants to
13 reaffirm our long-standing position, and call to
14 convert the Salem generating station to a closed cycle
15 cooling system, as mandated by the Section 316(b) of
16 the Clean Water Act.

17 The Act states that generating plants,
18 such as Salem, shall be required that the location,
19 design, construction, and capacity of cooling water
20 intake structures reflect the best technology
21 available for minimizing the adverse environmental
22 impacts.

23 The application before the NRC does not
24 call for the compliance of the Clean Water Act, as it
25 relates to the best technology available. And it

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1 should.

2 According to our study, conducted by New
3 Jersey DEP hired expert in 1989, as well as
4 experiences at other facilities, installations of a
5 closed cycle cooling towers, at Salem, would reduce
6 the fish kills from the Delaware river by 95 percent.

7 And dry cooling systems, at Salem, would
8 reduce it even further, to 99 percent. Speaking now,
9 directly to the Environmental Impact Study, the
10 Delaware Riverkeeper Network calls on NRC, and other
11 reviewing agencies, to hold the Applicant to the
12 highest scientific and regulatory standards as they
13 prepare the EIS.

14 Previous permits issued to PSEG were based
15 on data that were found to be faulty, misleading,
16 biased, and incomplete. In 1999, for instance, when
17 the data and arguments to support its case, that it
18 should be allowed to continue to kill the Delaware
19 River fish unimpeded.

20 Every year the Salem Nuclear Power Plant
21 kills over three billion fish in the Delaware River.
22 That includes over 59 million blue-backed herring, 77
23 million weak fish, over 134 million arctic croakers,
24 over 412 million white perch, over 448 million striped
25 bass, and over 2 billion bay anchovies.

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1 Even DEP's own experts agree that PSEG's
2 assertions were not credible, and were not backed by
3 the data and studies PSEG had presented. In fact,
4 according to an ESSA Consultant hired by New Jersey
5 DEP, PSEG had greatly underestimated its impact on the
6 Delaware river fish resources.

7 According to ESSA, PSEG underestimated
8 biomass loss from the ecosystem by, perhaps, as many
9 as two-fold. And the actual total biomass of fish
10 loss to the ecosystem is at least 2.2 times greater
11 than was listed by PSE&G.

12 ESSA technologies' 154 page review of
13 PSE&G's permit application, documented ongoing
14 problems with PSE&G's assertions and findings,
15 including biased, misleading conclusions, data gaps,
16 inaccuracies and misrepresentation of their findings
17 and damage.

18 Some of the examples of the EESA findings
19 were with regards to the fisheries data and population
20 trends, ESSA said the conclusions of the analysis
21 generally overextended the data or results.

22 PSE&G underestimated biomass loss from the
23 ecosystem by, perhaps, as many as two-fold.
24 Inconsistency in the use of terminology, poorly
25 defined terms and tendency to draw conclusions that

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1 are not supported by the information presented detract
2 from the rigor of this section and raises skepticism
3 about the results.

4 In particular there is a tendency to draw
5 subjective and unsupported conclusions about the
6 importance of Salem's impact on the fish species in
7 the river.

8 And, finally, referring to PSE&G's
9 discussions, and presentations of entrainment,
10 mortality rates, ESSA found PSE&G's discussion in this
11 section of the application, to be misleading.

12 The ESSA report contained no less than 51
13 recommendations for actions which PSE&G needed to
14 take, on its 2001 permit application before DEP. But
15 that didn't happen, none of those happened.

16 It is our understanding that while DEP
17 pursued some of these, many of them were never
18 addressed, and still others were turned into permanent
19 requirements to deal with over the next permit cycle.

20 In addition to ESSA recommendations, New
21 Jersey DEP received comment from the State of
22 Delaware, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services,
23 both of whom conducted independent expert review of
24 the permit application materials.

25 And found important problems with

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1 sampling, data analysis, and conclusions. While we
2 are urging you today, NRC, while we are urging you
3 today to hold PSE&G as they go through this EIS
4 process, to the highest standards, I want to reinforce
5 our belief that I started my comment with, that -- I'm
6 sorry, I jumped ahead.

7 I conclude by restating the fact that
8 because Salem is clearly having an adverse
9 environmental impact on the living resources of the
10 Delaware river, and estuary, regarding PSE&G, we
11 encourage you to hold them to the highest standards
12 possible. I'm sorry, I lost my place here.

13 We feel that it is important that, through
14 the EIS process, that the data that PSE&G and its
15 consultants bring to you, is complete, and unbiased,
16 and that it is thoroughly looked at by the NRC, and it
17 will be by the general public, too.

18 In a Philadelphia Enquirer editorial
19 today, there was an article about nuclear energy,
20 talking about that the NRC believes that it is the
21 most regulated industry, and the most regulated
22 government agency. And it should be.

