COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEARING

BILL NO. 7387-13

PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT NATURAL GAS EXTRACTION

- - -

BEFORE:

Robert J. Macey	-	Chair
John P. DeFazio	-	Council-At-Large
Heather S. Heidelbaugh	-	Council-At-Large
Matt Drozd	-	District 1
Michael J. Finnerty	-	District 4
Barbara Daly Danko	-	District 11
Amanda Green Hawkins	-	District 13

Robert Morris University
Sewall Center
119 Campus Drive
Moon Township, PA 15108

Thursday, February 7, 2013 - 6:00 p.m.

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CHAIR MACEY: Hello, everybody. Hopefully, you're all seated and feeling comfortable. If you have to stand, please stand, and we'll get this hearing on the way. But first of all, I'd like to introduce the President of Robert Morris College, Gregory Dell'Omo. Thank you.

(Applause.)

DR. DELL'OMO: Well, welcome everyone. And as you heard, I'm Greg Dell'Omo, President of Robert Morris University, and I'm very happy to have you here tonight. For those of you who are --- not been to our campus before, I hope you find time sometime in the future to come back and visit our campus. We're very, very proud of it. We're also very pleased to be able to provide our facilities here at the university for this event tonight. As an institution of higher learning, we feel it's our responsibility to provide a forum for the sharing of information and special issues of importance to our region. Robert Morris University, as many of us are, have a particular interest in economic development and the quality of life in the airport corridor; particularly, as more and more of our students choose to live on campus here in Moon Township, and many of our graduates, along with our faculty and staff, live in the area, as well.

So it really has become a community of learners here at the university and taking on their residency here in Moon Township. So again, I want to thank you, and I welcome you here this evening. And we look forward to your participation. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Hello, again. My name is Bob Macey. I'm chairing this meeting this evening. I'm on Allegheny County Council, and I reside in West Mifflin, in the Mon Valley. I'm going to read some housekeeping rules, sort of guidelines, so we can all get along. I want to thank everyone who has opted to be here and to share your time and providing Allegheny County Council with your insights into this issue. Your comments are an extremely important means informing a decision that we have to make. And we're grateful to you for sharing them with us.

With that said, we are now on a course that you're all aware of about natural gas extraction, and it has become a controversial issue, to say the least. Please note that we do expect and require decorum, and it

be maintained at all times this evening, and that the following guidelines should be observed at all times. Please be respectful to other speakers and allow them to fully avail themselves of their right to speak. Please do not interrupt or disrupt their remarks by heckling, applause or other noises. We have a huge number of individuals who want to speak. Please adhere to them at all times and do everything possible to allow easy access to the podium. County residents will speak first, then will be followed by non-county residents. The hearing must be concluded at 10:30, and we must be out of here because the school closes at 11:00. Do not, under any circumstances, engage in any threatening or confrontational behavior. Doing so will cause --- doing so will cause for immediate expulsion from the premises; that's the whole building, not just this room.

Please note that the signs --- signs are permitted, but please keep them down to keep people from being --- their view being obstructed. There is an area in the back of the room and along the sides that you may post your signs. Do not engage or display profane language of any type. Only individuals who are registered to speak and who are called to the podium may do so. If any speaker should have a handout for the Council, please provide it to our staff members over here (indicating), who will --- and they will distribute it to us. Do not, under any circumstances, approach the Council directly. Speakers should address the Council only, and Council members are not to engage in the conversation with any speaker during the remarks to Council.

Council does not restrict the use of cameras or recording devices during the hearing. That said, please do not use these devices in a fashion that disrupts the hearing or any of the speakers. Larger cameras, tripods, et cetera, must be placed around the perimeter --- which you all are doing, that's great --- and that there will be nothing placed behind the County Council. Obey --- please obey all instructions from the Chair, and failure to do so may constitute grounds for expulsion. Any individuals, whether registered as speakers or not, who wish to provide additional written testimony to Council, please note that the deadline for submission of that testimony is five p.m. next Friday, February 15th, tomorrow --- no, next Friday. I'm sorry, next week.

We will accept written testimony dropped off in person at our offices or that is mailed to us or e-mailed to us, to the Chief Clerk. The necessary contact information will appear at the bottom of the agenda, which you have all been given, of tonight's meeting. Thank you in advance for your cooperation, and welcome, everybody. At this time, we'd like to introduce Rich Fitzgerald, the Chief Executive of Allegheny County.

(Applause.)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Thank you, Chairman Macey, and members of Council, for putting on this hearing and for holding it in the community where this will potentially take place. I'd also like to thank Robert Morris University and President Dell'Omo for allowing this hearing to go forward on this important issue. I would also like to thank the Airport Authority, and I know Dennis Davin is going to be here to represent them for some of the work that they've done in preparing the --- both the RFP and the negotiations. Let me just say on behalf of --- for Allegheny County, for the government, I'm going to talk about three priorities that I think need to be addressed if these revenues are to be gained by the Airport Authority.

Number one, we want to reduce the cost of flights, reduce the cost for the airlines to get more flights. And I know our airport has had some issues with respect to cost, whether it be gate fees, deplanement fees, et cetera, that has impeded our business community from being able to access the markets that they need to do. Secondly, we're going to have to continue to do capital improvements at the airport. And it's been unfortunate that we've had to bring some State money into the airport, which probably could have been used for other purposes in this county for benefiting taxpayers in other ways.

We're going to have to continue to have capital improvements, and we're hoping some of the revenues from the leases could be used for that. And then thirdly --- and I would say probably most importantly --- is the economic development that continues to occur out in this corridor. Those 9,000 acres --- 9,200 acres, there are over 5,000 people that are working right now, good family-sustaining jobs. And it really is one of the fastest growing sectors, one of the fastest growing corridors in this region. And to be able to use some of that money to

provide the infrastructure and the economics will be very helpful. So for all three of those regions, we see this as a very big benefit for this county and for this region. Obviously, you know, people have their opinion on how the airport operates and how the airport looks. And we want to make sure, now that it's 20 years old, we make it, you know, the best airport that it can be. And obviously, it takes funds and revenues to be able to do that, you know. And the jobs that we talked about, you know, these jobs that are out here can range from, you know, CDL drivers and salesmen to engineers and scientists and have a range --- salary range in the range of $30,000 to $150,000; obviously, middle-class jobs --- middle-class jobs that can sustain families.

And the educational facilities like CCAC and Pittsburgh Technical Institute and others, are focusing on the workforce development and skills gap to address the needs of the existing companies and future jobs, so that our skilled workforce can fill these jobs that are out there and need filled. Let me talk about the deal, because I think this is probably what some people want to take a look at. We've reached agreement --- the Airport Authority has reached agreement with CONSOL to provide up to $50,000,000 in upfront payments --- bonus payments to the authority. That averages over $5,400 an acre, which is a tremendous amount, that we see happening.

There's also going to be a $500,000,000 investment by CONSOL, investment in pipe, investment in lines, investment in jobs and engineering and geology and in good family-sustaining jobs. And then the royalty payments over the next 20 years, we are estimating to be $450,000,000. So for the taxpayers, for the Airport Authority, we're looking at $500,000,000 in lease payments --- in bonus and lease payments, and then $500,000,000 in capital investment. That's a $1,000,000,000 investment without one nickel of taxpayer dollars going into it. It's going to be one of the biggest investments that this region has ever seen.

So first of all, I would like to thank the Airport Authority for the work that they did in putting this together. I would also like to thank CONSOL --- CONSOL Energy, one of the good Pittsburgh companies that we're very proud of, and the fact that they want to partner with this region and with this county over the next 20 years to really provide the type of opportunities

that I outlined early on in my talk. But let me say this, because that's all, you know, the good news, and the things that some of us really are in government to do. And I know my colleagues, and I formerly served on County Council. I know jobs and economic growth is right at the top of the list. But we make --- need to make sure, and we will make sure, that this will develop by being environmentally responsible. This project will comply with all EPA and DEP regulations. And the Airport Authority will have an environmental inspector on site 100 percent of the time, doing testing, inspections and making sure that this is done in a proper manner. Also, there's one other layer of compliance that needs to be done, and that's the FAA, the Federal Aviation Administration, that will also add to the safety and the environmental protections that will happen with respect to this.

So we are very excited about the opportunities that we have with the Marcellus Shale opportunity. We're excited about the opportunities that CONSOL is bringing forward. And I again want to thank the Airport Authority. I know Dennis Davin is going to be representing them on the work that they have done in bringing us to this --- this historic day. So I thank you. Let me just say, finally, I'm going to be here tonight, but at 6:30 I have to leave because it's Senior Night for my daughter's basketball --- her last home game. So you'll have to excuse me. I'm going to leave for just a short time, but I will be back to the conclusion of this hearing, because I think it's very important that we hear from all aspects.

And finally, I'd also like to thank the Findlay supervisors, the commissioners, who've been very supportive and helpful in what we're doing. And I know there's going to be further things that will be happening in Findlay, some open houses, some more informational sessions. And I really appreciate the work, Commissioner, you and your colleagues have done. Obviously, it's been a great partnership with that. There's a lot of development we've had out here, and we want to continue that great partnership. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Rich. And before we bring up our next speaker, I'd like to introduce members of Council. Traffic gets a little tough, and I'm just waiting for those who were going to be here, to get here. On your right to left, we have Heather Heidelbaugh ---

Councilwoman Heather Heidelbaugh. She's a Councilwoman-At-Large. We also have Councilwoman Barbara Danko Daly --- she's from District 11 --- or Barbara Daly Danko, whichever you prefer. We also have John DeFazio. He's another county councilman-at-large. We have Mike Finnerty --- he's from District 4 --- and Matt Drozd from District 1. Now, without any further comment, we'd like to introduce Dennis Davin. He's on the Airport Authority Board of Directors. He's also the Director of Economic Development and Housing for Allegheny County. Thank you.

