

Official Transcript of Proceedings
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Title: Limerick Generating Station License Renewal
Public Meeting: Afternoon Session

Docket Number: (n/a)

Location: Pottstown, Pennsylvania

Date: Thursday, September 22, 2011

Work Order No.: NRC-1128

Pages 1-77

NEAL R. GROSS AND CO., INC.
Court Reporters and Transcribers
1323 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 234-4433

1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2 + + + + +

3 NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

4 + + + + +

5 PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS THE LICENSE RENEWAL PROCESS

6 AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING FOR LIMERICK GENERATING

7 STATION, UNITS 1 & 2

8 + + + + +

9 THURSDAY

10 SEPTEMBER 22, 2011

11 + + + + +

12
13 The Public Meeting met in the Sunnybrook
14 Ballroom, 50 Sunnybrook Road, Pottstown, Pennsylvania,
15 at 2:00 p.m., Richard Barkley, Meeting Facilitator,
16 presiding.

17 PRESENT:

18 RICHARD BARKLEY, Meeting Facilitator, NRC

19 ROBERT F. KUNTZ, Project Manager, NRR/DLR

20 DENNIS C. MOREY, Branch Chief, NRR/DLR

21 LISA M. REGNER, Sr. Project Manager,

22 NRR/DLR

23 DAVID J. WRONA, Branch Chief, NRR/DLR

24
25 PUBLIC COMMENTERS:

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 WILLIAM ALBANY, Limerick Township Police
2 Department
3 ANITA BALY
4 LEWIS CUTHBERT, Alliance For a Clean
5 Environment, PhD
6 EILEEN DAUTRICH, TriCounty Area Chamber of
7 Commerce
8 TIM FENCHEL, Schuylkill River National &
9 State Heritage Area
10 TED DEL GAIZO, Main Line Engineering
11 MICHAEL GALLAGHER, Exelon Nuclear
12 WILLIAM MAGUIRE, Exelon Nuclear
13 JOHN MCGOWAN, UMAC
14 TOM NEAFICY, Limerick Township
15 TIMOTHY PHELPS
16 THOMAS QUIGLEY, Pennsylvania State
17 Representative
18 LORRAINE RUPPE
19 BILL VOGEL
20 FRED WINTER, MD
21
22
23
24

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| Welcome and Opening Remarks, Richard | |
| Barkley, Meeting Facilitator | 4 |
| Statement by Robert Kuntz, Project | |
| Manager, NRR/DLR | 7 |
| Statement by Lisa Regner, Sr. Project Manager, | |
| NRR/DLR | 20 |
| Public Comment Period | 30 |
| Adjournment | 77 |

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

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

2:04 P.M.

FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Good afternoon.
Wow. I'll try to get it adjusted to the sound system.

This is a great room, but I'm not used to such a large venue to be speaking in.

My name is Richard Barkley. I'm the meeting facilitator for this meeting and what I'd like to do is just lead off initially with asking who in the audience are members of an elected position with either state, county, or local government? Would somebody like to identify themselves? Go ahead.

MR. QUIGLEY: State Representative Tom Quigley.

FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you.

MR. NEAFCY: Tom Neafcy, Chairman of the Limerick Township Board of Supervisors.

FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you. Would anyone else like to acknowledge themselves? Okay.

What I'd like to do quickly is just talk a little bit about the ground rules for doing this meeting as we go through. We have a lot of people who want to speak, lots of issues to cover, so I need to talk about how to make this meeting go fairly and so that everybody is heard to speak as we go through.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

I have a couple of ground rules that are typically used at these meetings and they work very effectively for me. One of them is asking you to sign up on a speaker card or the sign-up sheet in the back and so far I already have 16 people who have signed up. So in the time allotted I'll have to limit you about five minutes. Typically, I find -- yes, it was a yellow card, but we still work with the same cards.

I would like to try to see if you can finish your statement within five minutes. That's typically what's needed to make a statement on an issue and it's fair to everyone involved. If we go through 16 speakers in five minutes with the transition, we should finish right on time.

I'll try to call a couple speakers up so that the first person who is coming up, the other two people are kind of queued up and ready to go, so that makes for a smoother and faster transition as we go.

And I try to alternate early on a little bit to make sure our elected representatives get to speak early on, but it's not all elected representative speaking at the start, so we mix it up a little bit. It seems to be one that's been considered very fair to the audience.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 Can we go to the next slide then, please?

2 I would ask you to silence all cell phones, please.

3 Please speak clearly into the microphone.

4 Again, I'm getting a strange echo in this hallway
5 here. We have fantastic acoustics, but it is going to
6 be a little awkward I think sound-wise. So try to
7 speak into the microphone clearly and we'll make
8 adjustments as needed as we go through.

9 I would ask in all fairness, please do not
10 interrupt the speaker when you're not at the
11 microphone, just in the interest of fairness. If we
12 for some reason don't get to all your comments or you
13 have more than five minutes of comments, I'll give you
14 a little bit of leeway, but if you have much more than
15 that I would ask that you turn it in in a written
16 form. If you are uncomfortable with speaking, you can
17 always turn your comments in in a written form and we
18 accept them and consider them the same way we do as a
19 verbal comment.

20 This meeting is a transcribed meeting. We
21 have a transcription specialist here and so we will
22 record all your comments and then address them in the
23 course of this proceeding.

24 And finally, if you have any questions
25 regarding the conduct of this meeting, you have some

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 issue with whether you get to speak or some issue of
2 fairness or you have a schedule constraint and you
3 need to speak earlier, please come see me. I'll be
4 standing over here to the corner.

5 With that, I'd like to turn it over to
6 Lisa Regner. Bob, do you want to -- yes. And Lisa
7 asked me that when you start out, please speak your
8 name clearly. That will help with the transcription
9 as he works through and tries to record all your
10 comments as clearly as possible. If you have your
11 comments all typed out and you're reading from a typed
12 arrangement, you're welcome to turn them into me and
13 I'll give them to the transcriptionist so that we
14 actually make sure we do this in a very clear and
15 precise manner.

16 With that, Rob Kuntz is going to go first.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. KUNTZ: Is this a good volume? Good.

19 Good afternoon. My name is Rob Kuntz. I
20 am the Safety Project Manager with the Division of
21 License Renewal and I am coordinating staff's review
22 associated with the Limerick Generating Station
23 license renewal application.

24 I'd like to thank you all for taking the
25 time to come out to our meeting this afternoon.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 Today, we will provide an overview of the
2 license renewal review process which includes both a
3 safety and environmental review. We'll describe to
4 you the numerous ways and opportunity the public can
5 participation in the Limerick license renewal process
6 through either the safety or environmental component,
7 or both.

8 We also will describe in more detail the
9 environmental review process associated with license
10 renewal review. But the most important part of
11 today's meeting is to receive any comments that you
12 might have on the scope of the environmental review.
13 We also will give you some information about how you
14 can submit comments if you prefer not to speak at this
15 meeting.

16 At the conclusion of today's presentation,
17 we'll be happy to answer any questions that you may
18 have on the license renewal process. However, I must
19 ask you to limit your participation to questions only
20 and hold your comments until the appropriate time of
21 the meeting. Once all questions are answered, we can
22 begin to receive any comments that you have on the
23 scope of our environmental review.

24 Next slide.

25 Before I get into the discussion of the

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 license renewal process, I'd like to take a minute to
2 talk about the NRC in terms of what we do and what our
3 mission is. The NRC is a federal agency established
4 by the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974. We regulate
5 the civilian use of nuclear material. The Atomic
6 Energy Act of 1954 authorized the NRC to grant a 40-
7 year operating license for nuclear power plants. This
8 40-year term was based primarily on economic
9 considerations and antitrust factors, not on safety or
10 technical limitations.

11 The Atomic Energy Act also allows for
12 license renewal. The National Environmental Policy
13 Act of 1969, often referred to as NEPA, established a
14 national policy for considering the impact of federal
15 decision making on the human environment. Lisa will
16 discuss NEPA in greater detail.

17 The NRC's regulations governing nuclear
18 safety, security, and environmental protection are
19 contained in Title 10 of the Code of Federal
20 Regulations, often referred to as 10 CFR. In
21 exercising its regulatory authority, the NRC's mission
22 is three-fold: to ensure adequate protection of
23 public health and safety, to promote a common defense
24 and security, and to protect the environment.

25 The NRC accomplishes its mission through a

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 combination of regulatory programs and processes such
2 as establishing rules and regulations, conducting
3 inspections, issuing enforceable actions, assessing
4 licensee performing, and evaluating operating
5 experience from nuclear power plants across the
6 country and internationally.

7 The NRC has resident inspectors at all
8 operating nuclear power plants. These inspectors are
9 on the front lines of ensuring acceptable safety
10 performance and compliance with regulatory
11 requirements.

12 Next slide.

13 Here's some background on the Limerick
14 license renewal. The license renewal application was
15 received by the NRC on June 22nd of this year. The
16 operating licenses for Unit 1 and 2 are set to expire
17 in 2024 and 2029, respectively. The licensee can
18 submit an application up to 20 years prior to the
19 expiration of their license, but they cannot be
20 granted a license for longer than 40 years. The
21 renewed license is superseding and it replaces the
22 existing license.

23 Next slide.

24 The first of the license renewal process
25 is to perform an acceptance and sufficiency review.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 When the NRC receives a license renewal application,
2 the NRC staff examines it to determine whether the
3 application contains sufficient information to justify
4 the staff's review. The staff looks to see whether
5 the applicant has provided enough in terms of
6 technical information, technical specifications, and
7 the environmental report so that the staff can begin
8 its work, the application has enough in it to warrant
9 the staff's review. Then the application is
10 considered acceptable and sufficient and it is put on
11 the NRC's formal docket.