23 And we hope that those regulations are
24 there to protect the natural resources of the river
25 and that we, again, hold PSE&G as they go through this

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1 process, to the highest standards possible. Thank you
2 very much.

3 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Thank you, sir.
4 Let's go to Charles Hassler, then Carl Friker, and
5 third to Dr. Peter Conti, from Salem County College.

6 MR. HASSLER: Good afternoon. My name is
7 Charlie Hassler, and I came here to speak in support
8 of the PSE&G licensing for the Salem and Hope Creek
9 units.

10 I'm a lifelong-resident of Salem City, and
11 I work down at the Salem Hope Creek nuclear facility
12 for the past approximately 34 years. I'm currently a
13 business agent for the International Brotherhood of
14 Electrical Workers, Local Union 94, which represents
15 the organized labor who are employed permanently at
16 the facility.

17 Additionally I'm a member of the New
18 Jersey IBEW, the umbrella organization, with about
19 35,000 members. New Jersey IBEW is also on record as
20 supporting the relicensing efforts of the Salem and
21 Hope Creek stations.

22 Our support is based upon understanding of
23 how the NRC proceeds with the relicensing effort. It
24 is an informed rational support, and comes only with
25 our belief that the safety of our members, and the

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1 public at large, will be assured by the continued
2 operation of these plants.

3 The three units have been operating at
4 capacity of about 90 to 95 percent in the past several
5 years. Prior to the outages now in progress at Salem
6 unit 2, that unit ran for 515 consecutive days at a
7 capacity factor of one hundred percent.

8 This type of performance can only be
9 achieved through diligent processes, procedural
10 adherence, while maintaining and operating the plants.

11 The personal standards of all workers are
12 very high. What other industry has improved the
13 standards and operating capacities the way it has been
14 done in nuclear? This is truly the most watched, from
15 the outside, and scrutinized from within.

16 The Institute of Nuclear Power Operators,
17 The Nuclear Management and Resource Council, and the
18 NRC itself, does more internal evaluations than to
19 groups in any other industry.

20 This is an industry that if you are not
21 bumping the top quartile in performance, you had
22 better have a better plan, or you are in trouble. The
23 output of the three stations supplies New Jersey with
24 about 52 percent of its electric needs.

25 Producing this electricity is done without

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1 creating green house gases, which is an important and
2 critical component to this discussion, given the
3 global warming situation.

4 Without these plants, the reliability of
5 the electric delivery to meet demand would be put at
6 risk. Next, American's reliance on foreign energy
7 imports continues to stress our economy, costing
8 Americans jobs, and putting the middle class, itself,
9 at risk.

10 A sound energy policy is our nation's best
11 interest, and nuclear energy must play an important
12 role in that policy. Finally, we must all recognize,
13 that license renewal does not come open-ended, without
14 ongoing monitoring.

15 Safety and performance standards, just as
16 they are today, will continue for the entirety of the
17 time the plant operates. If the plant falls below the
18 acceptable standards, myself and the members of my
19 union, will be the first to speak out.

20 If a major issue, safety-wise arises in
21 the future, you can all rest assured that the NRC has
22 the ultimate power to come in, take away the keys,
23 shut the doors, and close the plant down.

24 Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

25 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Carl Fricker from

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1 PSE&G Nuclear, then Dr. Contini, and third to David
2 Bailey, JR., from Ranch Hope.

3 MR. FRICKER: Good afternoon, and thank
4 you for giving me the opportunity to make a comment
5 regarding the license renewal application of Salem and
6 Hope Creek.

7 My name is Carl Fricker, and I'm the vice
8 president of operations and support for PSE&G Nuclear,
9 and I am part of the leadership team that is
10 responsible for the safe and reliable operation of our
11 plants.

12 I have over 25 years of both military and
13 commercial nuclear power plant experience. And I have
14 worked at PSE&G Nuclear for the past 14 years. I have
15 had positions in operations, maintenance, quality
16 assessment, and for the last four years, prior to my
17 current job, I was the plant manager at Salem.

18 At PSE&G we understand our obligation to
19 the local community, to the environment, to our
20 friends, families, and coworkers, to provide safe,
21 reliable, economic, and green energy.

22 In New Jersey over 50 percent of the
23 state's electricity comes from nuclear power. In fact
24 PSE&G Salem and Hope Creek Nuclear Plants, is the
25 second largest nuclear facility in the country.

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1 Each day those plants generate enough
2 electricity to supply three million homes. In
3 addition we are able to meet the region's energy needs
4 without emitting any green house gases.

5 Today nuclear power produces over 70
6 percent of our nation's carbon-free electricity. We
7 take great pride in that and recognize our important
8 role in fighting climate change now and in the future.

9 As you hear earlier, our current operating
10 licenses expire in 2016 for Salem unit 1, 2020 for
11 Salem unit 2, and 2026 for Hope Creek. In 2006 we
12 made the decision to pursue license renewal.

