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BEFORE THE
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

GOLDEN PASS LNG TERMINAL PROJECT NO. PF04-11-000

PUBLIC MEETING

January 11, 2005

7:00 P.M.

HELD IN THE

VFW HALL

2292 HIGHWAY 109 SOUTH

VINTON, LOUISIANA

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A P P E A R A N C E S

BEFORE:

LAURA TURNER
PROJECT MANAGER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

ALSO APPEARING:

CHAE LAIRD
E.N.S.R.

REPORTED BY:

AVA LUNDQUIST, CVR
CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

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

2 MS. TURNER: We'd like to thank everybody
3 for coming tonight. I'd also like to thank the
4 V.F.W. for letting us use their facilities. It's
5 very nice. My name is Laura Turner. I'm with the
6 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and I'm
7 Project Manager for the Environmental Review of
8 Sempra's Port Arthur L.N.G. Terminal and Pipeline
9 Project.

10 In case you don't know, the F.E.R.C.,
11 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, is the
12 federal agency who is charged with the review and
13 permitting of various natural gas facilities, among
14 other things, and that includes onshore L.N.G.
15 terminals.

16 Now, the purpose of this meeting is to
17 collect information and suggestions from you as to
18 what we should look at, what should be included in
19 our Environmental Impact Statement. This impact
20 statement will be used for both the public's review
21 and for our agency's review to show what the
22 impacts would be if this project is built. This
23 document is not to approve or disapprove the
24 project. It's just to reveal what the impacts of
25 it are.

1 Now, the way our process works is a company
2 comes to us, and in this case, Sempra has come to
3 us before they have actually filed an application.
4 They have requested that we work with them to
5 identify issues, and if issues can be resolved, to
6 resolve them with the help of the public and other
7 agencies before they file an application. Now,
8 that does not mean that once the application is
9 filed that is what is going to happen. There still
10 will be continuing review, but we're trying to
11 avoid some of the major problems, if there are
12 pipeline segments that are not feasible or
13 reasonable, for various reasons. They can be
14 identified up front and things can be changed. We
15 will still look at the total impact once the
16 application is filed.

17 With this pre-filing process, our agency
18 has given it a docket number, and that docket
19 number is PF4-11.

20 Our commission has a web site, and that web
21 site has on it what is called "E-subscription" and
22 "E-library." E-library contains in it everything
23 that the company files with us. Most of that
24 information is available for the public to look at.
25 E-subscription allows you to put in -- to subscribe

1 to a specific docket number, and anytime anything
2 is filed in that docket number, you'll get an
3 e-mail message that something is filed so you can
4 keep track of what's going on.

5 After the company decides to -- that they
6 want to formalize the process and file an
7 application, they will get a new docket number.
8 We'll send out a notice as to what this new docket
9 number is. But if you wish to send us any comments
10 and you don't know what the docket number is, you
11 can use the P.F. docket number because I monitor
12 that docket even once it has gone to a formal
13 application.

14 One of the things that -- the first
15 environmental document that will come out is a
16 Draft Environmental Impact Statement. This is our
17 first attempt at telling the public what we believe
18 the impacts are. We'll ask for your comments on
19 that draft statement. I would encourage you, if
20 you want to get it, to sign up in the back, and to
21 be on our mailing list, and then we will
22 automatically send it out to you. We will tell you
23 how long it is you have to comment on it. We will
24 probably have another comment meeting in this area
25 so that if you don't want to send something in, you

1 can come to another meeting and give us your
2 comments in person.

3 After we receive all of your comments,
4 we'll go back and see what needs to be changed,
5 what information needs to be added, if we need to
6 be looking at anything else, and then we will issue
7 our final document. It's that document that our
8 commission will use when they make a decision on
9 whether or not to grant a permit for this project.

10 So, I think at that point, I'll ask Sempra
11 if they would give a short description of what
12 their project is.

13 MARVIN IVEY: Thank you Laura. Laura
14 emphasized short, and we will attempt to do that.

15 LAURA TURNER: Also, let me make one more
16 little bookkeeping measure. When Marvin is done,
17 we'll -- we have a list right now of a few people
18 who have said they wanted to speak. We'll ask you
19 to come up to the microphone and state your name
20 again so that the court reporter can get it down.
21 We use a court reporter just to make sure we're not
22 missing anything. We want to get what you say
23 correctly. So, we would ask you to come up and
24 restate your name.