12 General information such as the
13 applicant's name and address, business and
14 administrative information, technical information
15 about plant structures and components and how the
16 applicant proposes to manage aging pertaining to aging
17 management. This information is the focus of the
18 staff's safety review.

19 Technical specifications define the
20 operating parameters of the plant. The application
21 indicates what, if any, changes or additions to
22 technical specifications are necessary to manage the
23 effects of aging during the period of extended
24 operation. The applicant also includes the
25 environmental report which is the applicant's

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 assessment of the environmental impacts of continued
2 operation. This information is the starting point for
3 the staff's environmental review which will be
4 discussed a bit later in the presentation.

5 Next slide.

6 I would like to mention a few very
7 important areas of NRC oversight that routinely come
8 up during our interactions with members of the public.

9 NRC staff addresses these areas of performance every
10 day as a part of the on-going regulatory oversight
11 provided for all currently operating power reactors.
12 They include current, safety performance as defined by
13 the NRC inspection findings, violations, and general
14 assessment of plant performance; emergency planning
15 and security. For specific information on current
16 performance of Limerick, you can use the link
17 provided on the slide.

18 The NRC monitors and provides regulatory
19 oversight of activities in these areas on an on-going
20 basis under the current operating license. Thus, we
21 do not reevaluate them in license renewal. That's not
22 to say that they're not important. We just do not
23 duplicate the regulatory process in this area for
24 license renewal.

25 Next slide.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Since the accident at Fukushima, the NRC
2 has taken multiple steps to ensure the safety
3 operation of nuclear power plants both now and in the
4 future. As part of its initial response to the
5 accident, the NRC issued temporary instructions to our
6 inspectors directing specific inspections in nuclear
7 power plants in order to assess disaster readiness and
8 compliance with current regulations.

9 The next step in the NRC's response was
10 the report of the NRC's Near-Term Task Force. The
11 purpose of the Near-Term Task Force was to develop
12 near-term recommendations and suggest a framework for
13 us to move forward in the longer term. The Near-Term
14 Task Force issued its report on July 12th of this year
15 and discussed the results of their review in a public
16 meeting on July 28th. As a result of the review, the
17 Near-Term Task Force presented 12 over-arching
18 recommendations for improvement. These
19 recommendations are applicable to operating reactors
20 regardless of license renewal status.

21 Based on the results of the Near-Term Task
22 Force, the Commission has directed the NRC staff to
23 evaluate and outline which of the recommendations
24 should be implemented. The staff submitted a paper to
25 the Commission on September 9th providing the staff's

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 recommendation on which task force recommendations,
2 and in the staff's judgment, should be initiated in
3 part or in whole without delay. On October
4 3rd, the staff will submit another Commission paper on
5 its prioritization of 11 of the 12 task force

6 Recommendation 1 of the task force, the
7 recommendation to reevaluate the NRC's regulatory
8 framework will be evaluated over the next 18 months.
9 To date, the NRC has not identified any issue as part
10 of these activities that call into question the safety
11 of any nuclear facility. Additionally, this review
12 process is going on independent of license renewal.
13 Any changes that are identified as necessary will be
14 implemented for all licensees regardless of license
15 renewal status.

16 More information on the NRC's post-
17 Fukushima activities, including the results of the
18 Near-Term Task Force, can be found on the NRC's
19 website by clicking on the Japan Nuclear Accident NRC
20 Action Link on the home page or directly through the
21 web address on this slide. There are also a
22 limited number of copies of the Near-Term Task Force
23 report available at the back of the room.

24 Next slide.

25 Now on to license renewal process. Here's

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 a simplified diagram of the license renewal process.
2 The review involves two parallel reviews, the safety
3 review and the environmental review. These two
4 reviews evaluate separate aspects of the license
5 renewal application, but also features three other
6 considerations in the Commission's decision of whether
7 or not to review an operating license.

8 One of these considerations is the
9 independent review performed by the Advisory Committee
10 on reactor Safeguards or ACRS. Statutorily managed by
11 the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, the ACRS is a group of
12 scientists and nuclear safety experts who serve as a
13 consulting body to the Commission. The ACRS reviews
14 the license renewal application, the NRC's staff
15 evaluation, and inspection findings. The ACRS reports
16 their findings and recommendations directly to the
17 Commission.

18 Hearings may also be conducted if
19 interested stakeholders submit concerns or contentions
20 and their request for a hearing is granted. The
21 Atomic Safety and Licensing Board referred to as ASLB,
22 and adjudicatory panel will conduct the hearings. The
23 Commission considers the outcome of the hearing
24 process in its decision on whether or not to renew the
25 license.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 As part of the environmental review, the
2 staff consults with state, local, federal, and tribal
3 officials such as the EPA and the staff holds public
4 meetings to receive comments on the Draft
5 Environmental Impact Statement.

6 Now I'm going to describe the license
7 renewal process in a little more detail, starting with
8 the safety review.

9 Next slide.

10 To better understand the license renewal
11 process, it's good to know the safety principles that
12 guide license renewal. The first principle is that
13 the current regulatory process is adequate to ensure
14 that the licensing basis for all operating plants
15 provides and maintains an acceptable level of safety.

16 The second principle is that the current plant's
17 specific licensing basis must be maintained during the
18 renewal term in the same manner and to the same extent
19 as during the original licensing term. In other
20 words, the same rules that apply under the current
21 license will apply on the renewal term.

22 In addition, a renewed license will
23 include conditions that must be met to ensure aging of
24 structures and components important to safety is
25 adequately managed so that the plant's current

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 licensing basis is maintained during the period of
2 extended operation.

3 The regulations governing license renewal
4 are based on two principles. To effectively
5 communicate these principles, I need to describe a
6 concept, a term of art used by the NRC. That concept
7 is licensing basis. Licensing basis consists of a
8 wide range of design and operational requirements and
9 conditions that must be met for the plant to comply
10 with its operating license. The primary focus of
11 these requirements is to maintain public health and
12 safety. They serve as the basis upon which the NRC
13 originally licensed the plant. To continue to
14 operate, the plant must conform with its licensing
15 basis.

16 Next slide.

17 The safety review focuses on the aging of
18 passive and long-lived structures and components and
19 systems that the NRC has deemed important to safety.
20 Components within the scope of license renewal are
21 defined in 10 CFR 54.4 and include safety-related
22 systems, structures, and components, nonsafety-related
23 systems, structures, and components whose failures
24 could prevent satisfactory accomplishment of safety-
25 related SSC functions. And systems, structures, and

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 components relied on in its safety analysis or plant
2 evaluations to perform a function that demonstrates
3 compliance with the regulations for fire protection,
4 environmental qualification, pressurized thermal
5 shock, anticipated transients without scram, and
6 station blackout.

7 Passive components are components who
8 perform the functions without moving parts or change
9 in configuration or properties. Long lived are those
10 that are not replaced on qualified life or specific
11 time period. Active components are generally excluded
12 from license renewal because degradation is more
13 readily detected by existing surveillance and testing
14 and performance monitoring and condition monitoring.

15 The staff's main objective in this review
16 is to determine if the effects of aging will be
17 adequately managed by the applicant. The results of
18 the safety review are documented in a Safety
19 Evaluation Report.

20 Next slide.

21 A safety review comprises numerous
22 aspects. The technical staff reviews the application,
23 the applicant's license renewal application and
24 supporting documentation that determines the
25 applicant's methodology to identify the systems,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 structures, and components within the scope of license
2 renewal and subject to an aging management review to
3 determine if the methodology has been properly
4 implemented and to determine with reasonable assurance
5 that the effects of aging for certain systems,
6 structures, and components will be adequately managed
7 or monitored by new and existing programs and
8 surveillance activities.

9 The staff uses site audits to verify the
10 technical basis of the license renewal application and
11 to confirm that the applicant's aging management
12 programs and activities conform with how they are
13 described in the application. The staff documents the
14 basis and conclusion of its review in a Safety
15 Evaluation Report which is publicly available. In
16 addition, a team of specialized inspectors travel to
17 the reactor site to verify that aging management
18 programs are being implemented, modified, and planned
19 consistent with the license renewal application.

20 Finally, as I've mentioned, the Advisory
21 Committee on Reactor Safeguards, the ACRS, performs an
22 independent review of the license renewal application,
23 the staff Safety Evaluation Report, and inspection
24 findings and makes a recommendation to the Commission
25 regarding the proposed action to issue a renewed

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 license.

2 Next slide.

3 This slide shows the important milestones
4 for the Limerick license renewal. Like I mentioned,
5 the application came in on June 22nd. Right now,
6 we're in the middle of the hearing process and that
7 runs through October 24th and that is the public's
8 chance to request the hearing and review of the
9 application. This meeting will serve as an
10 opportunity to solicit comment on the environmental
11 report, but you can continue to provide comment
12 through October 28th. The SER with Open Items, the
13 staff's evaluation is planned to be issued in July of
14 2012.

15 Let's see. And without a hearing, the
16 plan is to have a decision on the license renewal
17 application by April of 2013.

18 That concludes my portion of the
19 presentation. I'll turn it over to Lisa now.

20 MS. REGNER: Thank you, Rob. Can you hear
21 me okay? Good afternoon. As Rob said, my name is
22 Lisa Regner and my focus for the Limerick license
23 renewal review is on the environmental side. It's
24 equally important. It's separate from the safety
25 review that Rob talked about, but it's equally

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 important.

2 The review is performed in accordance with
3 the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 or NEPA,
4 as Rob said. NEPA established a national policy for
5 considering environmental impacts and provides the
6 basic architecture for federal environmental reviews.