13 We formed a dedicated team that worked for
14 over two and a half years, or about 122,000 person
15 hours, to prepare our application. That was about
16 4,000 pages of application.

17 This review involved a review of thousands
18 of documents, a detailed review of our equipment, and
19 component performance, and a rigorous review of the
20 existing maintenance and engineering programs, to
21 ensure that Salem and Hope Creek will safely operate
22 for an additional 20 years.

23 Over the past 10 years we have invested
24 over 1.2 billion dollars in our plants, including last
25 year's steam generator replacements at Salem unit 2,

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1 and the various upgrades that supported Hope Creek's
2 extended power uprate.

3 As part of license renewal we also
4 reviewed any environmental impacts that, by continuing
5 to operate, the Salem and Hope Creek nuclear plants
6 for 20 years, would cause.

7 We consider ourselves environmental
8 stewards, and since this is an environmental scoping
9 meeting, I want to touch on this subject.

10 In addition to producing no green house
11 gases, PSE&G has no adverse radiological impacts on
12 our environment. The NRC requires PSE&G Nuclear, and
13 all U.S. nuclear plants, to maintain an environmental
14 monitoring program, to monitor local radiation levels.

15 Annually we perform over 1,200 analysis on
16 over 850 environmental samples, including air, water,
17 soil, and food products like milk, and farm crops.
18 All analyses samples are cross-checked with other
19 laboratories to ensure precision and accuracy.

20 We are also closely monitored by the New
21 Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Bureau
22 of Nuclear Engineering. The Bureau of Nuclear
23 Engineering independently monitors the local
24 environmental around PSE&G Nuclear, through a remote
25 monitoring system that provides real time readings.

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1 The sampling and monitoring has shown that
2 there is no adverse impact to the environment. We are
3 also proud stewards of the Delaware river and estuary,
4 through our estuary enhancement program.

5 This program involves ongoing restoration,
6 enhancement, and preservation of more than 20,000
7 acres of degraded salt marsh, and adjacent uplands
8 within the estuary.

9 The estuary enhancement program is the
10 largest privately funded wetlands restoration project
11 in the country. More importantly, it was created with
12 extensive public participation, and open communication
13 with regulatory agencies and the public.

14 As a result all the estuary enhancement
15 program sites are open to the public, and offer
16 boardwalks, nature trails, outdoor education, and
17 classroom facilities.

18 Studies show that the overall health of
19 the estuary continues to improve. In addition,
20 analysis of long-term fish populations in the estuary
21 show that, in most cases, the populations are stable
22 or increasing.

23 And that fish population trends are
24 similar through the other areas along the coast. We
25 also recognize our important role and impact to the

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1 local community.

2 PSE&G Nuclear is Salem County's largest
3 employer with over 1,500 employees. Some members of
4 our workforce, as with all companies, are preparing to
5 retire in the next few years.

6 As such we have looked to partner with
7 local communities, with our local community, to meet
8 our needs to providing good paying local jobs. We
9 have launched innovative partnerships with the Salem
10 County Community College, and the Salem County
11 Vocational Technical schools, to develop specialized
12 training programs.

13 Both have been overwhelmingly successful,
14 and will lead to a skilled workforce that will only
15 strengthen the local economy. In Salem County we
16 provide more than 1.4 million dollars, each year, to
17 the local economy through local property taxes.

18 This funding is vital to supporting local
19 schools and projects. From an economic development
20 point of view, we have also helped to drive the local
21 economic development through projects like
22 revitalization of downtown Salem, and the construction
23 of the Gateway Business Park in Oldmans Township.

24 We are also active partners in the Salem
25 Main Street Program, and the Salem County Chamber of

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1 Commerce. Our support also goes well beyond dollars.
2 Many of our employees are active participants and
3 supporters within the local community.

4 In addition to being a good neighbor,
5 being transparent is an important aspect of building
6 trust. We are fortunate to have an excellent
7 relationship with our local stakeholders, and that is
8 not something we take for granted.

9 With them there is no surprises. We are
10 proactive and engage them when challenges arise, so
11 that they have an understanding of the challenges and
12 have their questions answered.

13 This year we have provided more than 30
14 site tours for key stakeholder groups, close to 500
15 elected officials, educators, students, community and
16 trade groups, have been given an inside look at PSE&G
17 Nuclear.

18 What better way to answer their questions
19 than to let people see, first-hand, the important role
20 of nuclear power. By the end of this year we will
21 also open the doors to our new energy and
22 environmental resource center, that is housed at our
23 old training center, on Chestnut Street in Salem.

24 This new information center will be used
25 as an interactive display to educate the public about

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1 climate change, and the various ways we can all have a
2 positive impact on our environment.

3 The center will be open to groups for
4 tours, and provide meeting spaces for local
5 organizations. In closing, PSE&G Nuclear looks
6 forward to working with the NRC, and the public, as
7 you review our license renewal application.