MR. DAVIN: Thank you, Chairman Macey, and thank you, Council members, for allowing me to speak today. I'm here on behalf of the Airport Authority. I'm a Board member and the Treasurer of the Airport Authority. The authority has been working on this project since 2008, and we're very fortunate to have this opportunity to move forward with the lease and the minerals with a local partner, who will provide good jobs for our residents. As stated previously, this is a significant transaction for Allegheny County and the Airport Authority. The proceeds of this transaction, as Rich mentioned, will be used for reducing rates and charges at the airport, capital projects at the airport and economic development activities at the airport.

The airport is, by nature, an industrial facility and has the infrastructure in place to handle this type of activity. The process we used to get to this point was very thorough, documents from several successful projects, both on airports from around the country and the State of Pennsylvania. The State, actually, of Pennsylvania, were used to develop the Request for Bids. These documents were reviewed by a number of individuals with expertise in various areas. The lease is very thorough, and as many changes that require to meet or exceed all environmental safety and aviation rules at the airport.

CNX will be submitting a full environmental report to the FAA, as Rich talked about, for all the drilling sites and the pipelines. The drilling will be conducted in the manner that minimizes the impact on the airport and the neighbors of the airport. The FAA was briefed in August, and all of their comments were included in the document that went out to all the bidders. The Request for Bids was publicly advertised in late September, and a pre-bid meeting was held in October.

During October-November, the bidders were encouraged to ask questions and make comments on the documents. We received 104 comments and questions, and we responded to all of them. During this time, the bidders were allowed to tour the airport, the new potential sites for drilling, and several bidders did visit the airport. In early December, we opened bids, and CNX Gas was determined to have the best conforming bid. The bid from CNX contained a minimum bid and an opportunity to increase the bid amount. As you can see, we have come to an agreement with CNX that provides a bonus payment well in excess of bonus payments in the market today.

We recognize the good relationship we have with our neighbors, and we continue to strive to be a good community partner. This is a significant opportunity for Allegheny County and the airport to be a leader in the safe and responsible extraction of natural gas. We will have an open house on February 18th. We're looking for a --- working on a time and a place right now, and we will make that public as soon as possible. At that open house, experts from CNX and folks from the Airport Authority will explain the specifics of the drilling process. Thank you.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Director Davin. Our next speaker is Nick DeIuliis, from CONSOL Energy.

(Applause.)

MR. DEIULIIS: Good evening, everyone. And Chairman Macey and other members of Council, I want to thank you sincerely for convening this important and exciting opportunity around natural gas development at the airport. These are certainly exciting times in the energy industry, with positive implications for our region. American energy is poised to lead America's comeback in southwest PA, is on the cutting edge of that revolution. Millions of jobs and billions in revenues have been unleashed by this revolution. And the reason for the boom in the natural gas production in the U.S. today is largely due to American innovation.

Three specific areas drove this revolution, hydraulic fracturing technology, horizontal drilling technology and, last but not least, what I'll call an incredible advance in computer interpretative capabilities. These three things, these three advances, have created the energy miracle that's afoot. Now developing these natural gas resources can help enhance the Country's energy security, strengthen local and state

economies and field job growth at the end of the day. It will impact everything from the geopolitics of the globe to the utility bill in the home. The facts speak for themselves. In 2010, development of the Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania alone, just in the Commonwealth, generated over $11,000,000,000 in the regional equivalent of GDP. It contributed over $1,000,000,000 in state and local tax revenues and supported almost 140,000 jobs. The Marcellus Shale has proven to be the second largest gas field in the world, not just within the United States. Estimates show there could be almost 500,000,000,000,000 cubic feet underlying the shale. Now that's a lot of gas. But to put that in perspective, the entire United States each year uses between 20,000,000,000,000 and 25,000,000,000,000 cubic feet.

So when you do the math, the Marcellus Shale, just in and of itself, could represent a 25-year natural gas supply for the entire nation. Now, Pennsylvania oversees the development and responsibility under effective oversight, the comprehensive set of laws and regs. If you travel to every corner of the world where the shale gas revolution is occurring, and they all want to know the same thing, what's Pennsylvania doing when it comes to responsible and effective regulation of this opportunity? The Commonwealth is a recognized global leader when it comes to shale development. Through a recent act of the legislature, Act 13, Pennsylvania is not only enhancing environmental protection standards, but also put in place a per-well impact fee.

And the initial money generated from that impact fee has exceeded over $110,000,000, and that's being disseminated, obviously, to Pennsylvania municipalities. That number, of course, is going to grow as development continues. Findlay and Moon Townships, as well as Allegheny County at large, are going to be in a great position to realize the financial benefits under Act 13 and under this project, and in a big way. I want to talk a little bit about CONSOL Energy. Our roots run very deep within this region. Most of you know us by the CONSOL Energy Center, Home of the Penguins, and we're certainly proud of that relationship. But many of you may not know, we are one of the oldest companies operating in the Pittsburgh region. Next year, in 2014, it's going to mark our 150th anniversary within this area.

We're a diversified energy producer, largest underground coal miner in the region and the largest and most active developed driller of shale, as well, in the region. And we're one of the region's largest employers, nearly 10,000 employees. And most of these employees, like myself, are natives of the areas we work and live in. So when you think of CONSOL Energy employee base, think more of the yinzers and the yinzer accent, instead of y'alls. And that's something we need to see more of and hear more of in the Marcellus workforce. We invest heavily in our industries in our region, and we put our money where our mouth is. In January, we released our capital budget for this coming year, 2013, and that's almost $1.6 billion. So coal and natural gas, you know that they're labor and capital intensive, so there's going to be what I call a multiplier effect beyond the direct jobs and the direct spin that I just mentioned.

So you're going to hear this evening, I think, from several of our partners and the contract in place that outline what they do to service our energy operations, which is going to illustrate that multiplier effect I just spoke of. Now, we've got some slides in front of Council, as well as some slides up on the easels over here to my left, that show a unique perspective that CONSOL Energy has with the different vertical horizons of energy opportunity that are literally right beneath where we're standing tonight. And a lot of companies out there operate within different depths on that chart on different horizons. You have coal mining entities 600 foot below the surface; gas drillers, of course, looking at thousands of feet below that and things like pipeline companies on the surface or just below it.

But CONSOL is the only company out there that operates across all those different horizons beneath our feet. So from the pipeline infrastructure and gas processing on the surface, the coal barges and river terminals to transport the coal --- of course, the coal mining operations a couple of hundred feet below us, and of course, the deeper Marcellus Shale thousands of feet below that --- we're doing all of those things at the same time. And that unique perspective and advantage is something that's also tied to this region, as well. In no other part of the country and maybe no other part of the world, can lay claim to the energy position that we enjoy here in southwestern PA. It's unrivaled, and

Marcellus is the next big opportunity that is presented in front of us.

So at the end of the day, what could screw all this up? It's pretty simple. It's not operating in a safe and compliant way with the letter and the spirit of the law. Frankly, we see a greater responsibility, far beyond simply extracting natural gas, and we took a risk in our bid for these gas rights. We're confident that we're going to execute on the assignment. Unless we're safe and compliant, our license to operate is going to be taken away from us and we get that. We have an unwavering focus on our core values of safety and compliance. Our core values drive results across the company and allows to protect people and the environment. Our top core value, number one, is safety. Our gas division employees haven't had a lost time accident or exception from safety since 1994.

Our safety culture goes beyond our own employees to our contractor base and recognize --- we recognize we're not perfect. But we do believe that we're the best in the industries that we operate in when it comes to safety and environmental compliance. And we endlessly chase perfection, and that chase of perfection, in and of itself, is what's going to take us to an even better standard of performance in the future. So while we work diligently every day to prevent incidents, we also prepare endlessly for the unexpected. We work to minimize impacts by responding quickly and effectively in any situation. We develop emergency action plans. We maintain response capabilities by training. And we conduct safety exercises regularly.

We also partner with our local and regional emergency response teams and other areas of our operational footprints, not just within this region, to ensure communications, coordination and preparedness. We need to expect that that's going to be the case here with the airport opportunity, as well. Right after safety, our second top value is compliance. Wherever we operate, we're going to work closely with local governments. We respect our neighbors and we invest in the community. Protecting land, water and communities is our highest priority, right after safety. We share the public's expectation that the energy we need will be produced safely. Now, I'd like to spend just a minute before I

turn it over to Craig Neil, my colleague, to spend a minute discussing the issue of fracking and water.

We talk about technology as being the chief enabler. It has unlocked the opportunity in the formation we call Marcellus. And as an engineer, it always amazes me where the state of the art is from an energy production standpoint. It's almost like rocket science turned upside down. We're drilling at depths that are 8,000 foot deep with great precision, to tap into the energy resource that's there. It's impressing from an engineering and technological feat, but I think we all know that fracking has become a world of controversy. So once again, speak to the facts. From leading academic institutions to our environmental protection agencies that has responsibility for oversight, all agree that fracking is a proven technology and not cause for concern as it relates to harming water supplies ---

(Outbursts from audience.)

--- because fracking is done thousands of feet beneath the ground water aquifer. The potential for cracks to leak gas or fracture fluids in groundwater is extremely low. Microseismic surveys of shale gas wells in the eastern United States show that fractures that are separated from groundwater run more than a mile of rock. That's a distance as deep as the Grand Canyon. You should have comfort in the proven practice and technology, coupled with the barrier formations that exist, to ensure that this resource is extracted safely. Now, I'm going to give you two quotes from two sources or experts in this area. One is the Duke Environmental Law and Policy Forum, which reached the following conclusion: hydraulic fracturing is a safe and effective way to recover oil and gas from shale formations.

Even the existing EPA head, Lisa Jackson, told Congress that there are no proven cases where the fracking process itself has affected water.

(Outbursts from audience.)

CHAIR MACEY: Please; please let him speak. You will have your chance.