25 MARVIN IVEY: My name is Marvin Ivey, and

1 I'm the Project Development Manager for the L.N.G.
2 Project at Port Arthur. Sempra, which is the
3 parent company, is working already here in the
4 State of Louisiana and Texas on other projects.
5 We're already building an L.N.G. facility on the
6 Calcasieu River near Hackberry. So, this will --
7 this project will be our second in the area.

8 The project is going to be located and has
9 two components. There's the L.N.G. terminal
10 component and then there's the pipeline component
11 that takes the gas away from the project and puts
12 it into the national interstate pipeline system.

13 The location of the terminal is here, just
14 south of the City of Port Arthur. It's on the
15 Sabine-Neches Waterway and industrial canal that
16 services all of the refineries that exist in Port
17 Arthur and up in Nederland and all the way up to
18 Beaumont. That location is on property that Sempra
19 owns. They hold about 3,000 acres in the region.
20 The location is large, and so we have plenty of
21 room, but we're planning to use a little under
22 200 acres in the process to build our L.N.G.
23 terminal.

24 Now, the terminal will have two docking
25 berths for the L.N.G. ships to come into and dock.

1 They'll offload their L.N.G., liquid natural gas,
2 into tanks that will be located on the property.
3 We have a two-phase project that calls for a one
4 and a half B.C.F. a day send-out rate, and then
5 phase two of the project will double that up to
6 three B.C.F., billion cubic feet of gas, send-out
7 rate. So, for storage purposes, to meet those
8 send-out rates, phase one will have three of these
9 tanks built on the property, and then for phase
10 two, we would add an additional three storage tanks
11 to hold these -- the natural -- the liquified
12 natural gas.

13 The tanks that Sempra is building are
14 beyond the standard that's required by FERC in this
15 process. The ones we are building will have an
16 inner, nickel-steel tank to contain the L.N.G., and
17 it will have a full and complete outer concrete
18 containment vessel for additional safety and
19 security.

20 After the gas is -- after the L.N.G. is
21 pulled from those large tanks, it goes into a set
22 of vaporizers, and here we will be using what's
23 called "shell and tube technology." Essentially
24 that is running the liquified natural gas through a
25 tube that is surrounded by warm water. That warm

1 water will be heated from some boilers that will be
2 on-site. Once the gas is warmed and vaporized and
3 taken up to around 40 degrees, it will be put into
4 two send-out pipelines.

5 The pipelines are probably the major
6 concern for this meeting here in Vinton. One of
7 the lines runs about three miles south of the
8 project. Here's a blowup of that. It runs down
9 and connects to N.G.P.L.'s main trunkline that runs
10 east and west across Texas and across Louisiana.
11 The second line is a 36-inch pipeline that will
12 leave the property and cross Sabine Lake and then
13 come up into Cameron Parish and then crossing
14 Calcasieu Parish, not too far from where we are
15 tonight. The terminus will be at Transco
16 Compressor Station Number 45.

17 So, what we're building here is the ability
18 to bring in and maintain a send-out rate that will
19 help this area and the rest of the country meet
20 it's natural gas needs over the next 20 years. All
21 of the projects that you're hearing proposed are
22 all for that same issue. We see a dramatic drop in
23 the natural gas production in the Gulf of Mexico,
24 and we see a real shortage of natural gas in the
25 country. That's one of the reasons today that

1 we're seeing escalated natural gas prices. What
2 we're doing with these L.N.G. projects is
3 substituting for that lost production by bringing
4 natural gas from some other location and bringing
5 it in and putting it back into the existing
6 pipeline systems that already feed the country.
7 So, that's the purpose behind this project and
8 other projects like it.

9 Anything else?

10 LAURA TURNER: No, I don't think so.

11 MARVIN IVEY: Thank you.

12 LAURA TURNER: Thank you. Okay, now, we
13 want to start what we consider to be the most
14 important part, when we get comments and
15 suggestions from you. I would stress that the main
16 purpose of this meeting is to get information on
17 what you think we should be looking at in this
18 environmental document, because you know the area
19 better than we do.

20 CHAE LAIRD: The first name on the
21 speakers' list -- and my apologies up front if I
22 miss pronounce a name -- is Michael Tritico.