7 So all federal agencies are required to follow a
8 systematic approach in evaluating potential impacts of
9 projects and also to assess the alternatives to those
10 actions.

11 By law, the NEPA process involves public
12 participation and public disclosure. That's primarily
13 why we're here today. NEPA established the U.S.
14 Council on Environmental Quality, the CEQ, within the
15 Executive Office of the President. And the CEQ
16 establishes policy for how NEPA is to be implemented.

17 The NRC's environmental regulations are contained in
18 10 CFR Part 51 and they are largely based on those
19 that the CEQ developed.

20 Our environmental reviews considered the
21 impact of the license renewal and any mitigation for
22 those impacts that we consider significant. We also
23 consider the impacts of alternatives to license
24 renewal including the impact of not renewing the
25 license. The staff documents its environmental review

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 in an Environmental Impact Statement which is made
2 publicly available.

3 Ultimately, the purpose of the staff's
4 environmental review is to determine whether the
5 environmental impacts of license renewal are
6 reasonable and in combination with the safety review,
7 the regional inspections and decisions by the Advisory
8 Committee on Reactor Safeguards to make a
9 recommendation to the Commission whether to recommend
10 to renew the license or not.

11 Next slide.

12 So for a license renewal review, the NRC
13 environmental staff looks at a wide range of impacts.

14 Additionally, we consult with various federal, state,
15 and local officials, some of whom are here tonight,
16 we're happy to see, as well as leaders on tribal
17 nations. We gather pertinent information from these
18 sources and ensure it's considered in our analysis.
19 So some of the examples of the groups that we consult
20 with are the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the
21 Environmental Protection Agency, and that includes the
22 Pennsylvania EPA as well who I'm happy to say is here
23 with us tonight; the Pennsylvania Department of
24 Conservation and Natural Resources, the Pennsylvania
25 Fish and Boat Commission, the State Historic

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 Preservation Office, and also Displaced Pennsylvania
2 Tribal Nations since you may or may not know there are
3 no tribal nations that exist in Pennsylvania,
4 federally-recognized tribal nations that still live in
5 Pennsylvania. But we do consult with those that have
6 been displaced.

7 Next slide, please.

8 The environmental review begins with a
9 scoping process which we're in the middle of right now
10 which is an assessment of the specific impacts and
11 significant issues that the staff should consider in
12 preparing the Limerick Environmental Impact Statement.

13 Information that we gather from you today and in the
14 next few weeks will be considered and included in the
15 Environmental Impact Statement.

16 We have recognized that some impacts are
17 similar, if not identical, at all nuclear power
18 plants, so to improve efficiency what we've done is to
19 develop a Generic Environmental Impact Statement or
20 GEIS, that addresses a number of impacts that are
21 common to all nuclear power plants. So what I will
22 prepare then with the staff is what we call a
23 Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement that's
24 specific to Limerick. But in addition to those site-
25 specific issues, we also reexamine all the generic

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 issues for any new and significant information that
2 would change the conclusions in the GEIS, in the
3 Generic Environmental Impact Statement.

4 Next slide, please.

5 So the scoping period started on October
6 26th of this year when the Notice of Intent to prepare
7 an Environmental Impact Statement and conduct scoping
8 was published in the Federal Register. The NRC will
9 accept comments on the scope of the environmental
10 review until October 28th, so that's a few days more
11 than the hearing period which is different. Those are
12 two different dates, okay? So environmental comments
13 will be accepted until October 28th.

14 In general, what we're looking for in
15 those environmental comments is information about
16 environmental impacts from the continued operation of
17 Limerick. You can assist us in this process by
18 telling us, for example, what aspects of your local
19 community we should focus on, what local
20 environmental, social, and economic issues the NRC
21 should examine during our environmental review, what
22 other major projects are in progress or planned in the
23 area and what reasonable alternatives are most
24 appropriate for this region.

25 Those of us in license renewal are at

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 headquarters. We don't live in your community and
2 while we do have NRC people that do live in your
3 community, we need you to provide those regional
4 environmental impacts to us. That will help us do a
5 thorough and comprehensive review.

6 Those are just some of the examples of the
7 input we're looking for and they represent the kinds
8 of information we seek through the environmental
9 scoping process.

10 Next slide, please.

11 So this slide kind of ties it all
12 together. But I do want to stress if you look at the
13 top, public comments are an important part of the
14 environmental review process. How do we use your
15 comments? All of your comments to us whether provided
16 verbally during this meeting, in a written letter,
17 fax, or email are considered and addressed in our
18 Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. We
19 respond to each comment as part of the SEIS and the
20 SEIS as well as several other factors shown here in
21 the slide will all contribute to the Commission's
22 decision whether to renew the Limerick license or not.

23 Next slide, please.

24 So how can you submit comments? Well,
25 first of all, those of you who are here and have

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 filled out the yellow card, you're good to go. We've
2 got the transcriptionist so all of those comments will
3 be accepted as formal comments.

4 Additionally, you can also go on line to
5 regulations.gov and it's a pretty easy process. If
6 you go to regulations.gov you'll see two search boxes.

7 If you put in this docket ID, NRC-2011-0166,
8 sometimes it takes a minute or at least for my
9 computer it takes a minute, you'll get a list of
10 hopefully Limerick-specific Federal Register notices.

11 The top one should be -- it should say Exelon
12 Generation Company, Notice of Intent to Prepare an
13 Environmental Impact Statement and Conduct Scoping
14 Process. And if you look on the right it should say,
15 it should have a link to submit a comment. If you
16 have any problems, my contact information is in here.

17 You can give me a call and I'll walk you through the
18 process.

19 Another alternative is fax. If you fax to
20 this number, you can reference RADB, that's just the
21 branch that collects and formally captures these
22 comments. You can also either reference the docket
23 number, that NRC 2011-0166 number or write Limerick,
24 okay?

25 As I mentioned, the deadline for comments

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 is October 28th. Next slide, please?

2 You can also submit by mail to this
3 address here and again they collect all the comments,
4 put them into our formal document management system
5 and they will be addressed by the staff.

6 Also, if you happen to be in Washington,
7 D.C. and want to come into NRC headquarters, you can
8 submit written comments in person as well. And you're
9 more than welcome to give me a call so that I can meet
10 you at the gate and help you with that, if you want to
11 come to headquarters.

12 Next slide, please.

13 So these are the environmental review
14 milestones. Again, scoping comments are due October
15 28th. Now this is not the last time that you'll see
16 myself or Rob. What we'll do is we will develop a
17 Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, as
18 I mentioned. We'll issue that formally, and anybody
19 that filled out a blue card and has an email address,
20 I will send that to you by email. And then we will
21 also have another public meeting where you can provide
22 comments on that Environmental Impact Statement. So
23 we'll be gathering again and that will happen barring
24 any unforeseen problems with this license renewal
25 application, we'll be doing that late August, early

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 September of 2012, next summer.

2 The final SEIS again, barring any
3 unforeseen problems that the staff identifies should
4 be right around February of 2013. And all of your
5 comments submitted in relation to the draft SEIS are
6 also addressed in the final SEIS.

7 Next slide, please?

8 Here's our, Rob's and my contact
9 information. We are the primary points of contact
10 within the NRC for license renewal issues at Limerick.

11 If it's not a license renewal issue, we'll do our
12 best to get you in contact with the appropriate
13 person.

14 Next slide.

15 Okay, if you don't happen to have a
16 computer, we've also provided a hard copy of the
17 license renewal application at two local libraries,
18 both the Pottstown Regional Public Library and the
19 Royersford Free Public Library have hard copies of the
20 license renewal application. They're pretty big.
21 It's two, four-inch, three-inch binders. So it's a
22 good -- three, three-inch binders. It's a good bit of
23 information. And that's both the safety and the
24 environmental report. I will also put the
25 draft SEIS in those libraries as well.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 Additionally, I did bring a bunch of disks
2 that have it on disk if you would like to take the
3 license renewal application. They're in the back of
4 the room as well.

5 And I did want to do one more plug for the
6 blue cards, if you do have an email address and you
7 would like to receive any NRC-generated Limerick
8 documents that would include both license renewal and
9 non-license renewal NRC documents, we have a listserv
10 and if you give me your email address on one of those
11 blue cards, I can sign you up for that.

12 This concludes my presentation and I think
13 we will open it up for questions at this time. I'll
14 turn it back over to Rich Barkley.

15 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Yes. At this point
16 in time before we move into the comments section, I
17 wanted to see if there were any questions regarding
18 the presentation made by the staff? So if you have a
19 question, raise your hand. I'll take the microphone
20 to you. If not, we'll move into the question and
21 answer period.

22 Okay, let's move into the question and
23 answer period. At this point in time, I have 16
24 people signed up. I was interested in three of the
25 speakers. I had three people from the National

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 Resources Defense Council signed up, but they were
2 thinking of actually turning their comments in in a
3 written form. So I wanted to see if they're here this
4 afternoon. And since they're not, then I have 13
5 people to go through in the call order.

6 So what I would like to do if we could is
7 have you make your statement from this fixed
8 microphone here in the middle of the hallway and I'd
9 like to lead off with Dr. Lewis Cuthbert, followed by
10 Bill MaGuire, the site vice president for Limerick
11 Station and then followed by State Representative
12 Thomas Quigley.

13 Mr. Cuthbert.

14 MR. CUTHBERT: Good afternoon, members of
15 NRC, elected officials and members of this community,
16 I'd like to read the following statement and then
17 place it on the record in hard copy with some
18 supporting documentation and research summaries, if I
19 may.