MR. DEIULIIS: Now, let me introduce Craig Neil, my colleague. He's going to be leading this project from an operational standpoint. He's our vice president for Pennsylvania Gas Operations, and he's going to speak to some of the aspects of the operations that may be of interest to you.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. NEIL: Thanks, Nick. CONSOL takes steps to protect groundwater during hydraulic fracturing and over the life of our wells. For example, our Pennsylvania wells have a combination of up to eight layers of steel casing and cement, which forms a continuous barrier between the well and the surrounding formations. And the one board that we see over here, the second one from the right, is a cartoon of that exact situation, where you can see all the different layers of casing, each of those cemented to surface, each of those protecting our fresh groundwater. We run pressure tests to ensure the well's integrity. We also conduct combinations of tests over the life of the well to develop --- to verify the long-term integrity that the well ---.

Our wells are designed to protect groundwater over the life of the well. So we're talking about one week of fracturing operations per each of these wells, in return for 20 to 30 years of production. CONSOL is committed to safely and responsibly managing fracturing fluids wastewater and produced fluids. After the hydraulic fracturing is complete and the well begins to produce natural gas, a portion of the water used during the fracturing process also goes back to surface. In our Marcellus Shale operations, the water is stored temporarily in lined pits until it is reused for other fracturing treatments.

And what I brought with me tonight is the actual lining material that will be used in the impoundments that I referred to for storing the water. As you can see, there are five different layers here. Two of these layers are 60 mil thick, where you --- a lot of us think of, like, an HDPE liner or the material that we use at home. Some of the materials that we use at home are one mil. They're very common and they're one mil thick. But each of these two are 60 mils thick. And in between these two liners, there's actually a leak detection system with a pump, very similar to a water well. So if there would be any water leak through the first liner, it would be identified by that pump, fracked, and then returned back into the top liner so that nothing can penetrate.

And below this very thick layer of protection, we actually install six inches of clay, which is compacted to a very high engineering standard. So we take that

portion of the process very seriously. Nick mentioned hydraulic fracturing. This is what I focus on. Hydraulic fracturing is a proven technology proven to be safe. But we do acknowledge our responsibility to maintain the fluids once they reach the surface. This liner material and the tanks that we will use are very important to that end. During the long-term production phase of these properties, produced fluids will be stored in steel tanks, and those tanks will meet the stringent requirements of the American Petroleum Institute. Well sites are designed to protect the land surface, and we take great pride in restoring the land to its original contours. I learned my respect for land from my father, a life-long dairy farmer here in western Pennsylvania. And I expect a lot from my team when it comes to reclaiming this property. And this property that we're talking about tonight will be no different.

CONSOL is currently reusing 100 percent of the water that it produces from all of its wells, not just its Marcellus Shale wells, but CONSOL made the voluntary commitment to reuse --- or to use all of their water for all their wells or utilize deep well injection. We discontinued any of the processing used in the processing plants that discharge into our streams. This reduced our fresh water consumption, as well as our need for water trucking, transfer and disposal. We also use water pipelines to lessen the need for tanker trucks often used to transport the liquid waste. CONSOL recognizes the importance of being a good corporate citizen.

We view the members of the communities in which we operate as partners, and we aim to treat them as such. These partnerships allow us to listen and talk through community concerns and work to create a better tomorrow. Our corporate partnerships support our community --- are supported by our community investment budget. Last year we invested over $6,000,000 in communities where our employees and their families live and on any other properties that are located in which we operate. We support a wide variety of organizations and causes, including public safety, emergency preparedness, education and youth organizations.

From new equipment to help promote public safety to programs that encourage rural high school students to pursue graduation, our mission is to become a reliable partner of the community in which we are located. And I'm

proud to say, the Chief Executive Fitzgerald mentioned jobs. My son is a senior at Penn State University in engineering. He's actually accepted a job with a consulting firm that's located here in Allegheny County, in Wexford. He'll be working for an air quality firm looking after our environment for us. So with that, I'd like to yield the remainder of my time back to my president, Nick DeIuliis.

(Applause.)

MR. DEIULIIS: Thanks, Craig. And once again, Council, thank you for affording us the time to introduce our operational philosophy. Our vision works because of our people, our partnerships and our performance. We've been served well over the course of nearly 150 years in that regard, in our core values of safety and environmental compliance to find who we are and derive our results. If we honor those core values, we're going to successfully unlock the opportunity at the airport. This is not a question of having the resources or a resource-rich region; the gas is there. This is not a question of having the capable technology and innovation; they exist. And this isn't a question of holding us to the highest environmentals in safety standards that are out there; we are, whether it's air quality, water quality or safety.

The United States is the envy of the world, because we do it right, so clearly we can do this in a way where everyone wins. Again, we're very excited about the opportunity. We intend to make it a flagship for the region, something for everyone to be proud of and benefit from. Again, thank you, Council.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thanks, Craig. And with everybody's indulgence, I'd like to be able to chair this meeting from this seat, at this time. There's a few elected officials who would like to speak, and I'm sure you would like to hear from them. They're the people that write the laws. First, I'd like to bring up Mark Mustio. He's the State Representative from the Moon Township area. By the way, Amanda Green Hawkins, Councilwoman, District 8, I believe ---.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Thirteen (13).

CHAIR MACEY: Thirteen (13)? Oh, my bad.

REPRESENTATIVE MUSTIO: Good evening. I've been in this room many times, and I can tell you, this is the most number of people I've ever seen here. This is home.

And when I say this is home, I don't mean Moon Township, I mean Findlay Township, I mean North Fayette, I mean the communities along the river. And when the Marcellus Shale issue started to develop in Harrisburg, there wasn't one lease that had been --- one parcel of land that had been leased in my legislative district. And I think I can speak pretty accurate; I don't think there's been a well drilled in my district until we started to talk about the Airport Authority property. We've had some municipalities hereby --- sue over the issue. We've had other municipalities lease their municipal land. So clearly, there is a divergence. And as some of the earlier speakers were commenting, you know, we heard some people blurt out some comments. I think that's unfortunate. I think tonight we're here to hear both sides. One of the things that I take pride in what I do in representing those of you out there that I do represent, is to hear both sides of the issue.

As elected officials, those of us in Harrisburg, we get tons of e-mails on both sides of this issue. I can tell you that I've taken the time to go out and tour many drill sites, some by invitation, some by just showing up with constituents from those areas that have raised concerns and questions. And I take it as my job, then, to go back to the appropriate regulatory bodies, to make sure that they're doing their jobs. So from my perspective, the message that I would like to get across in support of the process of drilling on the airport property --- you hear about all the jobs and the financial side of it, but I really want to make sure that the message hits home with CONSOL; I'm really appreciative of the representatives from management at the top level, that are here this evening --- is to make sure that you communicate with the local elected officials.

Be proactive in that communication. Don't wait until there maybe is an incident. Even if something is very minor or was a rumor or something, please reach out to them. It's really important that they're able to convey and calm, if that needs to be, your residents. All right? We are located in this area over a water aquifer that provides drinking water to this region, and it is one of the assets that we have here. And as we were going through the debate on this issue in Harrisburg, I wasn't willing to sacrifice one resource for another, until I was very comfortable. And I can tell those of you that I

represent, I'm very comfortable. If you look at the display over there (indicating), as far as the cement core, you might not --- that the water aquifer level is protected. We get lots of complaints, e-mails, from --- I'm sure many of you have e-mailed me, sorry, I don't know your names but I'm checking into these certain accusations, or whatever. And those are done, and there's a lot of times that some things are mistaken. So I just would appreciate that you listen tonight with open ears, you check the facts. When you hear someone make a statement that maybe just doesn't sound right --- you know, I've had the DEP come down on companies in my legislative district where the company has come to me and said, why are they doing this to me? So to think that the DEP is not out there representing all of us that live here, that breathe this air and drink this water, I think is just very fallacious and an insult to those people that are working daily to protect us.

And I want you to know that should situations arise or you hear rumors from those concerns, that you reach out to me via e-mail or telephone and I will get back to you, as I always have. But the main message I wanted to relate to you today is, respect your local elected officials, thank them for the time that they've given you --- is enabling you to, you know, get this bid moving at both the Airport Authority level and also the company level, because they have a lot that they can offer to you as this process moves forward. And I would encourage, as I said earlier, for everybody to listen with an open mind this evening. And I look forward to the benefits of those residents that border the airport property, quite honestly. This enables them to lease their rights to have that gas drilled on the airport property, through the piping coming underground into the communities like Moon and North Fayette and Findlay, and those residents and those companies that benefit financially from those, as well. So thank you for your time.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Representative Mustio. Now we have another one. This gentleman's name is Marc Gergely, and he's a State Representative and he comes from my neck of the woods, the Mon Valley. Thank you, Marc.

REPRESENTATIVE GERGELY: Thank you, Chairman Macey. It's nice to see you here in Moon Township, not

McKeesport; but boy, is the traffic bad getting here, I got to tell you --- I didn't realize --- when you live on one side or the other. I won't be long, but I do want to share a story for the folks that live out here, with respect to what this means to the Mon Valley. It means a whole heck of a lot. When you think about Marcellus Shale, let me put it to you from a perspective of the region I represent. Somewhere along the line in Greene County, maybe the Bailey line, coal is --- bituminous coal is extracted, put on a train or a boat, taken down to the Clairton Coke Works, jobbed to my district. It's processed for steelmaking at the Edgar Thomson plant, North Braddock, jobs in my district for steelmaking. I'm sorry; it's taken to the Urban Works. From there, it's coiled steel, jobs in my district. From there, it's taken to the newly-opened McKeesport Tube Works, specifically from Marcellus Shale, which was closed for many, many years, jobs in my district.

Thousands and thousands of jobs have been created in the Mon Valley. The industry of steel is back and amazing. This natural gas extraction has created it. And if we don't public --- have a public-private partnership that makes sense, what are we doing here? I know there's a lot of controversy with this extraction. I know there's a lot of environmental concerns. But I can tell you, so far, I'm very pleased with what I've found, and I want to ask this Council to take that into consideration. The amount of jobs that are being created in the districts, in my area, is amazing; as well as what I expect, when they get on this site at the county airport, I expect operating engineers. I expect steam fitters and I expect our trades to have that opportunity to have good, middle-class-paying jobs, to do this work, to build this platform, to build these pipelines, to create the environment of economic benefit.