23 MICHAEL TRITICO: My name is Michael
24 Tritico. I live at Post Office Box 233, Longville,
25 Louisiana.

1 LAURA TURNER: Is that microphone on?

2 CHAE LAIRD: It's not.

3 LAURA TURNER: Give him this one, because
4 it's more important that he's heard.

5 MICHAEL TRITICO: I'm submitting these
6 comments for the environmental group, Restore,
7 which we started back in 1974. It's a small,
8 southwest Louisiana environmental group.

9 Many years ago we raised concerns during
10 the appropriate comment period preceding the
11 construction of an L.N.G. terminal that now exists
12 in south Lake Charles. We still have such
13 concerns. They fall into two main categories. One
14 is public safety and the other one is ecosystem
15 harm.

16 According to our calculations -- and we
17 would hope that someone else with more competence
18 in math and thermodynamics would repeat the
19 calculations and make the results public. Any one
20 of the three tanks of L.N.G. at the south Lake
21 Charles terminal contains energy equivalent to over
22 25 times the energy that was release by the atomic
23 bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan.

24 Restore has seen an old film released by
25 the U.S. Coast Guard, done for them by the U.S.

1 Bureau of Mines in which small-scale experiments on
2 spills of L.N.G. showed some unexpected results
3 that we believe could occur with catastrophic
4 consequences should there be an L.N.G. spill into
5 our warm waters.

6 Restore has read the new report by Sandia
7 Corporation clearly showing the vulnerability of
8 L.N.G. shipping and storage to a terrorist attack
9 and the unfortunate circumstances that would result
10 from such an attack.

11 We've read about the opposition to
12 utilization of the open-loop system using ambient
13 waters as a heat source to re-gasify liquified
14 natural gas, and we join that opposition since the
15 open-loop system will likely have extremely adverse
16 impacts on seafood and other aquatic creatures's
17 reproductive successes.

18 Project related dredging and wetland
19 disruptions also harm the ecosystem.

20 Accordingly, we have the following
21 questions:

22 Using the Hiroshima atomic bomb as a frame
23 of reference, how much energy will be carried in
24 one shipload of arriving liquified natural gas?

25 Using the Hiroshima atomic bomb as a frame

1 of reference, how much energy will be stored at any
2 one time in the Port Arthur terminal?

3 In the imported liquified natural gas, what
4 is the proportion of methane to other heavier
5 flammable molecules, such as ethane or propane, and
6 to the sum of all such other flammable molecules
7 contained within the raw liquid? The reason we are
8 asking that is because some of the experiments
9 showed that the more of the heavier molecules
10 beyond methane the more likely that there could be
11 a catastrophic explosion. We've also read that the
12 raw gas coming from Algeria and other places
13 exceeds the amount of those heavier molecules
14 necessary to change the character of the L.N.G.
15 toward something far more explosive than pure
16 L.N.G.

17 Will the safety and security measures to be
18 taken in association with the Port Arthur Project
19 be equivalent to the ones now in existence for the
20 project in Boston Harbor, Massachusetts? We ask
21 that because we feel that the kind of environmental
22 disaster which would include human beings being
23 burnt is just as important here as it would be for
24 Boston. People in Port Arthur, Hackberry, Cameron,
25 Lake Charles deserve as much protection as the

1 people of Boston.

2 One of these questions has already been
3 answered. Will the Port Arthur Project use an
4 open-loop or a closed-loop technique in its
5 re-gasification of the L.N.G.? The man has already
6 told us it would be a closed loop. However, I
7 wonder what will happen to the heated water. Will
8 it continue to be in a closed loop, or will it be
9 dumped into the Sabine? In that case, you would
10 have a thermal increase. You'd have a heating up
11 of the bay or the estuary, and that could be just
12 as detrimental as if you chilled it. I don't know
13 how -- if something is going to be discharged, we
14 need to know if it's going to be an ambient
15 temperature or too hot or too cold. That's the
16 question.

17 To what degree, how, and when will
18 environmental impacts be studied and the results
19 publicized? You've also answered that question.

20 How will the public be kept informed of and
21 allowed to comment upon the developments in the
22 Port Arthur Project? You've answered that one
23 also.

24 Just to summarize, we're very concerned
25 about the possibility of a catastrophic release and

1 what could happen.