8 We have worked hard to provide safe,
9 reliable, economic, and green energy for the past 30
10 years, and look forward to the opportunity to build on
11 this success in the future. Thank you.

12 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: I would like to go
13 now to Dr. Peter Contini, from Salem Community
14 College, then David Bailey, Jr., and third to Kelly
15 Wichman, PSE&G Nuclear.

16 DR. CONTINI: Good afternoon, thank you.
17 I am Dr. Peter Contini, president of Salem Community
18 College, a position that I have held for the past 12
19 years.

20 And in that capacity I'm here to
21 acknowledge the support of the college for the license
22 renewal of PSE&G for Salem 1 and 2, as well as Hope
23 Creek.

24 We base that on our knowledge and
25 experience. And you have already heard that PSE&G

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1 Nuclear is certainly well regarded as a corporate
2 leader in our county.

3 Certainly through their community
4 leadership, both participating on groups, and
5 supporting groups, they have directly affected the
6 quality of life in our county.

7 Additionally we have seen, first-hand, the
8 highly professional organization that they are,
9 focused on safety, and security. And, certainly,
10 generating a most valuable renewable energy source,
11 one that we think directly addresses New Jersey's
12 energy plan 2020, as well as the potential growth in
13 this county, and throughout the state.

14 We view them as, certainly, an economic
15 development and workforce driver. And we know, first-
16 hand, how that happens. You just heard Carl speak
17 about a wonderful opportunity that came about as a
18 result of that level of partnership.

19 We received, this past February, a 1.7
20 million dollar three year grant from the U.S.
21 Department of Labor, Community Based Job Training. It
22 has two focuses. One, nuclear energy and, two,
23 sustainable energy.

24 And the partners in that grant are PSE&G
25 Nuclear as well as Energy Freedom Pioneers, working

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1 very collaboratively with our vocational school, Ranch
2 Hope, Calgary Redevelopment, the New Jersey Department
3 of Labor as well as Workforce development and,
4 certainly, our one stop center.

5 Their support is not just verbal. Their
6 support is certainly implementing. And as you know,
7 and you heard Carl say, there is going to be a growing
8 need for employees, as certainly portions of the
9 workforce ages out, and we hope, also, the expansion
10 of opportunity in the future.

11 As a result we work collaboratively with
12 PSE&G Nuclear, in focusing on a particular area that
13 we think is of great need, an energy, nuclear energy
14 technician position.

15 We were able to couple with them, and
16 partner at the national level with the Nuclear Energy
17 Institute. And we were selected as one of six
18 community colleges, across the country, that are
19 working on standardizing the curriculum to ensure that
20 educational experience that our students have, will
21 not only prepare them, but certainly ensure safety and
22 security in the future in this field.

23 And you also heard about the center that
24 has been revitalized in Salem City. Well, I'm proud
25 to tell you that a portion of that center will be

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1 hosting a portion of our program.

2 And through a high tech classroom, as well
3 as laboratory facilities, our students will be working
4 with state of the art equipment. And, most
5 importantly, be supportive both in scholarships, as
6 well as internships.

7 So we see this as a real win-win.
8 Thinking about this, that we have only, in less than
9 one year, been able to implement this program, we now
10 have a fully accredited nuclear energy technician
11 program, technology program, what we refer to as NET,
12 we now have over 50 students in that program.

13 The corresponding program, Sustainable
14 Energy, is also working at about 20 students. We see
15 that balance, and PSE&G Nuclear sees that balance,
16 also. And they have been very collaborative in
17 working with Energy Freedom Pioneers, as we look for
18 other alternatives to energy in addition to nuclear.

19 These are important things, they are
20 important things for our community and, certainly, for
21 our students. But they also go beyond. Two years ago
22 we had an emergency in our Salem center, hosting our
23 one-stop career center. A fire, a fire that
24 immediately caused the dislocation of over 30 workers,
25 and 200 clients a day.

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1 Within two hours we had a commitment from
2 PSE&G Nuclear to relocate that entire program to the
3 former training center. And within two days we were
4 fully operational for the next four months.

5 It is an organization that understands
6 their role in the community, certainly puts safety and
7 security as a top priority. But, more importantly,
8 understand the value to our community.

9 And, for that reason, we fully support
10 their relicensing. Thank you.

11 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Let's go to David
12 Bailey, Jr., from Ranch Hope; Kelly Wichman from PSE&G
13 Nuclear and third to Jane, I believe, it is Nagaki,
14 from the New Jersey Environmental Federation.

15 MR. BAILEY: Good afternoon, my name is
16 David L. Bailey, Jr. I am the chief executive officer
17 of Ranch Hope, Incorporated. And, personally, I'm a
18 lifelong resident, growing up within minutes of the
19 Salem and Hope Creek in Alloway township, and now
20 raising my family here, as well.