And when you go from there, let's hope that this cracker plant that's built right down the river or up the river, in Beaver, is where this wet gas will go that's extracted from this facility, and we create the manufacturing jobs that bring back all of our area. When you're from a place like mine, you couldn't imagine hitting a lottery ticket like Marcellus Shale to create the jobs. And I would challenge anyone to find an opportunity like this to say no to; so just to let you all know that. I know, Council, you have to do the diligent

job. But for the record of anyone out there, I'm the only legislator that voted for every single Marcellus Shale tax. Good or bad; the companies were mad at me, the companies were happy with me. I supported getting this done, getting revenue for this state and moving forward so that other service industry jobs were created. The trucking, the barge lines, the manufacturing are amazing. And that has to be taken into consideration, not just the drilling site itself but all the ancillary opportunities that are created with this kind of industry. Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Representative Gergely. Now we have --- we're going to have Jim Christiana. He is from the House of Representatives, from Beaver County. Are you here?

REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTIANA: Yes, sir.

CHAIR MACEY: There he is.

REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTIANA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIR MACEY: You're welcome.

REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTIANA: Men and women of Council, thank you for having me here today. As my colleague, Representative Gergely, had said, it's a pretty exciting time for Beaver County, especially in the 15th legislative district, which has seen some difficult times over the last couple decades. But recently, little Beaver County made international news. They were talked about in Holland because this little company called Shell --- Royal Dutch Shell, wants to build a $4,000,000,000 to $6,000,000,000 investment in Beaver County. We want to take a site where another employer is packing up and leaving --- and they want to come in and spend $4,000,000,000 to $6,000,000,000 of private funds to put 10,000 construction jobs in Beaver County, enough to empty union halls for everywhere East of the Mississippi, to have thousands of jobs --- family-sustaining jobs going forward.

While Democrats and Republicans got really excited in Harrisburg last June and we passed an incentive package to help land that company to Pennsylvania and not to Ohio or West Virginia, every labor organization, every pro-business organization, Democrats and Republicans --- this isn't normal, by the way, in Harrisburg --- they all came together to pass this incentive, so that we can

create private sector jobs in western Pennsylvania. But the one thing we need in order to see that come to fruition and to take a preferred site to a chosen site is, we need a robust natural gas industry. We need 20,000 barrels of ethane to power the largest petrochemical plant in the world. That's one of the benefits of many for this industry. Another benefit for the taxpayers of Pennsylvania, is that we did the same thing with the Airport Authority is looking to do it. We leased our land, and we didn't have nearly as good of a negotiator on our terms, because --- we heard the package offered to the airport. And I just want to let you know what the state has done. The state has leased over 138,000 acres of its land. We got about $413,000,000 of upfront payments, and we will see $1,000,000,000 of revenue coming into our coffers for the next 20 years from royalty payments.

Congratulations to the taxpayers of Pennsylvania, congratulations to the taxpayers of Allegheny County, because that's $1,000,000,000 of revenue that comes at a pretty difficult time. When boards and commissions and states and counties are struggling to make ends meet to continue to make our investments, we don't want to raise taxes but we want to continue to fund the programs that we need. This is private sector dollars taking a God-given natural resource, putting our folks back to work, making Pennsylvania energy independent, making the United States energy independent. I think it's a win-win-win.

And so I'm here today to support a project, to support your taxpayers and your county governments, making --- bringing in revenue without raising taxes. God bless them for doing it, and thank you to the companies that are making these investments; and congratulations to the taxpayers and the job creators. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Representative Christiana. Now, may we have Diana Irey Vaughan, please? She is a Washington County Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER VAUGHAN: Chairman Macey, members of Council, ladies and gentlemen. On behalf of Washington County and as a direct witness to the positive economic impacts of the new energy in our region, I would like to thank you for allowing me to offer a few remarks at this important quorum, on how we can use this energy to create jobs and economic advancement for southwestern

Pennsylvania. In our region, we have every reason to feel energized about the future, as we are at the epicenter of Pennsylvania's natural gas development. Washington County has one of the highest permit rates and leads southwestern Pennsylvania in active wells, as well as in significant drilling and production. Washington County and southwestern Pennsylvania are attracting energy investment every day, and this means jobs for our residents. It means additional non-tax revenues for our county which, just last year, we received over $4.4 million from the natural gas impact fees. Natural gas also means new business investment in our region. In Washington County, energy and energy-related company attraction and expansion projects accounted for a total of 24 out of the county's 45 economic development projects in 2011.

Our numbers for 2012 will be released soon, and all indications are that our natural gas economic growth will continue. To continue our region's growth, we need to continue drilling. Washington County has had 753 wells drilled since 2005, and our energy drilling has turned into economic energy for our residents. Washington County's economy continues to expand and contribute heavily to southwestern Pennsylvania's region, in terms of both economic development projects and job creation. In fact, Washington County was recently ranked third in the nation in percentage of job growth, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The rate of growth was 4.3 percent, which made a total of --- a conservative total, over 1,650 new jobs for Washington County, just from this industry. The industry has definitely helped Washington County in maintaining one of the lowest county tax rates in the region. And it has also helped us with growing our population. For a direct example of drilling on public land and the economic benefit, I don't need to look any further than Washington County's parks. In 2003, Washington County entered into a natural gas lease just prior to the discovery of the Marcellus Shale and horizontal drilling. Our lease is written to give the county full control over the location of well sites, access roads and the pipelines.

We've been able to improve infrastructure of this 3,000-acre park by opening areas that were not previously accessible. And this has allowed us to restore the park and to keep the beauty and the character of the park without disturbing the people who use the park

regularly. The benefits have been tremendous. Washington County has collected more than $5.2 million in revenues. We've dedicated the majority of those revenues to upgrades in our parks. The efforts, with the cooperation of the drilling companies in completing our projects for the park and the recreational opportunities to our residents, has been going at a staggering rate and has improved the quality of life in Washington County. Because of our positive experience, we recently entered into yet another county lease at our fairgrounds. In the end, Washington County benefits by improving our recreational areas. Our residents and visitors benefit from the increased recreational opportunities and improved facilities, and taxpayers benefit by having a funding source for these projects that allows reallocation of limited tax dollars to other more necessary parts of our budget.

I wanted to relay this information to you because Washington County has had such a positive experience with energy opportunities and industry partnerships. It is for this reason we encourage you to continue investing in Allegheny County's future by seizing on this tremendous opportunity to allow drilling at the airport. The energy to power our region is, literally, right under our feet. I encourage you to seize this opportunity and watch Allegheny County be energized.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Commissioner Vaughan. Now we'll have Roger Creech, from the Board of --- Township Board of Supervisors.

MR. CREECH: I'm the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors from Morris Township, Greene County, Pennsylvania. We border Washington Township --- or Washington County on the South side, and we have approximately 100-plus drilled Marcellus wells in our township now, in the last five years. First, we dealt with just every one of them, from the beginning to where they are today. We're very concerned about the impacts and the impact of our roads and our water system. We're in a high-quality watershed. We've got a lot of concerned citizens that have been watching this on --- very closely. We have about --- at least three independent companies that are monitoring our water levels and water qualities on a daily basis.

And we also have the group of citizens that are concerned about our environment that joined together from

about --- at least three townships that I'm aware of right now. And they have went and went through the certification training to be able to test water and be certified to do that on an independent basis. And we were just informed about two weeks ago that there's been no change in our water quality, which is great. So we do have a lot of water that's been extracted from our township. In the beginning --- this whole process has changed quite a bit from the beginning to five years ago, when they started in our township. And we've dealt with a lot of different issues and been taking care of every issue that we've taken care of. Anything that's on a safety related issue, they take care of it right away, and we appreciated that.

And being a fairly small township and having this many wells, we've had a lot of displaced residents, but we've dealt with every one of these problems. And we also have plans in place for the future, to replace what we've lost, and CNX has worked very diligent with us and been very good to us to that end to see it replaced. We've had to institute heavy hauling agreements. We've had to have our roads bonded, things like that, to protect our roads. Our roads were good enough for our residents in the beginning, but which were not good enough for the traffic that we had.

They have since repaired those roads, built up the bases of those roads. We have better roads now than we've ever had, and they're also getting better. We've --- right now where we're located in Greene County, we have --- the CONSOL mine is right there and ours is now the BMX mine, which is going to be a whole new mine. Our whole township is getting ready to be mined under --- undermined, as well as being drilled. So we're getting the hardest hit of anything you could think of. And to have no change in our water quality is something to speak of.

And when he talks about the liners and how they work, I'm not aware of any problem with any leakages. We have pipelines criss-crossing our whole township, and we're not having any water problems; so I mean, if we were, I would tell you but we're not. And I'm not aware of any, and I've been at this since --- from the very beginning. So we have --- you know, personally, I have concerns about the environment, and we have people, you know, in our township, that are very concerned. And we're

doing our best to work with industry --- industries here. It is a great opportunity. We have a township that has no debt. We've had no tax increases in our township, and we're now poised and in the process of reducing our taxes for our local residents. So it's been very positive for us in all aspects. Even though it has been some things to put up with, we've done very well with what we've had to deal with; so I thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Supervisor Creech. Now we'll have Janet Craig. Janet is a supervisor for Findlay Township.

MS. CRAIG: Thank you. First of all, I'd like to thank the Council for giving us the opportunity to speak tonight. We're in a different place. Two previous speakers have received the benefits and impacts of the drilling. We are on the cusp of seeing what's coming down the road. I'm vice chairperson, and I speak here tonight for the entire Board of Supervisors of Findlay Township, as well as the residents and businesses within our municipality. My two colleagues, Tom Gallant, a chairperson, and Ray Chappell, are here tonight, as well as our township manager, Gary Klingman, and our assistant manager, Chris Caruso.