2 We're also concerned about environmental
3 degradation. We've already had much environmental
4 degradation here at the Toledo Bend Dam. Years ago
5 we commented about the likelihood that building a
6 dam up there was going to alter the salinity
7 gradient down here -- I mean, down at the Sabine
8 Lake -- and we believe that that has happened, and
9 we think that that's one of the reasons why it's
10 harder to catch fish and shrimp. We've had a lot
11 of negative impacts from dredging, so we need to
12 know how much dredging is going to be involved, how
13 deep. We need to know how many wetlands are going
14 to be lost, and we need to know what mitigation
15 might be involved in any of those things.

16 Thank you. I'll just turn this in to you.
17 It will make it a little easier.

18 (COURT REPORTER'S NOTE: Whereupon,
19 Mr. Michael Tritico's statement was identified and
20 attached as "Exhibit 1" to these proceedings.)

21 LAURA TURNER: Thank you. Give it to the
22 court reporter.

23 CHAE LAIRD: Thank you. Ernie Colonna.

24 ERNIE COLONNA: My name's Ernie Colonna. I
25 live in Lake Charles, Louisiana. I'm a member of

1 Restore, and I have a few concerns relative to this
2 proposal.

3 I must say in comments, to preface this, by
4 thinking in terms of the full impact of the
5 liquified natural gas operations will have in this
6 region of the country. I'm very much concerned
7 because I count 11 sites, counting the offshore
8 terminals, proposed for this region of the country.
9 Eleven.

10 While looking at the map here, I noticed
11 that Highway 87 is in very close proximity to the
12 terminal. In phase one, I understand from the
13 gentleman that he had indicated that phase one
14 would have three tanks and phase two would complete
15 that with an additional three tanks.

16 My concern is that this cluster array of
17 liquified natural gas -- although on paper it
18 sounds wonderful. You take the liquified natural
19 gas, bring it in, and then bring it into our
20 pipeline, but I contend that 9/11 has changed
21 everything, everything, about how we think about
22 being citizens of this country, our use of energy,
23 our part in allowing things like this into our
24 lives, the threat and the potential threat that
25 these possess and present to us.

1 Liquified natural gas has a tremendous
2 volatility. I have been able to secure some
3 information that really startled me. A tanker -- a
4 general tanker is approximately 125,000 cubic
5 meters of liquified natural gas. The calculations
6 that have been done relative to that is that it is
7 equivalent to about seven-tenths of a megaton of
8 equivalence of what was dropped on Hiroshima. That
9 is approximately 25 Hiroshima bombs, if you want to
10 compare the volatility. On average, storage tanks
11 are about 90,000 cubic meters. This site is
12 proposing storage tanks that will be 160,000 cubic
13 meters, in clusters, close proximity to water,
14 close to proximity to highways.

15 Now, I'm not a terrorist, but I have to
16 think like one. Now, if I saw that this was coming
17 and that these were all being permitted for the
18 Gulf Of Mexico, Louisiana and Texas, possibly
19 Mobile Bay, if I were a terrorist, I would be happy
20 -- very happy -- because I would have such a
21 smorgasbord of choices of targets to hit. I
22 contend that if you light one of these candles up,
23 if you puncture these tanks or interrupt the
24 off-loading process from a tanker in mid-stream,
25 you will have released this material into the air.

1 Now, people think this might be absurd or extreme
2 or radical, but no one thought that two 110-story
3 buildings in the City of New York would be brought
4 to the bottom of their foundations on the morning
5 of September 11th. Nobody thought that was going
6 to happen. I contend that the clustering of these
7 in this Gulf of Mexico is a dangerous precedent to
8 be setting.

9 As I also said here, if you light one of
10 these candles, you light them all. I mean, I think
11 the kill zone for a megaton is about ten-radius
12 miles from the point of impact. Now, you can do
13 the math, and you can do the figuring of population
14 impact and industrial impact. The volatility
15 issues relative to lighting this candle will
16 involve the industrial corridors of Calcasieu
17 Parish if they happen to chose the L.N.G. Trunkline
18 on Big Lake Highway or this one on the -- the Texas
19 side of the Sabine River or the Louisiana side.
20 The close proximity of these facilities I think has
21 to be looked at very strongly because of the impact
22 if these were to rupture and cause a fireball. I'd
23 hate to think of it happening. That's why I'm
24 here. I don't want to see this happen.

25 I think our thinking has to be brought on

1 the page to be thinking in terms of how this is
2 going to impact the United States. The industrial
3 corridors of Calcasieu Parish contain two
4 refineries plus 45 other industrial sites. You're
5 just down river from a huge complex there in Port
6 Arthur and also impacting the Houston Ship Chanel
7 area. It doesn't take much for this because this
8 is relatively flat land here. A concussion from
9 one of these would move very quickly across the
10 land.