20 The Alliance for a Clean Environment has
21 conducted an 11-year investigation of the harms and
22 threats from Limerick Nuclear Power Plant. The body
23 of evidence confirms unprecedented environmental and
24 meltdown threats posed by this plant. One event, one
25 worst case scenario can trigger a catastrophe of

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 unthinkable proportions. Whether a natural disaster
2 or terrorist attack occurs, by relicensing Limerick,
3 NRC would in effect be placing Russian roulette with
4 the lives of more than eight million people. NRC must
5 close Limerick Nuclear Plant by 2029.

6 There is no way for either NRC or Exelon
7 to ensure the safety of the environment or the
8 residents impacted by this plant. It cannot be made
9 fail safe. No other facility has the potential to
10 render the entire region uninhabitable, possibly for
11 centuries as the result of an accident or terrorist
12 attack. This is the highest-risk facility that could
13 exist in any community in this country.

14 Current 40-year operating licenses expire
15 in 2024 and 2029. Why the rush to renew these
16 licenses now?

17 We urge the NRC to say no to Exelon's
18 requested license renewals. The public was led to
19 believe that Limerick's generators, fuel pools, and
20 miles of underground pipes and cables could operate
21 safely for 40 years and then the facility would close.

22 Is Exelon fearful that the longer they wait the more
23 serious problems may arise?

24 After only 26 of 40 years, numerous signs
25 of aging and risk have been identified. Corrosion,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 deterioration, fatigue, cracking, thinning with loss
2 of material, loss of fracture toughness are all
3 documented in Exelon's own renewal application in the
4 aging management section. Instances of equipment
5 fatigue and cracking of vital equipment include the
6 reactor vessel and coolant system.

7 Aging equipment, after only 26 years
8 suggests that NRC should not just close the plant by
9 2029, but also ramp up their oversight vigilance
10 during the remaining 18 years of the current license.

11 In the past few years, Limerick has had numerous
12 unplanned shutdowns suggesting there are already
13 significant problems. Three occurred in one week in
14 June 2011. Loss of coolant leaks and accidents at
15 Limerick have already been documented. Serious
16 radioactive contamination could go undetected and
17 unreported for years from the corroding
18 infrastructure, much of it underground.

19 There have already been two near misses at
20 Limerick from 1996 to 2001.

21 This aging plant is an accident waiting to
22 happen. Large volumes, more than 6,000 assemblies
23 weighing more than a thousand tons of highly
24 radioactive waste in the form of spent fuel rods are
25 stored in densely-packed pools, elevated five stories

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 above and outside the reinforced containment
2 structure. This plant will produce about two more
3 tons of dangerous spent fuel rods every year that it
4 operates. Limerick, in addition, is now third on the
5 earthquake risk list for nuclear plants in the United
6 States.

7 With loss of cooling water, Limerick's
8 fuel rods could heat up, self ignite, and burn in an
9 unstoppable fire with catastrophic results. Exelon
10 has not been required to spend the money to guard
11 Limerick against terrorists, missiles, or air strikes
12 despite repeated requests to do so.

13 Dry cask storage and transport are also
14 very dangerous alternatives. It's time to close
15 Limerick and stop producing such deadly waste for
16 which there is no safe solution. As long as Limerick
17 operates harms to us and our environment will
18 increase.

19 Their harmful environmental impacts are
20 unprecedented. At the conclusion of our 11-year
21 investigation of routine radiation releases and review
22 of permits for major air pollution and a variety of
23 dangerous water contamination issues, it's clear that
24 this energy is not just dirty, it is in fact filthy.
25 Evidence that we've compiled has addressed a wide

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 range of topics: routine radiation releases into the
2 air, radioactive wastewater discharges into the
3 Schuylkill River, radioactive groundwater
4 contamination, radioactive nuclides associated with
5 the plant detected in our soil, our sediment, our
6 vegetation, our fish, our water, and milk.

7 Research has confirmed radiation in our
8 children's baby teeth in this community. Major air
9 pollution issues under health-based standards of the
10 Clean Air Act, 32 individual sources listed. Drastic,
11 harmful increases permitted in particulate matter
12 known also as PM-10 from the cooling towers, other air
13 pollution increases also permitted.

14 Dangerous depletion of the Schuylkill
15 River, in and by itself, a singular reason to deny
16 this permit. The Schuylkill is a vital drinking water
17 source for nearly two million people from Pottstown to
18 Philadelphia. It is being depleted and contaminated
19 every day that this plant operates.

20 Alarming cancer increases that have been
21 well documented in this community repeatedly far
22 higher than national and state averages after Limerick
23 started operating until the late 1990s. The
24 findings of our investigation lead us to conclude that
25 this plant is in common language a recipe for

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 disaster.

2 While NRC is required to prepare a
3 supplement to the Limerick Environmental Impact
4 Statement for license renewal, we have little
5 confidence in the process based on NRC's regulatory
6 history. It would be difficult to enumerate a short
7 list, so I'm going to rely on written documents.
8 There are critics of the NRC out there who have done a
9 much better job than we have of generating such a
10 list, most notably a scathing indictment by the
11 Associated Press. I'm not going to re-enumerate that
12 information.

13 It's long past time for the NRC to summon
14 the courage to do the right thing in our judgment and
15 actually protect the environment and the public,
16 rather than the industry.

17 Today, I am going to be submitting on the
18 record summary packets of our research on Limerick's
19 major air pollution, harms to the Schuylkill River,
20 radioactive groundwater contamination, links between
21 Limerick's radiation and our elevated cancers in this
22 community and how Limerick's nuclear power can, in
23 fact, be replaced with safer sources today.

24 Based on the compelling body of evidence
25 of environmental harms to date and the enormous

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 increased population in proximity to this facility,
2 Limerick Nuclear Plant must be closed by 2029.

3 There is no amount of energy production that is
4 worth risking the lives of so many people. Thank you
5 very much.

6 (Applause.)

7 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you, sir.

8 MR. MAGUIRE: Good afternoon. My name is
9 Bill Maguire and I am the site vice president at
10 Limerick Generating Station. And I have overall
11 responsibility for the safe and reliable operation of
12 the facility.

13 I have been working in the nuclear power
14 industry for 25 years and my career began at the
15 Limerick Generating Station as an engineer. I
16 continued with a license to be a licensed senior
17 reactor operator supervisor in the operations
18 organization and was the on-shift senior manager of
19 that facility for many years.

20 I have also worked at a few other nuclear
21 stations across the country and before rejoining
22 Limerick as the site vice president in May of 2010, I
23 was the site vice president at the Peach Bottom Atomic
24 Power Station in southeastern Pennsylvania in York
25 County.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 Operating Limerick Generating Station
2 safely and reliably is a responsibility that everyone
3 at the power station takes very seriously. We
4 understand our obligation to the community, to the
5 environment, and to each other to operate the plant
6 safely.

7 A key component of a thriving community
8 like ours is the availability of safe, clean, and
9 reliable electricity. And as we look into the future
10 for the power needs of Pennsylvania and the United
11 States as a whole, we can see the increasing demand
12 for this very important resource.

13 At the same time, there's a growing
14 concern about greenhouse gases and climate change that
15 is a result of burning fossil fuels. To help meet
16 that growing power demand and to help keep our
17 environment clean, Exelon has applied to the U.S.
18 Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a 20-year extension
19 to the plant's operating license. Limerick's current
20 license for Unit 1 will expire in 2024 and Unit 2 in
21 2029. With license renewal, Limerick can provide our
22 region with clean power through 2049.

23 We understand our special obligation to
24 operate the plant safely and reliably and to maintain
25 a close relationship with our neighbors. We pledge to

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 continue that special trust as we operate the plant
2 well into the future.

3 The 104 nuclear reactors in the United
4 States provide roughly 20 percent of our nation's
5 electricity. More than 70 reactors nationwide have
6 already received approval from the Nuclear Regulatory
7 Commission for a 20-year license extension including
8 the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station in York County.

9 Limerick Generating Station operates in a
10 manner that preserves the environment. The plant
11 produces almost no greenhouse gases. The plant
12 conducts approximately 1700 tests annually on air,
13 water, fish, soil, cow's milk, and other food products
14 to measure for environmental impact. We also maintain
15 a chain of radiation monitors surrounding the plant.

16 In 2005, the environmental management
17 systems at Limerick Generating Station achieved
18 certification under the strict criterion of the
19 International Organization for Standardization, ISO.
20 This certification is known as ISO 14001, a common
21 industry reference for the environmental
22 certification. The ISO 14001 certification requires a
23 commitment to excellence to prevent pollution and to
24 ensure continuous improvement in environmental areas.

25 In 2010, the Wildlife Habitat Council

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 recognized Limerick Generating Station's commitment to
2 environmental stewardship by awarding us the Wildlife
3 at Work Certification. This distinction was awarded
4 to Limerick Generating Station for our commitment
5 towards establishing long-term wildlife habitat
6 enhancements that provided undisturbed habitats with
7 food, water, cover, and space for animal species
8 living on the plant station's landscape.

9 To ensure Limerick continues to operate
10 safely for years to come, Exelon is investing in
11 upgrades to plant equipment. Since 2010, Exelon has
12 invested more than \$200 million into the plant
13 including installation of new safety equipment, new
14 electrical cables, new valves, and refurbishing the
15 cooling towers. In addition, Limerick has made more
16 than \$40 million in physical security upgrades since
17 2001.

18 Our investment in the future does not stop
19 with equipment. We have hired and trained over 100
20 new employees over the last three years, mostly coming
21 from our native region here. We maintain a steady
22 workforce of approximately 850 people and during our
23 annual maintenance and refueling outages, we bring in
24 between 1500 and 2000 temporary workers that provide a
25 boost to our local economy. Hiring and

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 retaining top talent is a key priority for Limerick
2 Generating Station.