We all live here. We raised our kids here. We are fiercely proud of our municipality and the way that it has been developed. And we are also very fiercely proud of the working relationship we have with the Airport Authority, with the county and with businesses in our area. Last year we actually won an award from the developers for how well we are at planning things that go in our municipality. So I think in our attendance here tonight, it really shows the level of interest that Findlay has in this, and also the level of concern that we have to make sure that this is a successful venture for everyone involved.

Now, recognizing the limitations of Pennsylvania State Act 13 and what it places on the municipalities, we do request that the county, the Airport Authority and CONSOL take into account that Findlay, while the largest square mile area in Allegheny County, has two major population centers, and that's Imperial and Westbury. And of the seven wells that are planned being built on the airport property, six of them will be in Findlay. With that, two of them are proposed to be around 1,000 feet

from residential areas, those two areas I mentioned. So we would like them to consider, perhaps, even relocating the wells or looking at increasing the buffer zone, so that you can mitigate some of the impacts that will occur on the communities. So I'd like to be able to open it up to Council, so --- when they come to talk to us about those areas. We are not anti-drilling. I state that right out. And we understand and support the positive aspects of drilling on the airport property. However, we do have concerns about noise issues, which were mentioned, visual impacts, the nighttime impacts of well players in our neighborhoods, heavy trucks --- this was just discussed by the previous speaker --- and also the water supply and disposal issues. And where, when and how those issues are handled, we're going to have both negative and positive impacts on our residents.

So as CONSOL Energy knows, they are required to come through us to get a conditional use permit that's going to actually --- that process will highlight many of those issues, and we will address them. The Board of Supervisors and management of the township will assess the locations of those wells and base on --- their impacts on our community when we go through that conditional use process. We want to make sure that the best interests of our constituents, as well as the CONSOL Energy and the Airport Authority, are all recognized. And hopefully, we can come to a favorable outcome.

It's been mentioned that there is going to be an open house, not a hearing, that's being planned --- this is a hearing --- for Findlay. It's going to be held in Findlay, I believe, on February 18th. So we strongly encourage --- I do see a lot of our residents here, but I encourage our residents ---. And as you know, we'll be letting you know that this open house will be held in Findlay, so we can have an opportunity to talk with CONSOL and the Airport Authority about the impacts. So I strongly encourage you to come.

The financial gain that the township's going to realize, or we hope to realize from this endeavor, is really of secondary importance. What matters is the safety and protection of our residents and the businesses. We welcome the jobs; we always welcome jobs. We welcome the opportunities and the gains that we will receive, but we are also very cognizant of the impacts on the community. And people who know us, people who work with

us, know that we always care about our residents when anybody comes to talk to us. So I want to --- rest assured to the people from Findlay here that their voices will be heard, and we will listen to them. As you may know here, or you're going to find out, Findlay Township has continually supported every development that the Airport Authority has come to us for, everything. Dick's Sporting Goods, Clinton Industrial Park, anything that Randy and the Airport Authority has brought to us, we have supported. And we also lobby West Allegheny School District, to make sure that they support them, as well. So we have been a very strong partner with the county, with the Airport Authority and with businesses, and we intend to keep that going forward.

We hope that you will seriously look at our recommendations for the locations of those two wells that are by our residential areas. In addition, we do look forward to working closely with everybody involved. And I want to state that if, at any time, any residents, the businesses, want to reach out to us if you have any concerns, people in the municipality know the supervisors' phone numbers. We are always open to talk to about this position, about how this is going to affect our residents. So I'm opening that up to our residents of our municipality. That's what we're elected to do, and that's what we intend to do. So I look forward to meeting with everybody here going forward, and let's see some progress. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Supervisor Craig. Senator Tim Solobay signed up, but I don't know if you know, or maybe you don't know, many of us in public service wear many hats, and Tim was called to a fire. He's a fireman down in Canonsburg, and all he wanted to do was go home and get dressed before he comes in here. Being a fireman myself, I can understand that. So we'll move on to our speakers, those who have signed up to speak on this issue tonight. One of the things I wanted to share with you is, please speak clearly and loud, because our stenographer is recording this, and we want to make sure that you give us your name and address. First, I'd like to --- you get three minutes, but we'll work around it, trust me. I want this to be transparent, and I want everybody to get a chance to speak who has signed up.

First of all, I'd like to recognize the conscience of Allegheny County and maybe southwestern Pennsylvania, Joni Rabinowitz.

(Applause.)

MS. RABINOWITZ: I'd like to have these passed out before I speak, please.

CHAIR MACEY: The next person up will be Lisa Grazes-Marcucci.

MS. RABINOWITZ: Boy, what a night, huh? I'm Joni Rabinowitz. I live at 7721 Edgerton Avenue, Pittsburgh, 15221. Before I begin, I'm passing on a strong request from people who live near the airport but not in Allegheny County. They would like an opportunity to speak on this issue, and I'm confident that you can arrange this for them. I want to address three points here on the subject at hand. Point one, process, not only Council's failure to adequately publicize this hearing and your refusal to engage in discussions with us, to respond to e-mails and to the shale field stories we distributed to you a week ago, but also the disingenuous process that Rich Fitzgerald has followed since his election.

Rich promised the people of Allegheny County that he would not move on a plan for drilling until it was proven to be safe. And what we've heard here tonight is a total PR hype. It hasn't been proved safe anywhere.

(Applause.)

MS. RABINOWITZ: There is no evidence that this Marcellus drilling has been proven safe. The amount of research necessary will take many people and many years. Take years, and I think nobody on your team has studied in depth the contract issues and threats to our future and to our planet that are involved here. Now, Council is the only group that is making a decision here, so you're the only people, literally, that we're talking to. Raise your hand, please, if you've ever read a scientific study, not from the industry or someone with such a study or studies or heard a speech about any of the issues involved here; please, raise your hand.

(Group's response.)

MS. RABINOWITZ: Okay. Great. Now, raise your hand if any of them have been critical of the Marcellus fracturing process, all the aspects of the process, please.

(Group's response.)

MS. RABINOWITZ: Okay; great. There are many eminent and respected scientists, researchers and practitioners ---. I don't know about the people who aren't here, so ---.

(Chair addresses speaker.)

MS. RABINOWITZ: No, I won't. There are many eminent and respected scientists, researchers and practitioners right here in Pittsburgh, who you could have consulted in this endeavor. And I've handed out the names of some of these people to you. I could go on, but my point is clear. As a group, you didn't do a thorough study of the research --- of the issue, and you must do one. Point two, there are many dangers in this industry. As with smoking and asbestos, the effects won't be known for years. Cumulative effect on study, anyway, dangerous in all aspects of the industry, preparation, planning and drilling and fracking, extraction, waste treatment, storage and infrastructure, gathering lines, meter stations, water extraction facilities, transmission pipes, compressor stations, and the list goes on.

And I don't believe --- tell me if I'm wrong --- that all you Council members have studied all of this. So I would suggest that before you vote --- and I hope you will vote no on this proposal --- that you will go out and read some of the studies and look at some of the speeches by the expert academics and researchers that I have passed out to you on the sheet. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Lisa?

MS. GRAZES-MARCUCCI: Yes.

CHAIR MACEY: The next name is Ted Popovich (sic).

MS. GRAZES-MARCUCCI: My name is Lisa Grazes-Marcucci, and I live at 370 Temona Drive, Pittsburgh, PA, 15236. Industry would have you believe, the only means to jobs and economic development is through drilling, fast and furious. Jobs tied to destructive, extractive industries have been part of our region for over a century. The coal mining industry made these same claims then and now. Yes, there were jobs, but the damages were caused and the lingering effects are still with us. Our region has experienced an important renaissance, bringing with it new job centers and recognition of Pittsburgh as the most livable city.

We are reinventing our region as an important hub for science and technology. According to the Wall Street Journal, quote --- and this is from January of last year --- one example of Pittsburgh's new focus as the top tech hub is Google Incorporated's 20-worker office here. The office added 50 people in 2011, but the city's air quality is a big problem when it comes to recruiting employees to work here, said Google vice president and head of operations. If we can't offer clean air and clean water to employees, we need to recruit to refill --- recruit to fill the jobs of the future, then we will lose them to other cities that do, end quote. Existing pollution has held us back and continues to hold us back. And now is definitely not the time to add significantly more pollution to our region as a result of massive drilling projects. We know there will be increased pollution, but we don't know the true impact because the oil and gas industry enjoys a host of pollution-reporting exemptions. This is a legal petition that was sent to the United States EPA on behalf of 17 advocacy groups, in the latter part of 2012.

And it's requesting that the oil and gas industry be required to report their toxic chemical releases to the TRI, which all other industries do --- they have a special exemption --- quote, data and ---. If anybody wants it, I can give you the website for it. Quote, data on the oil and gas industry, including fracking, points to a large toxic footprint. EPA has estimated that the industry emits 127,000 tons of hazardous air pollutants every year, more than any other TRI industry except electric utilities.

And EPA investigations of natural gas development in Pavillion, Wyoming and Dimock, Pennsylvania, found toxic chemicals and methane present in groundwater and drinking water wells. In fact, a Congressional report based on industry data, found that the industry --- oil and gas industry regularly uses products containing at least 45 of these TRI-listed chemicals. We do want to see healthy economic development in our region, today and tomorrow. But your rush to judgment without proper facts and full industry disclosure, is a mistake one will pay with their health.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Ms. Marcucci. Ted Popovich, then Terri Supowitz.

MR. POPOVICH: So I get a minute's warning at the end?

MR. BARKER: Correct. It will be one minute, and then it will be over.