11 Another concern I have beyond the terrorist
12 is Mother Nature. We are witnessing Mother
13 Nature's two cents -- she's putting her two cents
14 in today. Look at what's happening in California
15 and Idaho. Look at the tsunami in Asia. There is
16 severe and specific tectonic plate activity in and
17 around the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico. If you
18 look at the map of Mexico, this is a closed basin.
19 An earthquake in the Yucatan would send a shockwave
20 across this Gulf within a matter of minutes. Are
21 we prepared for a tsunami of the size that hit
22 Asia? Or larger? An earthquake happened in Juno,
23 Alaska, in 1964. I believe it was '64. It was a
24 eight point whatever-it-was on the Richter scale.
25 The streets were literally rolling in the videotape

1 I saw. It looked like water waves. The Port of
2 Valdez was hit with a 300-foot tsunami. It
3 completely destroyed the port. A huge tanker was
4 picked up and placed on the land. People said it
5 would never happen. The consideration for a
6 tsunami hitting these tanks and interrupting their
7 integrity, no matter how great they are, double
8 lined and concrete and all that, are we prepared
9 for the impact of that on this environment? It
10 would, I think, destroy this gulf for a very long
11 time. It would be longer than my lifetime or my
12 children's children's lifetime, with the
13 temperature disruption here. The massive cold
14 relative to this warm water would destroy this
15 ecosystem. This, I think, is something that needs
16 to be considered in the permitting process.

17 As I said, 9/11 has changed everything. I
18 think the way we use energy in this country is
19 shameful. I mean, we are so accustomed to wasting
20 instead of having an energy policy that says, "We
21 are going to unplug from these thugs. We are going
22 to say we've got to have an energy policy that says
23 we'll have a reduction of our foreign imports.
24 Thirty percent over five years is the goal -- the
25 national goal. Put a flag around it." Say, "This

1 is what we want to do with our country. We are
2 going to pull away from the dependence and remove
3 ourselves from the cross hairs of what's happening
4 in the middle east and around the world." We can
5 do it. The technologies that are available on the
6 shelf today are a tremendous array of energy
7 conservation, available. The primary obstacle is
8 money. Can we justify the cost of retrofitting
9 your business or your governmental building or your
10 home. Instead of having an energy policy that
11 considers these things, we are more considered with
12 supply-side economics. More is going to solve our
13 problem. More is better. I think clustering these
14 in the Gulf of Mexico is insane, purely insane.

15 We can reduce our energy demands probably
16 equivalent to what these facilities could -- would
17 be generating if we put our minds and our will to
18 it. If we have the will and a president and a
19 government that says, "Yeah, we're going to move in
20 this direction." But we don't have that. We have
21 supply-side economics. That's what has been
22 driving this bus since 1945. We need to change it.
23 We need a paradigm shift. We keep hearing we need
24 a paradigm shift. It hasn't happened as yet. I
25 think Mother Nature may just provide that paradigm

1 shift on her own. It's that simple. When you see
2 a ring of fire and you see tectonic activity, it
3 finds its way across the boundaries of water and we
4 see it happening in different regions of the
5 country, and we can expect it. We can expect.
6 It's not improbable. Clustering these in the Gulf
7 like this, I think, is a very poor -- I don't think
8 it's in the best interest of the people or the best
9 interest for the people that would be impacted if
10 something catastrophic, like I have mentioned,
11 occurs.

12 It's a great idea. You can take a mass and
13 reduce it in size and then reintroduce it into a
14 pipeline and into that system. It's a great idea,
15 but 9/11 changes everything. It has changed
16 everything. Unless we are willing to consider that
17 as real and look at it with no myopic realities
18 except we have to look at this as real, I think we
19 are opening the door for a lot of process that none
20 of us want to look at. None of us want to have
21 that happen.

22 So, thank you for allowing me to speak.

23 LAURA TURNER: Thank you.

24 CHAE LAIRD: Thank you. Mr. Paul Stone.

25 PAUL STONE: Good evening. My name is Paul

1 Stone. I'm a conservation forester with
2 Temple-Inland Forest Products in DeQuincy,
3 Louisiana. We're here tonight to talk about the
4 pipeline route and not the terminal itself. We see
5 this pipeline route as being inextricably linked to
6 the Cameron L.N.G. line which, in our opinion, has
7 inadequately addressed some of our concerns in one
8 particular section of the pipeline route.