3 Over the past 25 years, Limerick has been
4 one of the best performing and most reliable
5 generating stations in the nuclear power industry.
6 During that time, the plant has set several records
7 for continuous days of operation and has been
8 recognized by the industry for our reliable operation.

9 In March 2010, Limerick completed a successful run of
10 727 continuous days for our Unit 1 plant. This
11 represented the second longest continuous run for a
12 boiling water reactor in the United States.

13 While we do not set out to break records,
14 continuous operations are an indicator of the
15 excellent human performance and equipment reliability
16 that Limerick strikes for every day.

17 We also take pride in our investments in
18 the community. In 2010, Limerick donated more than
19 \$600,000 to the community in contributions to the
20 United Way, fire and ambulance companies, educational
21 health and youth organizations. And many of our
22 employees serve as volunteers in the local communities
23 around the plant.

24 In conclusion, Limerick Generating Station
25 looks forward to working with the Nuclear Regulatory

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Commission as you review our license renewal. I
2 appreciate the opportunity to speak with you this
3 afternoon. Thank you.

4 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thanks, Bill.

5 (Applause.)

6 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Representative
7 Quigley.

8 REP. QUIGLEY: Good afternoon, my name is
9 State Representative Tom Quigley. I represent the
10 146th District here of which lower Pottsville is a
11 party of that district, so I want to welcome the NRC
12 here today to the beautiful Sunnybrook Ballroom for
13 this meeting and thank them for coming out to listen
14 to the public and take commentary.

15 I'm here today to voice my strong support
16 for the relicensing of the Limerick Generating
17 Station. I wanted to touch on a couple points of why
18 I feel it is important for this facility to be
19 relicensed.

20 First is the amount of electricity that is
21 produced by this facility. One of the things that
22 myself and my colleagues in Harrisburg hear
23 consistently from businesses and the Commonwealth and
24 our citizens is the demand for energy and electricity
25 now and more importantly what that demand is going to

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 be in the future.

2 Right now this facility generates enough
3 electricity for two millions homes and without
4 producing some of the greenhouse gases that we hear so
5 much about that could be produced by coal, natural
6 gas, or oil. And I'm going to put a caveat in there
7 for my good friends out in the western part of the
8 state where coal is a big part of the Pennsylvania
9 economy and I'm suggesting that this be done to the
10 exclusion of coal and nevertheless, some of the
11 technologies that they're developing out there are
12 also important for that industry and important for the
13 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

14 Again, one of the concerns we hear
15 consistently from businesses is how can we come here
16 into Pennsylvania with the infrastructure being what
17 it is which needs to be improved for the transmission
18 of the electricity, but more importantly the
19 generation of that electricity?

20 Number two, I think is important is the
21 jobs and overall economy. Again, in these tough
22 economic times that we're facing here in the
23 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and also in this nation,
24 one of the top issues that we hear consistently about
25 is jobs.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 And as was mentioned by the site vice
2 president, over 860 people are employed here with an
3 annual payroll of \$75 million. The direct impact that
4 is to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, of course, is
5 realized through the state income tax and also all of
6 these local municipalities most of them enact an
7 earned income tax which again sustains their townships
8 as well as their respective school districts. To have
9 that taken away I think would have an even more
10 dramatic impact on our local economy.

11 As was mentioned the impact for the local
12 area here, the temporary workers who show up here
13 during the outages and the refueling, there's already
14 been two hotels that have sprung up along the 422
15 corridor with another one planned right up here at the
16 Sanatoga area. Again, more jobs and more economic
17 growth here for our communities.

18 Thirdly, I want to talk about the
19 communication that I've experienced in the seven years
20 that I've been in office with Exelon and with their
21 Government Affairs people as well as with their site
22 people. I've been on the site three times, twice for
23 a tour and one to make a presentation during an
24 anniversary of the facility. And I have to say that
25 it is a very secure area. I know a lot of people are

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 concerned about terrorism attacks or people being on
2 the property. But unless you've actually gone over
3 there and gone through a tour, seeing how things are
4 set up, seeing the armed guards there, seeing the
5 security measures that are in place, I think you come
6 away much more relieved with that. And I'm able to
7 speak to my constituents more affirmatively about the
8 safety and security of the facility.

9 Any time that there's been the slightest
10 occurrence there, whether it will be a couple times a
11 hunter has wandered onto the property where the
12 authorities were called, the Government Affairs people
13 at Exelon are on the phone to me or with an email
14 right away to let me know what's happening before the
15 word gets out to the media or to the press. So
16 they're always very well prepared in their
17 explanations, not only of things that happen at the
18 plant itself, but also incidents and issues that occur
19 around the country and around the world.

20 Obviously, what took place in Japan with
21 the incident over there, they were on the phone with
22 me and met with me a few times to explain what took
23 place over there and how the safeguards are being put
24 in place here so that doesn't happen at this facility.

25 It was mentioned earlier the dry cask

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 storage where the spent fuel rods are now stored
2 outside in a dry cask storage facility. When that was
3 proposed back in 2005-2006, the Generating Station
4 held two open houses that were very well attended. I
5 went to both of them where they had people on there to
6 explain to the people what exactly was taking place
7 with this dry cask storage, why it was necessary. A
8 lot of questions and answers back and forth and I
9 think a lot of the people came away better informed
10 about that process.

11 Just recently at an open house, the site
12 VP who just spoke, Bill Maguire, came out to give some
13 initial comments and wound up spending the full hour
14 in an impromptu question and answer session and not
15 again just planted questions, a lot of tough
16 questions. And I think again the people came away
17 feeling confident in the openness and the transparency
18 that was displayed in that question and answer
19 session.

20 Another point of that is for relicensing
21 for the overall environment here is the good corporate
22 citizenship that the Generating Station has exhibited.
23 As was mentioned by Bill, some of the charitable
24 contributions that have gone on, not only for the host
25 community of Limerick, but also for the surrounding

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 areas. I attended a few dedication services where
2 they provided money to the Upper Providence Elementary
3 School and the Limerick Elementary School for an
4 outside environmental classroom.

5 One of the things we talk about as
6 political leaders, and I'm on the House Education
7 Committee, is the need for our children to be educated
8 particularly in the sciences and given these budget
9 constraints that we're operating under, both the
10 school districts and the Commonwealth, it's good to
11 see a corporate citizen stepping up to the plate and
12 providing that financial support, particularly in the
13 area of science. They've also partnered with the
14 Montgomery County Community College to provide
15 assistance in support for an associate degree in
16 nuclear engineering technology.

17 Again, we hear so much about our students
18 here not being well versed in technology and
19 engineering and things of that nature. So again,
20 stepping up to the plate to provide that assistance
21 when, in fact, perhaps in these tough budget times
22 where the government might not be able to do that.

23 Last, I want to talk about overall public
24 opinion and safety issues. One of the things that I
25 looked at when I talk about safety and the feeling of

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 comfort that people have here is how many of the
2 people who work at that plant live within the ten-mile
3 radius of the facility? And I asked that question
4 when I first was elected in 2004 and I just asked it
5 again in preparation for this hearing and 563
6 employees live within the ten-mile radius.

7 The population growth in my District in
8 the past ten years, we're getting ready to redraw our
9 lines based on the 2010 Census, so I broke it down by
10 township as to how much the population has increased
11 in those areas: Limerick Township, increasing by 33.5
12 percent; Upper Pottsgrove by 29.5; Royersford Borough,
13 where I live, 11.9; Lower Pottsgrove, 7; Pottstown, 2;
14 now this is a little bit skewed, but I have a small
15 piece of New Hanover Township which actually increased
16 by 54 percent.

17 When you look at the public opinion, and
18 again, we get calls on a lot of different issues and
19 as I mentioned that dry cask storage issue. Back
20 then, at the same time that that issue was being
21 rolled out to the public, Boyd Gaming had purchased a
22 property next to our plant was getting ready to apply
23 -- had applied for a license, casino license. At that
24 time, my office had received 2 calls in regard to the
25 dry cask storage project, over 200 calls regarding the

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 casino application. So at the time, it appeared
2 people were more concerned about the prospect of a
3 casino being in their neighborhood than they were a
4 dry cask storage facility.

5 And lastly, as some of you heard, there is
6 a proposal right now to put a hold on Route 422. And
7 again, in the past six months with the incidents in
8 Japan, with the current earthquake we had here, with
9 the AP story telling you how these plants are all
10 falling apart, I received two calls regarding that one
11 where they could get the KI pills, one where they
12 could -- what was the evacuation plan for that, and
13 more calls and emails regarding the proposed 422. So
14 again, it appears that the constituents and the 146th,
15 they're more concerned about the prospect of paying a
16 toll to ride of 422 than they are about the nuclear
17 power plant issues.

18 So again, I strongly support the
19 relicensing of this for the reasons I mentioned.
20 Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you,
23 Representative Quigley.

24 The next three people I'd like to call,
25 first is Lorraine Ruppe, private citizen; and the

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 next, Michael Gallagher of Exelon; and finally, I'd
2 like to call Dr. Fred Winter after that.

3 MS. RUPPE: Hi, my name is Lorraine Ruppe.

4 I am speaking here today to represent the children
5 and future generations, especially in our community.
6 Residents are fearful about the possibility of
7 disasters here in light of Fukushima in March 2011 and
8 since the earthquake and Hurricane Irene in August
9 2011 affecting our area. Climate changes, etcetera,
10 are causing disasters everywhere and continuing to get
11 worse.

12 Increasing floods, droughts, earthquakes,
13 tornados have made us all feel insecure, making
14 nuclear power increasingly risky, especially with the
15 Limerick plant basically in our backyards. Any
16 earthquake that comes through this area could be a
17 possible Fukushima, Chernobyl or Three Mile Island
18 which reminds me, four months have passed since the
19 NRC failed to get back to me when I asked how close
20 the Remapo fault line is to the Limerick nuclear
21 reactors? Maybe I can get an answer today.