MR. POPOVICH: Okay. I'm ready if you are. My name is really Thaddeus Popovich, and I have a B.S. in Engineering and M.S., as well. I live at 6605 Virginia Avenue, Ben Avon. My borough is located on the Ohio River about ten miles downwind of the Pittsburgh International Airport. My testimony is personal today and honors my son-in-law, Billy, who was diagnosed with leukemia, acute --- can't say it, but it's APL, a cancer of the blood and bone marrow. There's no family history of this. He was hospitalized this past Christmas and was released this week, almost 40 days later. He has had multiple transfusions, operations to remove infections and intensive chemotherapy. He is being given two weeks' rest at home and then will resume another regimen of chemotherapy. It has been horrific, though in his family --- they live in the Dallas-Fort Worth metro area where the Barnett shale, another shale exists. In 2003, horizontal drilling, using the hydraulic fracturing process, began to take off.

A February, 2012 Bloomberg article reports that air can be fouled by fracking, either by emissions of volatile organic compounds or by pollutants from these open air pits, which are lined so nicely without leakage, where leftover drilling water is dumped. The article goes on to say that air measurements near fracking sites in Colorado and Texas have turned up above-normal levels of benzene and other carcinogens. Benzene is a dangerous chemical. How do we know that? The United States Department of Health and Human Services tells us so. Benzene exposure causes cancer in humans. Long-term benzene exposure damages the bone marrow and can cause serious diseases, including several types of cancers.

Are you getting the picture? Industry regulators would have us believe that there are some safe levels of exposure to benzene. Really? In 1948, the American Petroleum Institute published a toxicological review of benzene, noting that benzene causes leukemia, and that the only safe level of exposure is zero parts per million. So is benzene the source of Billy's leukemia? If so, is the benzene source from fracking from nearby open air pits? I really don't know, and I would guess

that no one here knows today, either. If we don't know, then we must invoke the precautionary principle.

(Outburst from audience member.)

MR. POPOVICH: Until we know, I do not want visitors coming to our airport being exposed to carcinogens.

(Outburst from audience member.)

MR. POPOVICH: I do not want residents living in the county to be exposed to carcinogens. I do not want an increase of leukemia and other cancers. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Thaddeus. If you would just give me a little assistance here, we'd like to have Senator Tim Solobay come up and speak.

(Outbursts from audience.)

(Applause.)

SENATOR SOLOBAY: He's a volunteer fireman. He went to a fire. You know, if you'll take a look, in Allegheny County our volunteer firemen save the taxpayers $64,000,000 a year, so give the volunteer fireman a break.

(Applause.)

SENATOR SOLOBAY: Thank you, Chairman. I appreciate the opportunity to come before all of you and talk about some things that have been very good for --- not only for southwestern Pennsylvania, but for the entire Commonwealth. I think it basically saved taxpayers dollars on our utility bills, on the opportunities that businesses have been able to recreate themselves and the whole works that is going on. So I do believe that what Allegheny County Council is doing, they're showing strong leadership by seizing an opportunity, a tremendous economic development opportunity with the airport leasing.

Marcellus Shale has allowed southwestern Pennsylvania to recapture recognition as a leader in driving innovation, reviving our country's manufacturing base, and that benefits everyone, especially whenever it gives us the opportunity for energy independence and possibly saving our young men and women from having to go across the waters to deal with issues that really shouldn't be. It has also brought a lot of great-paying jobs, much needed jobs, to several counties across the Commonwealth and across the state, especially in southwestern PA and across the northern tier; the majority of my legislative district, Washington, in Greene County, where there's obviously a lot of activity that's been

going on, and a rebirth of those counties. I have little parts of Beaver and Allegheny and Westmoreland County, where it's not that prevalent.

But the opportunity still exists there because we are a regional area, we are a regional economy and it's been beneficial for everyone. We've heard just recently today that US Air and American Airlines are contemplating a merger. We know that the eastern corridor of the country has been overloaded with air traffic, and here is Pittsburgh Airport sitting with great opportunities. Unfortunately, because of the debt that's present on it, no one wants to come to pay the gate fees. This gives you an opportunity to reduce those fees and make that airport much more viable than it's been up until now. I also believe that it's possible to produce this American energy in a very safe and responsible manner, with the balance of the environmental concerns, the economic benefits and jobs for our future. I support County Council's and the Airport Authority's efforts to further strengthen our regional economy to drilling natural gas in Allegheny County and at the airport.

And just one little note; Act 13 fees for Washington and Greene County have exceeded over --- almost near $20,000,000 of new opportunity dollars in our municipalities and in our county government, that didn't take one taxpayer dime to get to that point. That, coupled in Washington County with the casino local share monies, those municipalities in Washington County alone, between the Act 13 money and the casino local share funds, $26,000,000, not one time, every year new money into those communities that enable it to make infrastructure, water and sewer improvements and different things like that.

So the opportunities that I have seen in the past five years have been tremendous. The positives weigh out the --- exceed any of the negatives that are out there. And as technology improves, things continue to get much, much better on the side that most folks are concerned about; and we all are, also, with the environmental side of things. And it has improved itself tremendously, and I think as time moves on, it's going to show further. So your efforts to do this, I applaud you for that, and it's going to benefit not only the residents of Allegheny County and the folks that come in to our international airport, but the region in a whole. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Senator. And I do want to apologize for not exercising extreme decorum by lashing out.

SENATOR SOLOBAY: Okay.

CHAIR MACEY: We will now have Terri Supowitz, followed by Claudia Detwiler.

MS. SUPOWITZ: Hello. I am Terri Supowitz. I live, breathe and garden at 310 Hay Street, in Wilkinsburg. I want to begin with questions. And if you would raise your hand, I'd appreciate it. How many of you have actually seen an operational well pad?

(Audience responds.)

MS. SUPOWITZ: Okay. And how many of you have talked to the people in the Woodlands? They --- their wells have been polluted by drilling. They have no clean drinking water. So that's an example of drilling coming very, very close to where they live and your wells have gone bad. I'm definitely not a genius, but I do have common sense, and common sense tells me that it's a very bad idea to build well pads near an airport. With drilling, there's fracking, bad air, truck traffic, seismic testing with dynamite blowing up, extremely bright lights, 24/7 noise and often spills, leaks, fires and explosions, and sometimes, earthquakes in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

When that happens, what are you going to do, shut down the airport, evacuate the area? Remember the Mon-Fayette Expressway? Impact studies went on for two years. The expressway was not going to pollute the air we breathe, nor the water we drink. It was not a totally new idea that had not been done before, yet we spent two years on impact studies. On the other hand, fracking and the way we are doing it now, is new. There is no precedent. We don't know the consequences, and we certainly don't know the unintended consequences. There's been very little research and impact studies.

Pennsylvania is the research. Pennsylvania is the experiment. I wish some of what the oil and gas companies were saying was true. Why would anybody object? But what they are saying, at best, is half true and, at worst, it's almost all lies. It cannot be produced safely, not at this point. Here's the truth. The gas is not going anywhere. It will be here for 10, 20 years, and the gas companies --- during that time, we can take the

next 10 years and do impact studies on water, air, on the infrastructure, health and well being of the people and on the community, so that no one is surprised and everyone is prepared.

The oil and gas company has been given special treatment, unlike any other industry or business. What they are doing is radical. It's never been done before, yet they are not required to have impact studies, to do research, and frankly, most of our legislators are not doing their due diligence. The public is being dismissed and forgotten. When there is pollution, the standard answer from the gas company is, you can't prove it. I'd like to conclude by asking that there be another hearing for the county airport. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Ms. Supowitz. Claudia, followed by Bridgette Shields.

MS. DETWILER: Claudia Detwiler, 5723 Solway Street, Pittsburgh. This is not really an airport issue, this is a people issue. It is about people who could be put at risk medically and financially. Please don't be fooled into believing that a couple thousand feet or even a couple of miles will protect people. It's not true. This is the industry's deception. Toxic chemicals, especially airborne ones, can travel miles, and some people will get very sick, especially children. Please read the research yourselves. Start with a website with issues for social responsibility. Read their peer reviewed research on medical risks from fracking, not an industry study.

Then read a document called, List of the Harmed. You can Google it, List of the Harmed. Read the stories of people who became seriously ill. Read about people told by their doctors to abandon their homes. After that, Google the Endocrine Disruption Exchange and educate yourselves about the risk to future children from extremely small amounts of toxic chemicals absorbed by their parents. Learn about the toxic emissions from compressor stations. This is much bigger than just the drill pads. You need to know this stuff, because these are your constituents who are going to get sick.

Once you know medical impacts, research the financial costs that your constituents will get hit with, some more than others. Again, read the abundant academic research documenting negative impacts of drilling on a

region. It's all there. Communities and the county will need to hire transitional police, firefighters and healthcare workers to deal with the accidents and pressures on community services. Then there are the costs to repair our roads and bridges from an endless stream of monster trucks carrying water and sand. These are public costs and they will be big.

Then some homeowners and local businesses will get hit with reduced property values, just for being around drilling structures, not even leasing. Also, banks can and will deny mortgages from properties that are simply near drilling. These are your homeowners and local businesses who will pay for this folly. Then calculate lost revenues. Start with lost tax revenue, from reduced real estate value and in the cost of jobs lost from businesses that leave an area. This will happen. Then calculate revenue from businesses that now will never relocate to our county because of air pollution and the industry dominance. Sociologists call this the crowding out from extraction industries.

Add in-land loss to development, because the compressor stations and big pipelines reaching to communities. Be sure to bone up on pipeline eminent domain issues, especially for cases considering eminent domain status for gathering lines. Your constituents need to know this. A Cornell University study carries the warning that communities often end up worse than they would have been without exploiting their extracted sector reserves. Please, don't do this.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Ms. Detwiler. Bridgette Shields, followed by Kenneth Weir.

MS. SHIELDS: Hello. My name is Bridgette Shields, 2329 Tilbury Avenue, and I'm going to go really fast. I'm not against drilling, not the shallow wells that we have seen for 60 years. But this is not the same drilling that we are used to. Deep injection wells, slick water, hydraulic fracturing, is a different process, no matter what the industry tells us. We hear jobs, money, environment, money, benefits, money. How realistic is it to think that any of us are against jobs and the economy getting better? But just like the Governor's Commission on Marcellus Shale, what are we hearing about the health impacts to the people of our communities; nothing. There have been no health impact risk assessments done.