21 Ranch Hope, Inc., is a 501C(3) non-profit
22 organization, founded in 1964. Again, our Alloway
23 headquarters are within minutes of the Salem and Hope
24 Creek facilities. Our mission is to provide
25 behavioral health care, educational, and adventure-

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1 based environments for children and families from
2 throughout the state of New Jersey, and within the
3 Delaware Valley.

4 Through its generosity and support of
5 local organizations, such as Ranch Hope, PSE&G Nuclear
6 has touched the lives of thousands of residents,
7 making our community a better place to live.

8 At Ranch Hope's Alloway campus PSE&G
9 Nuclear supports our efforts to create a green
10 community for children with treatment and educational
11 facilities, not only environmental responsible, but
12 energy efficient, and healthy for children and staff
13 to live and work.

14 This unique collaboration with PSEG
15 Nuclear not only focuses on changing the lives of
16 children and families, but also energy efficiency, two
17 topics you don't normally see together.

18 Just as importantly, PSEG Nuclear
19 demonstrates a level of transparency within our
20 community here in Salem County. Nuclear power
21 represents a mystique that many of us will never fully
22 understand.

23 However, PSEG Nuclear has taken the time
24 to keep the local community informed. Groups of key
25 stakeholders, which I was humbled to be one myself,

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1 including elected officials, educators, business and
2 community leaders, recently toured the Salem and Hope
3 Creek facilities, and we learned, first-hand, the
4 importance of nuclear power.

5 As someone who was fortunate enough to
6 visit these two generating stations, I feel even more
7 comfortable, having seen the safety and security
8 measures they take to provide us with clean, reliable
9 energy, on an every day basis.

10 This being the case, Ranch Hope, and the
11 families and the communities that we support, fully
12 support the license renewal applications for PSEG
13 Salem and Hope Creek nuclear facilities. Thank you.

14 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: If we could have
15 Kelly Wichman, from PSEG Nuclear, Jane Nagaki, and
16 then Roland Wall, Academy of Natural Science.

17 MS. WICHMAN: Hi, my name is Kelly
18 Wichman, and I'm an employee of PSEG Nuclear in the
19 nuclear fuels department. I'm a safety analysis
20 engineer, and this is my first full-time job.

21 Both my husband and I moved to Woodstown,
22 New Jersey, just down the road, from the midwest a
23 year and a half ago, to take positions at the Salem
24 and Hope Creek site, and we bought a house here, with
25 the intentions of staying for some time.

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1 I came here today because I believe that
2 Salem and Hope Creek should be granted operating
3 license extensions. I chose a position in the nuclear
4 industry because I think it has staying power.

5 I majored in engineering in college, with
6 the intention of coming into this industry. And, as I
7 progressed in my education, I found more and more
8 reasons why nuclear power is really a great option for
9 electricity production.

10 From an engineer's standpoint, nuclear
11 fuel is one of the most efficient fuels producing
12 thousands of times more energy than a chemical
13 reaction with the same amount of material. Say, for
14 example, coal, oil or gas.

15 In addition, the land footprint is small,
16 compared to other generating options which, to me,
17 makes nuclear power an obvious choice in a world where
18 finite resources are available.

19 My position at PSEG Nuclear has provided
20 me an opportunity to explore new parts of the country,
21 and I have taken advantage of living within a few
22 hours of so many cities.

23 I have also taken advantage of all the
24 career-related opportunities offered by my job. I
25 have joined two professional organizations, the North

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1 American Young Generation in Nuclear, and the American
2 Nuclear Society.

3 With Young Generation in Nuclear, I formed
4 relationships with more of my coworkers, attended
5 professional development conferences, participated in
6 charity drives, and taught kids in the area about
7 power generation at the Salem Votech.

8 With those organizations I have seen the
9 positive influence that the plants have on the area,
10 and on the people. I work there because I feel that
11 the opportunities are great, and I feel that I'm doing
12 something meaningful, by helping produce electricity
13 that everyone uses.

14 I believe the plant's continued operating
15 presence in the area will only be of benefit to the
16 community. Thanks.

17 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Let's go to Jane
18 Nagaki, from the New Jersey Environmental Federation,
19 and then to Roland Wall, Academy of Natural Science.
20 And I apologize if I'm slaughtering your name.

21 MS. NAGAKI: So my name is Jane Nagaki,
22 and I'm vice-chair of the New Jersey Environmental
23 Federation, which is the state's largest non-profit
24 environmental organization.

25 And we raise several environmental issues

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1 regarding the relicensing. First I would like to
2 support the comments of Fred Stein, from the
3 Riverkeeper.

4 And I won't repeat everything that he
5 said, but the Environmental Federation is, also, very
6 firmly committed to the idea that if the relicensing
7 goes forward, on Salem 1 and 2, that best available
8 technology should be applied at those plants, which
9 would be cooling towers to offset the millions of
10 gallons of water that cycle through that plant every
11 day.