22 Indian Point nuke plant was sketched as a
23 possible terrorist target in reference to 9/11
24 attacks. A suspected terrorist worked at Limerick for
25 years without the industry knowing it. How scary is

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 that?

2 The Pacific Ocean is now severely
3 irradiated by Fukushima. Radiation impacts of
4 Fukushima equalled over 20 Hiroshima bombs when I last
5 researched. Our drinking and bathing water here is
6 being continuously polluted by Limerick every day,
7 24/7 for years with radiation and unfiltered toxic
8 contaminated mine water, thanks to the NRC and Exelon.
9 This is disgusting.

10 Most of us have to depend on the water,
11 especially for bathing. Some of us pay extra for
12 water filtration or drink bottled water because we are
13 afraid to drink from the Schuylkill and because it
14 tastes really bad now. Imagine how toxic it would be
15 18 plus years from now if there was even any water
16 left.

17 There has been increased particulate
18 matter in the air and other toxics from Limerick
19 causing increased asthma, heart attacks, and strokes.

20 And to add insult to injury, Limerick was granted a
21 permit to allow an eight-fold increase in air
22 pollution since 2009. Cancer rates in our area have
23 skyrocketed since Limerick has been up and running in
24 the '80s and rates have steadily increased.

25 The Toothfairy Project showed high levels

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 of strontium 90, a radionuclide in baby teeth of
2 children nearest to nuke plants. Baby teeth near
3 Limerick plant had the highest levels in the whole
4 United States. This stuff and God knows what else is
5 in our bodies now thanks to a Nuclear Regulatory
6 Commission that to put it nicely is less than
7 enthusiastic about protecting us.

8 Solar wind, geothermal, ocean thermal,
9 energy conservation and efficiency are now cheaper
10 than nuclear power, along with being truly clean and
11 safe. The Department of Energy 2006 report stated
12 solar alone could provide 55 times our entire nation's
13 energy needs which leads me to a point, there have
14 been numerous studies proving the many dangerous and
15 deadly consequences of nuclear power. There's no
16 denying the massive devastation it has already caused
17 and will continue to cause indefinitely, but the
18 industry still goes on in their trance-like,
19 indifferent fashion as if everything is safe and
20 wonderful and will continue to be 18 plus years from
21 now or until 2049 for our community. This is what
22 really scares us the most.

23 The NRC has turned into a culture of
24 secrecy, hiding the dangers and sweeping the problems
25 under the rug. The industry's addiction to money and

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 power has blinded them to moral life and death issues
2 and facts set right in front of their faces. But my
3 big question of the day is why is Exelon applying for
4 an extension 18 years ahead of time? Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you, Lorraine.
7 Mike?

8 MR. GALLAGHER: Good afternoon. My name
9 is Mike Gallagher and I'm the Vice President of
10 License Renewal for Exelon. I have overall
11 responsibility for the Limerick Generating Station
12 license renewal application.

13 Exelon has a great deal of experience with
14 license renewal, as we have already obtained the
15 renewed licenses for our Peach Bottom and our TMI
16 plants in Pennsylvania, our Oyster Creek plant in New
17 Jersey, and our Dresden and Quad Cities plants in
18 Illinois.

19 Just briefly about myself. I've been
20 working in the nuclear power industry for 30 years. I
21 was a licensed senior operator and plant manager at
22 Limerick and I worked at two other nuclear plants and
23 our corporate offices.

24 Mr. Maguire, the site vice president for
25 Limerick spoke about reasons for renewing the license

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 for Limerick. I'd like to speak briefly about the
2 process for preparing this license renewal application
3 and the amount of work and engineering analysis that
4 was put into preparing the application.

5 Because the license Generating Station can
6 be operated safely and reliably, Exelon decided to
7 pursue license renewal for Limerick. Limerick is a
8 very clean energy source which produces no greenhouse
9 gas emissions. Limerick is also good for the economy
10 in that it lowers market prices on electricity for the
11 citizens of Pennsylvania to the tune of \$880 million
12 per year.

13 So in 2009, we announced our intention to
14 seek license renewal for Limerick. Later that year,
15 we started the work necessary to prepare the
16 application. After over two years of work, we
17 submitted the application to the Nuclear Regulatory
18 Commission on June 22, 2011. The application, as Lisa
19 had mentioned, when you print it out it's about 2100
20 pages. And when you put it in the binders it's three
21 large binders. It's a huge amount of information.
22 But that only represents a small part of the work that
23 was done for the engineering analysis to prepare this
24 application.

25 The total amount of engineering analysis,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 if we printed it all out would be about 290 binders of
2 information. We invested over 60,000 manhours of
3 engineering work. Once we completed our engineering
4 work to prepare the application, we brought in experts
5 from outside Exelon to review the application to
6 ensure that it was complete, thorough and accurate.
7 Our total cost to prepare the application and get this
8 application reviewed by the NRC will be about \$30
9 million.

10 There are two different parts of our
11 application, the safety review and the environmental
12 review. For the safety review, we took an in-depth
13 look at the history and the condition of the safety
14 equipment in the plant. We did that to determine
15 whether the necessary maintenance was being performed
16 on that equipment and to make sure that the equipment
17 will be able to operate when it's needed, not only for
18 today, but also for an additional 20 years of
19 operation.

20 When you look back at Limerick, when it
21 was built, all the equipment was new. It was
22 thoroughly tested to make sure it would perform
23 properly, but like anything else equipment does age.
24 That doesn't mean it won't work, but it does age and
25 certain activities need to be done to the equipment.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 So we perform preventive maintenance. Sometimes we
2 refurbish the equipment. Some equipment is replaced.

3 There may be modifications done to upgrade the
4 equipment in the plant and in fact, as Bill Maguire
5 has stated, Limerick had spent over \$200 million in
6 the last couple years alone to improve and modernize
7 the equipment and enhance plant operations and safety.

8 We also then reviewed calculations that
9 were performed as part of the original design of the
10 plant that were done to ensure that the plant could
11 operate safely for 40 years. We analyzed those
12 calculations and were able to confirm that the plant
13 would be able to operate safely for 60 years.
14 Overall, our conclusion from our engineering review
15 was that Limerick could operate safely for up to 60
16 years.

17 We also took a look at the environmental
18 impacts of continuing to operate Limerick. We looked
19 at all the impacts of continued impact of the plant on
20 the environment. Our conclusion is that impacts on
21 the environment are small and I use the term small in
22 the sense that is in the regulation. The regulation
23 defines small as environmental effects are not
24 detectable or are minor.

25 We also reviewed the alternatives if

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 Limerick would not have its license renewed and
2 another source of electric generation would need to be
3 installed either here on site or someplace else to
4 generate the replacement electricity. We concluded
5 that any other means of generating the replacement
6 electricity would have more of an impact on the
7 environment than continued operation of Limerick. For
8 instance, if Limerick could be replaced by a wind
9 generation facility, the wind farm would have to
10 occupy between 10 and 40 percent of all the land in
11 the state of Delaware and that would have a huge
12 impact on the land. If a solar facility could replace
13 Limerick, it would need to cover 32 to 50 percent of
14 the entire land area of Montgomery County.

15 In conclusion, we operate Limerick safely
16 and we can continue to operate it safely for an
17 additional 20 years. Limerick will provide
18 approximately 2340 megawatts of base-load generation
19 that's not only safe, but it's clean, reliable and
20 economical.

21 Continued operation of Limerick will
22 benefit this community, the Commonwealth of
23 Pennsylvania and our nation. Thanks for giving me the
24 time for this. Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you, Mike.
2 Dr. Winter?

3 DR. WINTER: Good afternoon. Thanks for
4 letting me speak. We have heard a lot of pros and
5 cons, haven't we? And it's hard to make a decision
6 that's for sure. But let me get going here.

7 As a physician practicing radiology for
8 over 50 years, I still have strong concern about
9 cancer sensitivities from harmful radiation exposures,
10 naturally. My medical colleagues share the same
11 concerns because we have seen our cancer rates
12 increase since the Limerick power plant started,
13 especially thyroid cancer. It jumped to 78 percent
14 higher here than the national average. And some of
15 the people I talked to, this is because people are
16 aging more now, getting older, so there are more
17 cancers. But that's not true because in other areas
18 similar to our area in Pottstown, they're not nearly
19 getting the thyroid cancers that we are. This has
20 been well established by the state.

21 You wonder why some of our medical and
22 cancer fundraisers haven't reacted with more
23 responsibility in order to stop this. They're making
24 a lot of money, but not taking much effort to prevent
25 environmental damage.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Yes, we are creating our own form of
2 terrorism. Now that sounds kind of funny, doesn't it?

3 But allowing any harmful environmental events to
4 occur, we are allowing our own form of terrorism, just
5 like foreign people would come in here.

6 Having attended a Hiroshima, Japan atom
7 bomb clinic right after World War II, naturally I had
8 a chance to see the worst results of harmful
9 radiation. All those little kids I saw who only lived
10 for a few days, it left me with a very sad memory. Of
11 course, what is happening here will be taking much
12 longer, but it sure is not good.

13 I don't know whether you've heard that
14 some scientists are already predicting that -- I'm
15 sorry to tell you this, but nuclear energy has the
16 capacity of destroying mankind. It may take about 100
17 years, but our whole world is exposed to the harmful
18 effects, maybe not so much here in the United States,
19 but the whole world can be affected.