9 I would like to express my concerns
10 regarding the proposed L.N.G. pipeline planned to
11 cross the Temple-Inland Forest Crown Point
12 Distinctive Site in Section 8 of Township 8 South,
13 Range 9 West, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana.
14 Temple-Inland has only 17 sites across the
15 2.1 million acres of ownership in four states that
16 were considered to have resources rare enough to be
17 given recognition as a Distinctive Sites. Of those
18 17, only three were set aside for their unique
19 biological nature. Crown Point is one of those
20 three.

21 Project botanists for Temple-Inland and the
22 Botanist and Community Specialist for the Louisiana
23 Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Natural
24 Heritage Program are currently inventorying Crown
25 Point. To date over 250 species of plants have

1 been identified by these sources, with some
2 expectation that the final inventory may include in
3 excess of 600 species of plants within the entire
4 Distinctive Site.

5 Also included in the route of both of these
6 pipelines are rare forest communities. The
7 majority of the pipeline route across Temple-Inland
8 at that location crosses longleaf pine savanna at
9 various stages of restoration and is listed as
10 G2G3 or imperiled and vulnerable by the Natural
11 Heritage Program. The upland portion of the
12 proposed right-of-way characterized as "typical of
13 managed slash pine stands that do not appear to
14 represent sensitive resources" in the environmental
15 data provided, while responding to our concerns
16 over the Cameron L.N.G. line, actually contain
17 longleaf relics in excess of 130-years-old. While
18 the timber along the upland portion of the route
19 does contain a mix of slash and longleaf pine, the
20 stand is hardly typical of managed slash and
21 contains rare plants and comminutes far more
22 sensitive than the bottomland portion that was
23 planned for horizontal, directional drilling.

24 According to our records, a large portion
25 of the savanna the pipeline route is proposed to

1 cross is natural and has not been planted or
2 significantly altered for at least the last hundred
3 years. In the draft E.I.S. for the Hackberry
4 L.N.G. line, that area was misidentified as slash
5 pine plantation or was completely overlooked.

6 The area near the exit point of the boring
7 on the east side of Beckwith Creek is also an area
8 misidentified within the draft E.I.S. for the
9 Hackberry L.N.G. line, which stated that the route
10 avoids any brimstone soils. Not only is the boring
11 exit area on brimstone soil that frequently occurs
12 on wetland sites, it is also a saline glade which
13 has a global ranking of G1 or critically imperiled
14 from the Natural Heritage Program, generally
15 indicating that there are five or fewer known
16 occurrences anywhere in the world.

17 There are also a number of rare plant
18 species present on the site, including *Sporobolus*
19 *silveanus*, which has an S2S3 ranking within the
20 State of Louisiana and a G3 ranking globally, *Xyris*
21 *stricta*, which has an S1 or critically imperiled
22 ranking within the State of Louisiana, and *Xyris*
23 *louisianica*, which has a G3 ranking globally, and
24 the species of *Lyatris* which may represent a yet
25 un-described species altogether. For these

1 reasons, there was support from the U.S. Fish and
2 Wildlife Service, Louisiana Natural Heritage
3 Program, and The Nature Conservancy to avoid the
4 Temple-Inland Distinctive Site with the pipeline
5 project.

6 We once again would like to reiterate that
7 we are not opposed to either the L.N.G. project or
8 opposed to having either project cross
9 Temple-Inland Forest lands. We are merely trying
10 to make sure that the pipelines do not compromise
11 the integrity of the rare biological resources on
12 our Distinctive Site. The nominal mitigation
13 efforts planned for the Cameron L.N.G. line were to
14 include minimizing the right-of-way width, but the
15 cumulative effect of adding a second pipeline
16 completely negates the effects of that alteration.
17 And G1 communities, by their very imperiled nature,
18 cannot be mitigated since so few exist anywhere in
19 the world.

20 We would therefore like to propose
21 adjusting the route of the pipeline to the north of
22 the Distinctive Site, a route that will still cross
23 Temple-Inland Forest lands just the same, but in a
24 location dominated by pine plantations that will
25 not reduce the bio-diversity of the area as the

1 current route may well do.

2 If you have any questions, I'll take your
3 questions at this point.

4 (COURT REPORTER'S NOTE: Whereupon,
5 Mr. Paul Stone's statement was identified and
6 attached as "Exhibit 2" to these proceedings.)