12 There has been a lot of talk, today, about
13 how nuclear energy produces no air emissions. And,
14 generally, when we think about environmental impacts
15 we are thinking air, releases to the air, releases to
16 the water, releases to the land.

17 And while it is true that there may be no
18 air emissions, from the plant, there certainly is a
19 consumptive use of millions of gallons of water a day,
20 run through the cooling cycle, and then discharged
21 back into the Delaware Bay, with a concurrent loss, as
22 Fred mentioned of billions of fish per year, in all
23 stages of life, from larval stage, to small stage, to
24 large scale fish that are impinged on the once-through
25 cooling system.

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1 Which I have toured, by the way, and
2 witnessed the huge structure that takes through
3 millions of gallons of water a day.

4 So if there is one environmental issue
5 that I would like to highlight today, is the impact of
6 the Salem Nuclear Plant on water in the Delaware Bay,
7 and the concurrent fish and wildlife that that water,
8 the Delaware Bay supports.

9 We talked about nuclear energy as being a
10 major employer in this area, and I'm certainly
11 respectful of the workers that work there, that keep
12 the plant safe every day, and the niche in the
13 economy that it provides.

14 But there is, also, a huge other economy
15 in the Delaware Bay that is the fishing industry, that
16 is severely affected by the operation of this plant.

17 And so if I were to say the huge, the most
18 huge environmental impact of this plant, is the impact
19 of water, in that once through cooling system. That
20 needs to be addressed in the Environmental Impact
21 Statement.

22 As far as, you know, there is no radiation
23 produced at this plant, there is some radiation
24 produced at this plant. It meets limits, so called
25 acceptable limits.

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1 There is waste that is stored on-site.
2 And so another environmental issue, that the
3 Environmental Impact Statement should address, is how
4 much more waste is going to be generated and stored at
5 the plant, at those enclosures that currently keep all
6 the waste, ever produced at that plant, on the site
7 forever.

8 So waste production concurrent with the
9 relicensing is another very major environmental issue.

10 What is unique about our community? What is unique
11 about artificial island, is that it is an island that
12 was constructed of dredge spoil material.

13 It is not an island that existed before
14 the geology of the time. So one of the concerns,
15 environmental concerns would be how stable is the
16 structure of the island to support this plant for
17 another 20 years. Or three plants, actually.

18 I think that issue will be addressed, more
19 specifically, tonight by another environmental group.

20 What is the effect of sea level rise? We talked
21 about global warming and how nuclear power doesn't
22 produce the kinds of emissions that contribute to
23 global warming.

24 But there is global warming going on, and
25 there is sea level rise. What is the effect of sea

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1 level rise on the plant's artificial island? You
2 know, is the island going to be inundated with water,
3 how much over the next few years?

4 Does more infrastructure need to be built
5 there to support the plant? We know that salt water,
6 and the effects of the salinity of the bay have
7 contributed to the rusting out of parts of the plant.

8 We know that there has been extensive
9 replacement of structures, and underground piping at
10 the plant. And that is both, you know, that is an
11 environmental impact, the salinity of the area, on the
12 integrity of the structure of the plant.

13 And that is an environmental issue that
14 needs to be integrated into the safety and the aging
15 issues of the plant.

16 Let's see. So going back to another
17 impact, and the result of the Salem 1 and 2 plants,
18 not having cooling towers is that PSEG Nuclear entered
19 into a very large estuary enhancement program, which
20 was referred to earlier, preserving 20,000 acres of
21 wetlands.

22 And I would be remiss if I didn't mention
23 a concern that environmental groups raised at the
24 beginning of the restoration project, because many of
25 the acres of wetlands were restored simply by

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1 breaching dikes of old salt hay farms, and allowing
2 inundation of phragmites by salt water.

3 And thus controlling the phragmites, and
4 growing a more beneficial kind of vegetation, called
5 Spartana. But there are acres and acres of
6 phragmites, you know what they are, the tall waiving
7 foxtails, as they are often called, which were
8 considered nuisance vegetation, or not favorable
9 vegetation in the wetland restoration.

10 And so in order to control that
11 phragmites, massive aerial herbicide event took place
12 starting in 1995 and '96, over 2000 acres were really
13 sprayed with a pesticide called Glyphosate. And it
14 was thought that one, maybe two applications of that
15 herbicide would take care of the problem.

16 But, to this day, in the year 2009, and
17 continuing on until at least 2013, annual applications
18 by herbicide by aircraft are made to wetlands, as part
19 of this project.

20 The acreage is down now, to around 120
21 acre realm. But it has been as high as thousands of
22 pounds of a year. And so one of the environmental
23 issue raised by this is, is there going to be
24 continued applications of an herbicide, in wetland
25 areas, as part of this restoration project, which was

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1 meant to offset the impacts caused by the lack of
2 cooling towers.