There is nobody on the Governor's Marcellus Shale Commission from the health community. So there are people that are sick. I wish that there would have been somebody from the Butler County area coming to speak to the people today, to tell them about the 21 families in the Woodlands who have had their water contaminated and are still without water two years later. Now, I don't care if it was the industry's fault. And our government, why are 21 families living without clean, safe water today? Whose responsibility is it; I don't know. But who's going to fix it? Who's helping these people? Their government has abandoned them, the industry has abandoned them. Tony Ingraffea from Cornell University said that the fracturing does not cause water contamination; that's true, the fracturing process itself, putting the dynamite charges in there and setting them off. But he was an engineer instrumental in helping to develop the well casings that they use in this process. He is the person saying today, we need to abandon this process if we want to live on this Earth with clean water.

It comes from surface spills. It comes from well blowouts. It comes from leaky frack pits, off gassing of frack pits, off gapping of compressor stations. These are all the ways that people are breathing in these carcinogenic chemicals that some of us aren't even aware of. Doctors are signed to non-disclosure agreements. I mean, people, come on. I'm hoping that there is still some integrity, some courage in our government officials to say no until this has been --- the impact studies have been done. And I'm tired of Pennsylvania's being the guinea pigs.

This is new. We are being the ones that New York is looking at, Maryland is looking at, and it's not a pretty picture. I know of people that are sick, and no one is helping them. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Bridgette. Kenneth Weir, followed by Loretta Weir.

(Brief noise interruption.)

MR. WEIR: My name is Kenneth Weir. I live in Lincoln Place, City of Pittsburgh, and I'm speaking on behalf of the communities that are uniting to protect our rights and environment. The drilling at our airport is a done deal, as Rich Fitzgerald has noted. I will assume that this Council has done their homework. I must believe

certain things to make this easier to swallow. I must believe that you have not been strong-armed by the County Executive, that although Rich Fitzgerald solicited this industry for campaign contributions, this has no bearing on his allegiance to this industry or to decisions made on behalf of this Council; that you know that Allegheny County has the highest percentage of structurally deficient bridges in the nation, 30.4 percent of all bridges, that 57 of your citizens cross these bridges every second of every day; that you have thought this through before a compromised bridge, road, culvert collapses under this heavily industrialized activity. That impact fees targeted by this industry for damages that they recognize will occur; that you have taken necessary precautions and evacuation measures are in place, in the event of a well blowout, such as occurred in Charleston, West Virginia, Morgantown, West Virginia, Wayne, Mississippi, Red River Parish, Louisiana, Bakersfield, California, Bradford County, Pennsylvania, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania, Avella, Pennsylvania, Douglas, Wyoming and the People's Republic of China; that you are aware of a one --- the five-mile radius evacuation that was required when these blowouts occurred; that you've mapped out the evacuation route for the 15-plus schools and daycares within the 2 1/2 mile radius of the county airport, in addition to the 1,585 residents who exist in every square mile.

Show us the evacuation plan dealing with catastrophic events. Show us the research you have done on the health and the impact studies. Have you read the stories from the shale field that was presented to each of you on December 4th in Council Chambers? There are over 800 families on the List of the Harmed, and this number continues to grow. Are over 800 families lying, or are they ignored because there's just not enough collateral damage, as they were referred to by Chesapeake Energy. This is not a benevolent industry. Look at their history. These are multi-national corporations out to make as much money as possible. Is this Council ready to accept responsibility for the health, safety and welfare of the citizens they swore to protect? It won't be the Tom Corbetts or the Rich Fitzgeralds who have their palms oiled by this industry. These like rats jumping off a ship. And lastly, if we believed that you had done your homework, we would not have to come here tonight.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Ken. Loretta, please, and then followed by Sarah Scholl.

MS. WEIR: My name is Loretta Weir. I live at 4544 Homeridge Drive, Munhall, Pennsylvania. I'm a resident of Allegheny County. I listed for you the top ten reasons why I personally don't trust the government. Number ten, the Oil and Gas Act usurp power from the local governments, rendering them impotent in the struggle to protect their citizens from the effects of this industry. Number nine, the Halliburton loophole removed the right to the EPA to regulate hydraulic fracturing under the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Clean Air Act and the Superfund Law. Number eight, in 2010, the Road Department and Conservation and Natural Resources, leasing 692,000 acres of Pennsylvania state forests for Marcellus drilling, with plans to lease more. Rendell then acts as a spokesperson for Range Resource resource from 2011 in a high profile water contamination case in Texas. Number seven, let's follow the money. Governor Corbett accepted more than $2,000,000, followed by Mr. Solobay, who was just here. And the list goes on.

Any surprise that these people push the agenda of this industry in an attempt to silence any dissenting view? Number six, the boom that drilling brought to Pennsylvania. Despite five years of drilling, funding deficits were so great, Corbett implemented budget cuts to healthcare, education, social service, transportation and the elderly. Number five, jobs. Unemployment in Pennsylvania rose to 7.9 percent, higher than the national average. Allegheny County's unemployment went from 6.2 to 6.8, heavily-drilled Bradford County, 5.5 to 7.2, Tioga County, also heavily drilled, 5.9 to 7.9.

Number four, Dawson Lim is an M.D. medical oncologist, and he made this statement, there are over 650 chemical compounds in fracking fluid that may cause cancer in humans. There is no minimal exposure to these toxins that is safe. Acute, especially exposure in children and adults, will cause the development of cancer. We are all at risk. Number three, Act 13, stripping the municipalities of zoning rights, permitting drilling operations in close proximity to our homes, hospitals, schools, daycares and water bodies. Most agree this is just a gag order on doctors concerning a medical event due

to this drilling, but it protects the drilling --- the drillers propriety mix.

Okay? The DEP is not even testing for a full array of our chemicals in our water, although radium levels are extremely high. Let's not talk about that. But the number one reason I'm here tonight is Rich Fitzgerald's e-mail to Kathryn Klaber. Whoa. I need money, and I need it fast. A captain puts their money behind the candidate that will promote the growth of this industry. Your kind words and attaboys won't win the race. How about if you take some of the money you spend on these receptions and a party at the W and invest it in who's going to lead western Pennsylvania over the next four years. It's more important than the Senate race, the House race or Congressional race. I hope you guys realize this before it's too late. It was addressed to Katie and signed, Rich. Thanks.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Sarah Scholl, please, followed by Barbara Grover.

MS. SCHOLL: Hi. I'm Sarah Scholl. I live at 5302 Overlook Glenn Drive, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I'm here tonight on behalf of myself. I'm also --- I work with a group, South Hills Area Against Dangerous Drilling. We have many concerns that we've just heard prior, not only at this property, but this is a slippery slope leading right to the county airport in West Mifflin, as well, which many of us nearby --- in fact, my family home I grew up in, I can see out the front door. So I was here tonight to urge each of you to vote no against this proposal that would give the green light to sell our publicly owned property for the industrial park with the toxic fracking, a process that is so deliberately contaminating that thousands of people in places throughout the whole U.S. have experienced widespread destruction in its wake, destruction of irreplaceable access to the health, water supplies, livelihood, community, clean breathable air, well being, property values and sadly the list goes on.

I'm wondering if it's a foregoing conclusion, based on the first 90 minutes of tonight, but I still will deliver my comments in the hope that you are listening to what we have to say. So I have many questions, and because this is the one hearing that we do have, I hope that you'll listen. These are not rhetorical questions.

We want and deserve answers from you. So first of all, do you truly know what is involved in the process of hydraulic fracturing? First, for every single well drilled, there are several billion gallons of locally sourced fresh water that are removed and lost forever from the water cycle, permanently contaminated by both the toxins used in the fracking process and also unearthed and returning to the surface with every frack job. So from where exactly is CONSOL going to draw the millions and millions of gallons of water for this extraction? Are they going to be permitted to just rob it from our rivers and our streams? And what about the resulting millions of gallons of water of radioactive and toxic waste; where is that poison going to be disposed?

(Outburst from audience.)

MS. SCHOLL: Are they going to take it to Ohio or Pennsylvania's deep injection well, or is it going to just disappear on our local roads in the form of road salt or such. If you don't know these very basic answers, then why would you be so negligent in not only permitting this on our public lands, but as Rich Fitzgerald had done, encouraging it, seeking out bids for this process to be brought into our communities. Today I watched a recorded testimony of a former Williamsport, PA gas industry worker, who laid out what happens in so much of the industry, how corners are cut, workers are pushed to the limits working 16-hour shifts. And there's a disparage and punishes those who question the handling of contaminated material.

And as I'm listening to account these stories with and those ignored while toxic fracking chemicals seep into the ground and waterways, I was reminded of why I took my time to come here tonight, why I took off early from work to stand here and listen to over an hour of industry propaganda.

(Applause.)

MS. SCHOLL: So to be clear, fracking does not belong in our neighborhoods and our public county lands. And I expect that upon learning this tonight and hearing our testimonies, that you too will understand that there's no place for this in our communities and no place for this heinous industrial activity. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Sarah. Barbara Grover, please, followed by Kathryn Hilton.

MS. GROVER: My name is Barbara Grover, and I live at 5526 Wilkins Avenue, Pittsburgh, 15217. I represent the Allegheny Group of the Sierra Club, and we strongly urge you to prohibit shale gas extraction at the Pittsburgh International and County Airport, as well as anywhere in the entire county. The negative impact of this toxic drilling affects a multitude of quality-of-life issues. We are asking you to accept your responsibility to protect this community from water contamination, air and noise pollution, public health hazards, the dangers of explosions, well fires and toxic spills, the destruction of wildlife ecosystems and the destruction of our roads and bridges. I do not have time to address all these environmental issues, so I'll concentrate on water. The first critical water is --- concern is the source of the fresh water needed for drilling. A well requires, on average, 5,000,000 gallons of water. What would be the source of this water, Allegheny River, the Mon, their tributaries? These rivers are the people's source of safe, drinkable water.