20 Of course, what is happening here will be
21 taking much longer, but it is sure not good news.
22 Besides harmful power plant exposures, we have
23 environmental disasters and a concern about our nearby
24 earthquake fault and others in the eastern U.S.,
25 especially one near New York City. And then there are

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 the radioactive spent fuel deadly waste material
2 sitting around, supposedly protected. We can't
3 control the use of nuclear power in the rest of the
4 world, but can keep America safer and cleaner here.

5 So please, ask your politicians, reliable
6 politicians to close the Limerick power plant. Let's
7 save America for our kids and descendants. I hope you
8 will take my concerns seriously. And thank you for
9 listening.

10 (Applause.)

11 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Okay, thank you, Dr.
12 Winter. The next three people I'd like to call is Tom
13 Neafcy of Limerick Township, followed by Dr. Anita
14 Baly, and then Tim Fenchel of the Schuylkill River
15 Heritage Foundation.

16 MR. NEAFCY: Good afternoon, thank you.
17 My name is Tom Neafcy. I'm the Chairman of Limerick
18 Township Board of Supervisors and I want to thank you
19 for this opportunity to speak at this forum today.

20 As the largest private employer in the
21 region, the Board is thankful for the 860 jobs that
22 Exelon provides, the positive impact of their
23 operation, the vitality of our local community. The
24 community and local economy are enhanced by the needed
25 services provided by the township, which includes the

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 roadway network maintained by our Limerick Township
2 Public Works, public safety provided by the Limerick
3 and Linfield Fire Companies, and our local emergency
4 medical response, our public parks, our recreation
5 facilities and also the police protection that's
6 provided by Limerick's 21 sworn officers.

7 Because of Limerick Generating Station's
8 location within our borders, the Limerick Township
9 Police Department is the only municipal police
10 department in Pennsylvania with the primary
11 jurisdiction over Tier 1 critical infrastructure.
12 This Board prides itself on the services provided
13 directly both to the residents and the businesses of
14 this community and the township's ability to maintain
15 those current levels of service during these difficult
16 economic downturns. We are thankful for the
17 generosity of the Limerick generating plant and Exelon
18 for being good corporate neighbors and the assistance
19 they provide to the community. Without their
20 financial assistance that impact to provide those
21 services to the community would fall squarely on the
22 backs of the taxpayers. They assist in our fire
23 companies. They have been corporate sponsors of our
24 Limerick Community Days. And we are confident that
25 Limerick generating facility and Exelon will continue

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 that support in the future and be our good corporate
2 neighbor.

3 We also are in support of the relicensing
4 of the Limerick nuclear plant. Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Dr. Baly?

7 DR. BALY: Good afternoon. I'm Anita
8 Baly. I'm a retired Lutheran pastor and my concern
9 today is with the speed at which this application
10 process is going. I mean it seems to me that to
11 predict what environmental factors will be in place 13
12 years hence and 18 years hence, posits a kind of
13 omniscience and prescience that we should attribute to
14 Almighty God, but certainly not to any of us human
15 beings.

16 I would favor a slower process. As we
17 look around, we see that the population in this area
18 is getting denser all the time. The roads are not
19 being improved. And that leaves me with concerns
20 about how we would effect an evacuation were one
21 needed. I suspect strongly that we couldn't perform a
22 good evacuation today. And I also suspect that the
23 population will be increasing and the roads
24 deteriorating. In fact, just this morning in the
25 Pottstown Mercury, they were reporting on the hearing

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 that was held on Route 422 which is our main road
2 around here. And Barry Seymour is quoted, he's the
3 Executive Director of the Delaware River Valley
4 Regional Planning Commission, and he told last week's
5 forum audience that population projections anticipate
6 a 50 percent increase in the region and if we don't
7 increase capacity on 422, we will have virtual
8 gridlock all the way to the Berks County line.

9 Maybe we'll improve that situation, but
10 it's way too early to know if that will happen. And
11 so my plea and my concern is can we slow this down so
12 that we know, in fact, what the environmental impacts
13 are going to be closer to a time that the decision is
14 made. Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you. Tim?

17 MR. FENCHEL: Good afternoon. My name is
18 Tim Fenchel and I'm on the staff of the Schuylkill
19 River National and State Heritage Area. We are one of
20 49 congressionally-designated Heritage Areas in the
21 country and our mission is to use recreation,
22 conservation, education, cultural and historic
23 preservation and tourism as tools for community
24 revitalization and economic development with the
25 Schuylkill River Valley.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 The Heritage Area has had the opportunity
2 for almost seven years now to partner with Exelon
3 Nuclear and the Limerick Generating Station on several
4 local and regional projects and programs. These
5 programs have proven to have a positive impact on our
6 local communities, residents, and natural resources.
7 And I would like to take a few moments to highlight
8 those now.

9 In 2005, Exelon Nuclear approached us
10 about the possibility of partnering together on a
11 grant program that would work to restore our area's
12 critical natural resource, the Schuylkill River. The
13 river has been detrimentally impacted by hundreds of
14 years of abuse and neglect, primarily as a result of
15 our nation's history related to the Industrial
16 Revolution. But even more recently, due to
17 deforestation, farming practices, and continued open
18 space development.

19 Beginning in 2006, after the creation of
20 grant program guidelines, an advisory committee and a
21 necessary accounting and reporting structures, Exelon
22 began making annual contributions to the Schuylkill
23 River Restoration Fund. The Schuylkill River Heritage
24 Area acts as the administrator and the manager of this
25 grant program, redistributing Exelon's contributions

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 to local and regional watershed groups, conservation
2 organizations, and local government agencies for
3 projects addressing the quality and quantity of
4 Schuylkill River water. Projects focusing on
5 agricultural remediation, abandoned mine drainage, and
6 stormwater runoff are supported through this program.

7 To date, Exelon has contributed over \$1.2
8 million to the restoration fund for watershed-wide
9 projects. Twenty-two grants have been awarded and 11
10 projects have been completed. These projects have
11 made an impact on the water quality and quantity of
12 the Schuylkill River which is a source of drinking
13 water for over 1.75 million people in southeastern
14 Pennsylvania.

15 Exelon's establishment and contribution to
16 the restoration fund has been a model program and is
17 now a uniquely valued public/private partnership as
18 several new partners have joined efforts and made
19 their own contributions to the fund. Both the
20 Philadelphia Water Department and the Partnership for
21 the Delaware Estuary have brought funding to the
22 program and supported regional watershed projects.
23 The contributions made by Exelon have been the
24 catalyst to leverage additional funds well over
25 \$600,000 for area restoration.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 The goal of the Restoration Fund Advisory
2 Committee is to be able to support a sustainable level
3 of half a million dollars annually for the fund and in
4 turn, conservation projects that will continue to
5 ensure the future health of the Schuylkill River.

6 In addition to our work on the restoration
7 fund, we have assisted Exelon Nuclear, East Coventry
8 Township, and Chester County in a planning effort to
9 begin the process of restoration and preservation of
10 the historic Fricks Locks Village. Earlier this year,
11 Exelon Nuclear, the current owners of the village,
12 signed an agreement with East Coventry Township to
13 stabilize, rehabilitate, and protect several of
14 Chester County's oldest buildings. Exelon has agreed
15 to spend \$2.5 million to restore the exterior of
16 several buildings as stabilized ruins. A fence will
17 be built around the grounds and the corporation is
18 donating four houses to the township worth an
19 estimated \$1 million.

20 In addition, the corporation has agreed to
21 continue to do routine maintenance on the village and
22 work with the local historical society to host guided,
23 historic and educational tours for the public.

24 From our perspective, much of the success
25 of this partnership can be assigned to the hard work,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 dedication and personal commitment of Exelon staff and
2 management. Based on the very positive community
3 programs and involvement we have experienced and
4 witnessed first hand as a regional organization, we
5 would like to communicate our support for the
6 relicensing and continued operation of Limerick
7 Generating Station. Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Okay, thank you.
10 The next three people I would like to call, Bill
11 Vogel, followed by Eileen Dautrich, is that how you
12 say that?

13 MS. DAUTRICH: Dautrich.

14 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Dautrich. Okay.
15 And then Bill Albany.

16 MR. VOGEL: Hi, my name is Bill Vogel. I
17 live in Phoenixville. Units 1 and 2 had an initial
18 life expectancy of 40 years. They are now asking to
19 increase that 20 years, a full one third increase.
20 Everything has a life expectancy, machinery, as well
21 as people. Demographically, my life expectancy is 74.

22 If I was to get a one third extension, like the
23 Limerick plant wants, that would take me to 111. What
24 do you think is going to happen to me between age 74,
25 my life span, my nameplate capacity, and the year when

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 I reach 111? It's going to go down hill. That's
2 lifecycle. Machinery has them. You don't need an
3 engineer to tell you that. Just like human beings
4 have them. We become less effective, less efficient,
5 less competent.

6 The significant difference is my failure
7 will be containable. Limerick's most likely will not.

8 If I drive over you with my car because I no longer
9 see as well or have the reflexes I once had, that's a
10 tragedy for you, your family, for me and my family.
11 The sphere of the tragedy is containable. If Limerick
12 Unit 1 or 2 fails, all hell breaks loose, no
13 disrespect. That's what a nuclear failure is, hell.
14 It affects everybody in this room, everybody in the
15 community, everybody in the tri-state area, not for a
16 week, but for decades. It's very, very last thing we
17 want to happen.

18 And I think we're putting ourselves in
19 harm's way by taking something that had a lifespan of
20 40 years and adding another 20 to it. It doesn't make
21 sense. The only way to rationalize it is through our
22 personal fear of being inconvenienced because we lose
23 a very, very good source of power. It's done a great
24 job for us. But like me, you get to a point where
25 your ability to provide a great job is at an end and

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 things start deteriorating. Let's not put ourselves
2 in that position. Let's make an intelligent decision
3 now and allow these two units to expire at their
4 nameplate time. Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you, Bill.
7 Eileen.