3 The reason we are concerned about this
4 application of herbicides is that it actually
5 triggered an increase in the use of this herbicide,
6 state-wide.

7 PSEG kind of became the model for how to
8 restore wetlands. And so many other wetland
9 restoration projects began utilizing this methodology.

10 And the result has been a nine-fold increase in the
11 use of Glyphosate in the state of New Jersey.

12 And so while the use at this particular
13 Alloways creek area is decreasing, not over yet, but
14 still decreasing, the increase in the use, state-wide,
15 is of concern because as you know pesticides generally
16 have a habit of infiltrating our groundwater and
17 surface water.

18 They become part of our drinking water,
19 part of our surface water. And the effects of this
20 herbicide has been linked to cancer effects, birth
21 defect effects, effects on fish, insect populations,
22 and so forth.

23 So we certainly raise this as an issue
24 that needs to be addressed, because nobody has really
25 looked at the cumulative impact of this year, after

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1 year application of herbicide to control a nuisance
2 plant, all in the name of restoring wetlands.

3 So I think that is the extent of the
4 issues I wanted to raise today. But I do want to say
5 that some of the safety concerns, and environmental
6 concerns, are related mainly to this issue of the
7 aging of the plant, the salinity, the lack of a firm
8 under-structure to the plant, all make the plant more
9 vulnerable to failures of structure that could lead to
10 an environmental release of radiation, which is the
11 ultimate disaster that everybody fears at this plant.

12 And so while the radiation leakage issue,
13 and emissions issue, is not a day to day concern, you
14 know, when the plant is operating optimally, if there
15 isn't an aggressive strategy for preventive
16 maintenance, that not just waits for something to
17 happen, and then addresses it, but actually
18 anticipates and replaces structures as they age,
19 before they age.

20 This vulnerability will continue, you
21 know, to be of great concern. That concludes my
22 remarks, thank you.

23 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Thank you very much
24 for your comments. The last card that I have, someone
25 who signed up to speak, is Roland Wall, from the

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1 Academy of Natural Science.

2 After Mr. Wall has taken his time, we will
3 open it up to see if anybody else has any comments.

4 MR. WALL: Good afternoon, I'm Roland
5 Wall, I'm the Director for the Center for
6 Environmental Policy at the Academy of Natural
7 Sciences in Philadelphia.

8 On behalf of the Academy, I appreciate the
9 opportunity to comment, specifically, on the
10 environmental protection and restoration demonstrated
11 in PSEG's estuary enhancement program.

12 Just a little context as to why the
13 Philadelphia Museum is down here making these comments
14 today. The Academy of Natural Sciences is the oldest
15 natural history museum in North America but has also
16 been engaged, for over 60 years, in research on
17 ecological sciences, particularly on understanding
18 human impacts on aquatic and estuarian systems.

19 It is in that role that we have had
20 extensive research on the physical and biological
21 characteristics of the Delaware estuary, including
22 components of the estuary enhancement program.

23 My comments today are based on
24 observations of Academy scientists, particularly those
25 of our senior fishery scientist, Dr. Rich Horowitz,

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1 who is unable to be here today.

2 The estuary enhancement program began in
3 1994. And, since that time, has been a large scale
4 effort to restore and preserve portions of the
5 Delaware estuary, in both New Jersey and Delaware,
6 encompassing more than 32 square miles, as you heard
7 earlier, it is the nation's largest privately-funded
8 wetlands restoration project.

9 Restoration efforts have included the goal
10 of replacing former salt hay farms, as you heard. And
11 also to remove marshes that are dominated by the
12 invasive phragmites, with saltcord grass dominated
13 marsh.

14 This has required a substantial effort to
15 control phragmites, and to change drainage patterns to
16 foster topography and tidal flow typical of Delaware
17 Bay salt marshes.

18 The Academy has studied many of these
19 sites, prior to restoration and a number of them
20 following restoration. Yes, the enhancement program
21 has been successful in restoring typical salt marsh
22 conditions at these sites, with most sites being
23 targets for reduction of phragmites, and establishment
24 of salt cordgrass.

25 At the remainder of sites where goals have

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1 been partially met, the estuary enhancement program
2 continues to work to further improve marsh conditions.

3 The EP has also preserved open space, as
4 at the bayside track. Among other improvements at the
5 restored sites, tidal flow and development of tidal
6 channels have increased, allowing for re-colonization
7 of salt cordgrass and other species.

8 The restored marshes support large numbers
9 of targeted fish species, as well as number of other
10 fishes and invertebrates. These populations continue
11 to -- excuse me, contribute to bay productivity, most
12 notably, at the salt hay farms.

13 The restoration sites also provide
14 important habitat for terrapins, birds, and mammals,
15 and several of the sites are now part of New Jersey's
16 Audubon designated important bird areas.