7 LAURA TURNER: I would really appreciate it
8 if you could get us a map of this area, so we can
9 make sure we are looking at the right area.

10 PAUL STONE: Okay. We can do that.

11 LAURA TURNER: Thank you very much.

12 CHAE LAIRD: Thank you. Tim Tindell.

13 TIM TINDELL: Rob and I are going to submit
14 some comments next week, in writing. We'll pass on
15 public comment and just go with what Paul said.

16 CHAE LAIRD: Okay. Thank you. Mr. Jeff
17 Sanders.

18 JEFF SANDERS: Jeff Sanders. I represent
19 I.B.E.W., International Brotherhood of Electrical
20 Workers in Lake Charles, Louisiana. I came here to
21 talk in support of this project from Port Arthur,
22 the pipeline up to Transco.

23 I want to -- the people of this area to
24 know that we represent a thousand members and their
25 families and friends. These jobs and this project

1 that's coming through here is an economic -- will
2 be a big economic impact for this area and for the
3 people that live in this area.

4 I would just like to make a few comments on
5 some of the things that were said. I think that
6 the L.N.G. plant has been in Lake Charles,
7 Louisiana, for approximately 20 years. There have
8 been no problems that I am aware of.

9 We -- 9/11 did change this country. It
10 changed a lot of things in this country. I think
11 that at the same time the American people and the
12 American public are not in tune -- are not geared
13 to live in a country where they've got to look over
14 their shoulder, you know, every day of the week. I
15 think that the American government is responsible
16 for taking care of the people of this country, and
17 Homeland Security is responsible for making sure
18 that when these ships come in that, you know,
19 there's no terrorism involved. Homeland Security
20 and this government is responsible for taking care
21 of the people of this country.

22 So, I, for one, knowing that this country
23 is in need -- dire need -- of L.N.G. to feed the
24 pipelines of this country and to take care of the
25 American public, I am in favor of the L.N.G.

1 projects, and I don't have a problem with the fear
2 factor. If there's an environmental impact,
3 there's something there that I'm not aware of
4 environmentally, but as far as L.N.G. coming in
5 here and building these terminals and the fear
6 factor, I don't have a problem with that. I expect
7 our government to take care of that problem for us.

8 That's all. Thank you.

9 CHAE LAIRD: Chris Reed.

10 CHRIS REED: Good evening. My name is
11 Chris Reed. I'm a botanist with the Louisiana
12 Natural Heritage Program which is a small program
13 within the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and
14 Fisheries.

15 I wanted to mention a site that has already
16 been mentioned by Paul Stone of Temple-Inland, that
17 being the Crown Point Distinctive Site. I'm
18 basically going to reiterate some of the things
19 that he said, at least with respect to listing the
20 different biological resources at that site, as far
21 as rare communities and rare species.

22 I might as well give a little background on
23 the Natural Heritage Program. It's a very small
24 program within the Department of Wildlife and
25 Fisheries. Our main mission is to collect

1 information regarding the biological diversity of
2 Louisiana. All 50 states have a Natural Heritage
3 Program by some name or another, but we're all part
4 of the same network. Altogether there are about
5 80. Most Canadian provinces and about 10 or
6 15 Latin American countries have Natural Heritage
7 Programs. The Nature Conservancy, which is a
8 not-for-profit conservation organization, is the
9 mother of this Natural Heritage Program. Our main
10 mission is inventorying Louisiana, identifying --
11 well, determining which natural communities and
12 species are rare and threatened and then collecting
13 information on those elements so that they may be
14 used for both project reviews in determining
15 threats to specific sites and also for conservation
16 planning. That data is used by several state and
17 federal agencies, the Nature Conservancy, and some
18 other private entities.

19 The sites at the Crown Point Site that
20 stand to be impacted -- one of which is an
21 extremely rare site as Paul mentioned. He referred
22 to it as "a saline glade." I'm going to backtrack
23 a little bit. A lot of people in this room
24 probably know that a lot of southwest Louisiana was
25 dominated by longleaf pine. In this lower portion,

1 we're talking about longleaf pine in the flatwoods.
2 The soils down here are flat as a pancake, with the
3 exception of pimple mounds. That's a prominent
4 feature. The soils are flat. They're
5 poorly-drained, silt loams. They're infertile.
6 This, plus regularly occurring fire, maintains
7 these longleaf pine savannas.