8 MS. DAUTRICH: Good afternoon. My name is
9 Eileen Dautrich. I'm president of the Tri-County Area
10 Chamber of Commerce. I'm happy to be here today to
11 provide examples of how Limerick Generating Station is
12 a valued community and business partner and echo the
13 statements already shared by several others.

14 They're one of the tri-county area's
15 largest employer, providing professional employment
16 opportunities for local residents. Those local
17 residents employed by Limerick Generating Station are
18 supporting the entire tri-county business community.
19 They're purchasing personal goods and services from
20 local small businesses. The annual outage is a
21 tremendous benefit to the local economy and our local
22 businesses. Limerick encourages their outage
23 employees to visit and purchase from tri-county area,
24 local businesses, and small businesses.

25 In addition to the jobs they provide local

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 residents, they're making a significant investment in
2 our local communities. Municipalities and residents
3 benefit from assistance received from Limerick to
4 start, maintain, expand parks, recreation, and quality
5 of life opportunities.

6 Their corporate culture of giving back to
7 the community is practiced by their hundreds of
8 employees. Nonprofit organizations are supported by
9 Limerick Generating Station and the efforts of their
10 employees. Financial donations, as well as volunteer
11 hours and time are donated, enabling our local
12 nonprofits to provide the much needed services that
13 impact those in need throughout the tri-county area.

14 The Limerick Generating Station is
15 confident in the clean and safe environment they
16 maintain in our community. The community has been
17 invited to experience the generating station
18 firsthand. The chamber hosted a membership breakfast
19 and the site vice president, Bill Maguire provided the
20 keynote presentation. He summarized safety measures
21 and advancements at Limerick and answered questions
22 pertaining to the Limerick plant and its safety in the
23 wake of the tsunami in Japan.

24 In addition, after our breakfast, Chamber
25 members were encouraged to attend the informational

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 meeting Limerick was holding for the community at
2 large, as well as participate in a tour of Limerick
3 Generating Station that was scheduled as a follow up
4 to our breakfast.

5 These opportunities for the community are
6 provided ongoing for the community to be informed and
7 educated about Limerick Generating Station. Thank
8 you.

9 (Applause.)

10 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Bill?

11 MR. ALBANY: Good afternoon. My name is
12 Bill Albany. I'm the Chief of Police for Limerick
13 Township Police Department. As stated earlier the
14 Limerick Township Police Department is the only
15 municipal police department in the State of
16 Pennsylvania with primary law enforcement
17 responsibility for a nuclear power plant.

18 I am badged at the site and I am also a
19 co-chair of a subcommittee for the Joint Terrorist
20 Task Force Southeast Region.

21 I didn't want to talk too much about
22 environmental issues, but about my relationship with
23 LGS, particularly as it applies to their Security
24 Department, their Emergency Planning Department and
25 their management. In a lot of companies today, you

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 see policies and procedures that people talk about and
2 they're put up on a shelf and they're followed at best
3 haphazardly with a wink and a nod and deviation from
4 the policy is not addressed.

5 One of the things that I'm continuously
6 impressed at LGS when I visit is their sound adherence
7 to policy and procedure. They don't deviate from it.

8 I've been to numerous drills at the plant, numerous
9 exercises at the plant, some of which were run by the
10 NRC and I've never seen them fail. They always come
11 out on top. In fact, in 2009, Limerick was selected
12 as a site for the first comprehensive pilot exercise
13 involving federal, state, and local law enforcement
14 SWAT teams to actually go into the power block and
15 conduct tactical operations in there, and that drill
16 was used as a boiler plate to develop policies and
17 procedures for implementation in power plants
18 throughout the country.

19 One of the -- I'm sorry, I don't believe
20 that continued operations of the power plant would
21 have any detrimental effect on public safety in the
22 southeast region. Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Okay, thank you.
25 I'd like to call the final three speakers who have

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 signed up, John McGowan, Ted Del Gaizo, and Timothy
2 Phillips. John?

3 MR. MCGOWAN: Thank you very much. My
4 name is John McGowan and I am a life-long resident of
5 the Delaware Valley. I have lived half of my -- or I
6 should say the Limerick Nuclear Power Station has been
7 operating for half of my life. I own three
8 manufacturing companies in the Malvern area and employ
9 a number of people in those facilities who rely
10 tremendously on the Limerick Power Generating Station
11 to supply safe, reliable electrical power to keep us
12 operating.

13 Today, I would like to say that in all of
14 the years that I've lived in this area, I've never
15 worried at all about the safety of the nuclear power
16 plant. I see it every day. And it bothers me not in
17 the least. I have never seen any credible evidence to
18 suggest that there are safety problems with this
19 plant. In terms of reliability, it is the same. It
20 is running 24/7, 365 days a year and it has been doing
21 so for a quarter of a century and I hope it continues
22 to do so for many more years to come.

23 As far as its environmental impact, I
24 think it's pretty widely known that nuclear power is
25 one of the cleanest environmental energies that we

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 possess today throughout the world and to dismiss it
2 is I think a foolish notion.

3 The impact of the Limerick plant in our
4 region has been extraordinarily positive. It
5 provides, as we all know and have heard today, lots of
6 jobs, lots of good jobs, tax revenues for schools,
7 local governments and for those who live in the area
8 to enjoy the fruits of public services and it also
9 provides a lot of charitable donations to the
10 community which is very important.

11 I think that to not keep this plant
12 running and not consider a renewal of its license for
13 an extended period would be a tragic mistake for all
14 of us and I would like to end this by saying that the
15 only meltdown that would concern me is the economic
16 one that certainly would happen to this area should
17 this plant not continue to operate.

18 (Applause.)

19 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Ted, go ahead.

20 MR. DEL GAIZO: Hi, my name is Ted Del
21 Gaizo. I'm a registered professional engineer in the
22 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I'm also president and
23 CEO of a small business engineering firm in nearby
24 Exton, Pennsylvania.

25 My experience in nuclear power goes back

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 to the 1960s where I spent 14 years in Navy submarines
2 and I personally operated, maintained, and refueled
3 nuclear power plants during that period.

4 But I'm here today as a private citizen,
5 as a resident of the area and as a member of the
6 Pennsylvania Energy Alliance to go on record and say I
7 strongly favor license renewal for the Limerick
8 Generating Station. I say that because in my personal
9 experience I know in spite of some of the things
10 you've probably heard here today, nuclear power is
11 safe, reliable, secure and clean. But in addition to
12 that, I would like to go on record, I would like my
13 neighbors to know we are lucky to have the Limerick
14 Generating Station in this area. In the industry, it
15 has a top reputation. It is one of the finest nuclear
16 power plants in America. And Exelon, if not the best,
17 is certainly one of the finest nuclear operators in
18 the world.

19 I have nothing but confidence that Exelon
20 will work together with the NRC, will run through the
21 process and we will come up with the right conclusion
22 here which is license renewal should be granted to the
23 Limerick Generating Station. I think we need to keep
24 Limerick operating as long as we can.

25 In addition, in spite of some other things

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 you may have heard here today, I'd like to thank the
2 NRC for the fine job they do on protecting the health
3 and safety of the public. I think as a regulatory
4 agency you're one of the finest in the world.
5 Certainly, the world follows everything you do. And
6 I'm sure you'll come up with the right conclusion here
7 and thank you for what you do for the United States.

8 (Applause.)

9 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Timothy?

10 MR. PHELPS: Good afternoon. My name is
11 Tim Phelps. I'm the former president of the Tri-
12 County Area Chamber of Commerce, but I'm here as a
13 citizen, not a citizen of the Limerick community, but
14 a citizen of East Whiteland. After I left the
15 Chamber, I still stayed involved in the Exelon
16 Generating Station through their CAP program. I
17 thought was extremely important because of the
18 information that was provided to the community through
19 the CAP. And I'm able to share this information,
20 share the benefits and share what's happening here at
21 the nuclear power plant.

22 I have to thank the NRC for actually
23 hosting -- this is a part of their process of making
24 the transparency available to everybody, for the press
25 to be here in the room. That shows that there's an

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 openess in the thinking process that goes into place
2 for renewal of any nuclear power plant.

3 And so from my perspective as a citizen,
4 as a business person who has worked in this community,
5 I understand the value this is to the region. And for
6 me, I applaud the NRC for what they're doing here. I
7 applaud Exelon for the great work that they're doing
8 there and I encourage the renewal process to take
9 place. Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 FACILITATOR BARKLEY: Thank you. With
12 that, I have all 15 people who had signed up for this
13 meeting, have been called. Is there anyone else who
14 would like to make a short follow-up remark or would
15 like to still speak at this point?

16 Okay, if not, I'd like to make two points
17 before we wrap up. One, the NRC does have public
18 meeting feedback forms which give us feedback on how
19 you think this meeting was conducted, so I would
20 greatly appreciate you filling out one of those forms
21 for us so that we can learn how to improve. There is
22 another session of this meeting at 7 o'clock tonight.
23 You're welcome to speak again tonight.

24 And secondly, what I'd like to say is I
25 facilitate a lot of meetings throughout the Northeast

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 and I find groups have very differing opinions on both
2 sides of this issue and often are not respectful or
3 civil towards each other. I thought the audience this
4 evening was marvelous and exemplary towards each other
5 and I greatly appreciate that. I did not have to
6 interrupt or intervene, so I very much thank you for
7 that.

8 With that, I'd like to wrap up this
9 meeting and the NRC will still stay around to answer
10 questions and please talk with them some more. Thank
11 you very much.

12 (Applause.)

13 (Whereupon, at 3:45 p.m., the public
14 meeting was concluded.)

15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com