17 In addition to ecological restoration, the
18 enhancement program has developed increased
19 opportunities for human use and experience, to
20 interact with the estuary.

21 Public use areas were designed to meet the
22 general education, public access, and ecotourism
23 interest of each community hosting an EEP site.

24 This has included improved access to many
25 of the sites by land and water, with boat access and

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1 parking areas, in turn, supporting extensive
2 recreational activities.

3 The public use areas have become important
4 settings for numerous formal and informal educational
5 programs. The restored areas have also become
6 significant research sites, and research by EEP, and
7 other organizations, including the Academy, has
8 advanced our knowledge of tidal marsh ecology.

9 The basic restoration activities,
10 particularly controlling phragmites and fostering
11 development of tidal marsh topography and hydrology,
12 have advanced the field of ecological restoration.

13 The ecological engineering technique of
14 forming primary channels, and then using estuarian
15 processes to further develop channels and topography,
16 is especially notable.

17 And in that way the estuarian enhancement
18 program does provide an important model for marshland
19 restoration. PSEG has also installed fish passage
20 structures at dams in Delaware and New Jersey.

21 These fish ladders have established river
22 herring spawning in nursery areas, and several
23 impoundments, increasing bay-wide populations of these
24 species.

25 PSEG has continued to conduct monitoring

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1 programs of Delaware fish populations, which greatly
2 increase our knowledge of Delaware Bay fisheries.

3 To conclude, the Academy would like to
4 commend PSEG on its demonstrated initiative, and long-
5 term commitment to restoring the critical wetlands of
6 the Delaware estuary.

7 The estuary enhancement program has had
8 numerous positive impacts on the ecology and
9 biodiversity of the region, and has made important
10 contributions to the recreational and educational
11 opportunities available to local communities.

12 The scale and scope of this effort has
13 supported large scale scientific research, has
14 improved our understanding of the process of
15 environmental restoration.

16 The Academy of Natural Sciences has been
17 pleased to have the opportunity to participate in, and
18 to contribute, to our scientific expertise to this
19 project. Thank you for the opportunity to speak on
20 this.

21 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: That was the last
22 speaker that I had signed up to speak at today's
23 meeting. We do have some additional time, obviously,
24 though. So if anyone would like to approach the
25 microphone and speak at this point, now would be the

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1 time.

2 Specifically if you have any environmental
3 scoping comments that you would like to make. Once
4 you have a chance to speak, we will just ask that you
5 fill out one of the yellow cards, again, to make sure
6 that we have your name correctly on the transcript.

7 Anyone interested in approaching the
8 microphone and giving comments at this time?

9 (No response.)

10 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Just keep in mind
11 that, you know, you do have other options and ways to
12 get your comments in, on this process, as we went over
13 in the presentations.

14 And with that I will turn things over to
15 Bo Pham, who is going to close out today's meeting.
16 Bo?

17 MR. PHAM: Thank you, Lance. My name is
18 Bo Pham, I'm the branch chief at the NRC for the team
19 that is conducting the license renewal review.

20 On behalf of the NRC I do want to thank
21 everyone for taking the time to come out today. This
22 is an important aspect of our review, as it allows us
23 the opportunity to come out and meet with the public
24 and members of the community, to listen to your
25 concerns, and hear different perspectives and

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1 viewpoints regarding the proposed action.

2 I do want to emphasize to everyone,
3 everything that you have heard today does not
4 encompass the entirety of the scope of the license
5 renewal review.

6 We have only started the process. So as
7 the review proceeds, we will discover new issues. But
8 some of the information I was provided today, as part
9 of the comments, I think was very relevant and is an
10 important part of our review.

11 Nor is this the only opportunity for you
12 to make your comments. I do want to remind you of
13 some important dates. December 22nd is going to be
14 the closing date for public comments.

15 And, as you see up there, there are
16 various ways to submit your comments for the
17 Environmental Review. The most expedient way is
18 probably via email, and we can process those very
19 quickly.

20 December 22nd also coincides with the date
21 of the -- to request an opportunity for a hearing. So
22 this is a totally separate process. But,
23 nevertheless, the end date coincides with each other,
24 on December 22nd.

25 One thing I wanted to remind everybody,

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1 which Lance had mentioned at the beginning of the
2 meeting, that is we have public meeting feedback forms
3 in the back of the room. If you haven't picked up one
4 yet.

5 If you can think of anything that we can
6 do to improve the public meeting process, what you saw
7 and heard today, we would love to hear from you,
8 positive or negative.

9 The forms are pre-postaged, so you can
10 mail it in to us, or you can hand it in to any one of
11 us today.

12 So with that, again, I thank you all for
13 coming. Members of the staff will be available if you
14 have any questions. But, other than that, this
15 meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

16 (Whereupon, at 2:40 p.m., the above-
17 entitled matter was concluded.)
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