8 Longleaf savannas themselves are -- have a
9 G2, G3 ranking, which translates to globally
10 imperiled to globally vulnerable. If you're not
11 familiar with these conservation status rankings,
12 they're determined by a company called NatureServe,
13 which is a split off of the Nature Conservancy and
14 it's our parent organization. These rankings, both
15 at the global and state level, are designed to
16 prioritize their efforts, both inventory efforts
17 and conservation efforts to determine which species
18 and communities are most in peril and therefore
19 need our attention the most.

20 So, longleaf pine savanna itself is a G2,
21 G3 ranking. Within that area, on brimstone soils,
22 there occurs another very rare plant community and
23 that's a saline longleaf pine savanna, otherwise
24 known as a "saline glade." The term "glade"
25 indicates that it's very open. Savanna by

1 definition is basically a grassland with just a few
2 scattered trees. As I said before, this is
3 maintained by both soils and fire working in
4 concert. This particular saline glade on Crown
5 Point that stands to be impacted is one of four
6 that we've identified, that we are aware of in our
7 data base. That's one of four globally. It's --
8 this community may one day pop up, somebody might
9 find an example in east Texas, but right now we're
10 aware of four occurrences. So, that, in and of
11 itself, makes it a major conservation target and
12 something that we would very much like to see
13 conserved.

14 Additionally, to the western -- the saline
15 longleaf savanna, there are several plant species,
16 which Paul already mentioned, the *Sporobolus*
17 *silveanus*, which is a grass. It's often -- at the
18 Crown Point site, it's not too common, but it's
19 usually a major player in these saline glades.
20 There are a couple of species of yellow-eyed
21 grasses. *Xyris stricta* and *Xyris louisianica* are
22 globally rare, and there's also a *Lyatris* that has
23 been previously identified as *Lyatris punctata*,
24 which, personally, I've seen it in the field, but I
25 haven't seen it in flower. I haven't collected a

1 specimen and looked at it critically, but there's a
2 very good field botanist in Texas who is of the
3 feeling that it might be a yet un-described
4 species.

5 So, I just wanted to mention these, even if
6 it's in duplicate. Those are there and thank you.

7 LAURA TURNER: Once again I would request
8 that one of you, either Inland or the State,
9 provide us with maps showing the areas, and if you
10 can delineate the different areas within the --
11 that would be very helpful for us.

12 PAUL STONE: We'll submit it next week.

13 LAURA TURNER: Thank you very much.

14 That's the last person we had sign up to
15 speak. Is there anybody else who would like to say
16 anything?

17 Okay. Come up and give your name.

18 CHRIS KIBBIE: Good evening. My name is
19 Chris Kibbie. I'm a representative of the
20 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers,
21 Local Union 479, located in Beaumont, Texas. We
22 represent well over 1200 skilled, capable, and
23 trained electricians that will reside in southeast
24 Texas, and I just wanted to get up and tell you
25 that we invite you to come to Port Arthur, Texas.

1 I was born and raised in Port Arthur,
2 Texas. We are accustomed -- and I like the
3 environment. I like to hunt. I like to fish.
4 You're about 100 years late. Port Arthur, Texas,
5 has been an industrial facility since 1901, when
6 Spindle Top blew in. I would much rather look at a
7 pristine facility such as the L.N.G. plant than I
8 would one of these chemical plants or the
9 refineries that I've been living around all my
10 life.

11 We invite you to Port Arthur. We want to
12 support you. We will support you. We are behind
13 you, and we would like to help you construct your
14 facility and make you successful in Port Arthur,
15 Texas. Thank you very much.

16 LAURA TURNER: Thank you. Is there anybody
17 else who would like to say anything? Well, then I
18 think that will conclude the formal portion of the
19 meeting. If anybody has any questions, we can
20 attempt to answer them. We may be able to. We may
21 not. Mainly we can answer questions on what our
22 process is. Does Sempra want to stick around and
23 answer people's questions?

24 MARVIN IVEY: We would be more than welcome
25 to do that. Of course we have the plats for the

1 pipeline route.

2 LAURA TURNER: Sempra has brought copies of
3 maps showing where the pipeline is and other
4 information. So, at this point we will close the
5 formal part of the meeting, and I thank you once
6 again for having us here and you showing up. Thank
7 you.

8 (THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 8:00 P.M.)

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