The 1.2 million citizens living in Allegheny County require 132,000,000 gallons of clean, safe drinking water daily. Can we make those daily needs if millions of gallons are used for gas wells? And what if a drought occurs? Our second concern is the wastewater returned to the surface. As you have heard, wastewater contains toxic chemicals, metals, unknown chemicals and often radioactive particles. Where will this wastewater go? How many of these toxic wastes will evaporate into the air before the toxic water is stored away?

Our third concern is the wastewater left underground. Thirty (30) percent or more of the toxic water remains underground. Scientists do not know where that water might travel; it might return to the surface, it might get into aquifers, it might remain deeply underground. We need scientific studies to understand the consequences of the contaminated water left. My second issue is actually economic growth. You have already begun growing our economy by making our region a leader in green energy and dealing with climate change.

You hired a sustainability coordinator to focus on those efforts. You take pride in the number of LEED certified buildings. You look to the future by reducing carbon dioxide emissions by recycling, by cleaning up our rivers. The technologies for sustainable energy sources

are available now. Good living wage jobs in manufacturing exists in these industries. This region has a reputation for adaptability and innovation. Use the airport lands for a research facility or sustainable energy industries, not fracking.

I close with a quote from Michael Brune, executive director of the National Sierra Club; ultimately, the only safe, smart and responsible ways to address our nation's energy needs is to look beyond coal, oil and gas and focus on clean, efficient energy sources, such as wind, solar and geothermal. Countries around the world with the most successful 21st century economies will be based on using energy that is safe, secure and sustainable. I urge you to heed those words to help the quality of life of our children, grandchildren, and future generations depend ---. Thank you.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Barbara.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Barbara. Next, Kathryn Hilton, followed by Jennifer Myers.

MS. SCHOLL: Hello. I'm here as a representative for Kathryn Hilton, who was unable to be here. My name is Victoria Scholl. I reside at 935 Dallett Road, in Whitehall, Pennsylvania. I'm here as a resident of Allegheny County, in an official capacity representing Mountain Watershed Association, which has over 1,000 members in southwestern Pennsylvania. Many people from areas outside the county use the airports, and their input should be and should have been considered in this process.

Frankly, having one public hearing regarding leasing where only county residents are allowed to comment, to me is irresponsible. Present today is only a small contingent of the large number of people who are concerned about leasing airport minerals. First, the potential revenue from drilling on airport property will mean little if we lose the revenue generated by the 8,000,000 people who use the airport, because problems occur. Unfortunately, the track record of drilling accidents in Pennsylvania's --- Pennsylvania, leads us to an inevitable conclusion, there are no guarantees.

According to the Pennsylvania DEP data analyzed in a report by Dr. Tony Ingraffea, of Cornell University, six to seven percent of Marcellus Shale well casings in Pennsylvania, fail immediately. With over 100,000 of

these wells projected for Pennsylvania, that would equate to over 10,000 failed wells that leak ignitable greenhouse gases and threaten fresh groundwater supplies. Will the airport wells be some of them? In the same breath, I understand Pennsylvania has the strongest regulations on hydraulic fracturing. But what does that really mean when this rate of failure reflects the safety of current standards? In addition to casing failure, there are a plethora of other issues that can and will arise in hydraulic fracturing operation. According to more data collected by the DEP, there are 3,025 violations on the 8,952 hydraulically-drilled wells in Pennsylvania. 1,273 of these violations are health and environmental related, and no company has an outstanding record of safety or excellence.

(Outburst from audience member.)

MS. SCHOLL: So the top health and environmental violations include discharge of pollutional material to waters of the Commonwealth, 143 violations, failure to properly store, transport, process or dispose of a residual waste, 224, stream discharge of industrial waste, including drill cuttings, oil, brine and/or silt, 37, discharge of industrial waste to waters of the Commonwealth without a permit, 19. In addition to these concerns, public record shows that DEP is not notifying these holders of all contaminants found doing water contamination investigations and is using incomplete water tests.

The airports provide millions of dollars from commerce and hundreds of jobs. Risking the security of income and employment for a large sum of money and potential water out is not a wise investment for the prosperity of Allegheny County. I urge you, vote no. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you. Kathryn Hilton, followed by Jennifer Myers.

(Outbursts from audience.)

CHAIR MACEY: Jennifer Myers, followed by Daniel Donahue.

MS. MYERS: Hello. My name is Jennifer Myers, and I live in Pittsburgh, 15232. I live in a neighborhood named Friendship. Wow, this is basically my first time in a session of --- in the important and amazing moment that we all are sharing collectively, and I'm very nervous. I

think that the thing that we need to try to think about is, first of all, what is our common ground? What are we all dealing with? We all have our health. Right now, hopefully, everybody in this room still has their health. If anybody in this room has ever been sick, they know that health is wealth. Health is wealth; there is no wealth if you're not healthy.

So all of the facts that I have read --- I've thrown myself into this in the past couple months --- are clear. There is no safe way to frack. There is no safe way to frack. If there was, I don't think that we would be here. If there was, would there be 800 people on the List of the Harmed? Okay? The other important thing that I'm here to talk about, is to speak for Lisa DeSantis, who lives in Lawrence County, who's on the frontlines with this whole thing. I am not there, she is; okay? Here's what she says. I'm telling part of her story right now.

Imagine if we took money out of the fracking equation. Would there be any reason why we would fracture the foundation on which the Pittsburgh Airport was built, our way in and out of this place? Obviously, not. Why would we fracture the air, the land. If you Google Pittsburgh images, which we all do, what do you see? You see water, you see the three rivers. This whole place is connected by water. If we damage the water systems here, what are we talking about? Water is life, and life is water. Without water, we don't exist. We are all connected by water. You just need to look upstream from counties like Lawrence and Butler --- Lawrence is where she lives. In Lawrence County alone, mineral rights are sold for Cascade Park, Gaston Park, Flaherty Field, Deshon Field, Sylvan Heights Golf Course, 500 acres of city-owned land. Prime land all over the county has been leased.

Almost all of our schools have been leased. What is the legacy for children in this picture? A lot of people in here have gray hair; I do, too. The thing is, what is the legacy for children who are going to be living in this state, in 40 years, 50 years, 60 years? We will have a Superfund Site. Pennsylvania will be unlivable. This is very serious stuff that we're talking about.

(Outburst from audience member.)

MS. MYERS: And I only have 15 seconds left. All I can really say is, think about our common ground. Please, the gas isn't going anywhere. If you wait, things are going to get --- you'll get more money if you wait.

If we get to do the studies, you'll get more money. You want money.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Jennifer. Daniel Donahue, followed by Matt Peters.

MR. DONAHUE: Thank you, Council. Thank you, CONSOL, for the great work you do for this nation. The enthusiasm and the passion in this room is very similar to a dinner at my house. I'm the father of five young boys; the oldest is eight and a child on the way in four weeks, so my wife is a Saint. As I said, my name is Daniel Donahue. I'm the president and owner of Falcon Drilling, based in Pennsylvania. I've resided in Allegheny County for the past 33 years and plan to reside here for another 70-some years and my children to grow up in this area.

I'm dedicated to this region. I'm dedicated to doing the job right. When we currently drill the wells, the vertical portion of the wells, we are --- we are there for the casing problems that many of you talked about. We don't have the ability to not do it right. The publicly-trained companies that you all talk about in this region demand it, and we demand it. We have a great reputation in this area. We're the largest vertical drilling company in this market. Job creation; I know you've heard a lot about job creation. We currently employ 208 employees. Seventy (70) percent of those employees are here in Pennsylvania. The average income of an employee at Falcon Drilling is around $65,000. Most of those employees do not have college educations.

And you talk about the trickle-down effect, for what it's doing for the communities that we're in. Eighty (80) percent of the vendors that we use are based in Pennsylvania. We buy drilling rigs that cost over $2,000,000. They are made here in Pennsylvania. It's an incredible thing for this region, an incredible thing for this country. What we're doing, what CONSOL is doing, what other companies are doing with energy independence, that should be all of our goals. We are spending $1,000,000,000 a day on bringing in foreign oil, from people that do not like us. I know there's people in this room that don't like what I'm doing, so I can feel what it feels like.

(Outbursts from audience.)

We have a responsibility to help out this country, this state and this county. And what CONSOL and

other companies are doing is what we need to do. We need to become energy independent. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Dan. Matt Peters, please, followed by Mel Packer.

MR. PETERS: Good evening. My name is Matt Peters. I live at 4925 Odin Street, in the neighborhood of Hazelwood in the City of Pittsburgh. I live across the river from the county airport. I can see the lights on a dark night. I'm within about two miles of the county airport. These comments come from myself as a citizen, but I serve on the Executive Committee for the local Sierra Club, and I'm Chairman of the Public Lands Committee for that organization. I'm opposed to using county-owned land at our airports to frack for natural gas. Our nation's airports already face more than enough bomb threats from fanatics and lunatics. We do not need to install one permanently in the land surrounding our airports.

(Outbursts from audience.)

MR. PETERS: A quick consultation of the Google reveals that 80 percent of jet aircraft accidents occur during takeoff and landing phases of flight and, hence, close to an airport. That quote is from a document that is referenced in the copy I just gave Council. That is why many of these areas surrounding our airports are undeveloped open land in the first place. Filling the surrounding areas with high pressure explosives and open reservoirs with toxic chemicals, seems like a bad accident waiting to happen.

Regardless of whether I'm for or against drilling, there is a fundamental problem with the process of governments. Why are public hearings only held after the deal is made with CONSOL?

(Outbursts from audience.)

MR. PETERS: Surely, a matter of this magnitude, with so much money at stake, as well as the obvious impacts to public safety, is worthy of the greatest public participation and government scrutiny. Investments in fossil fuels are an investment in our polluting past, at a time when we need to invest every opportunity in truly clean alternatives, like wind and solar ---

(Outburst from audience member.)

MR. PETERS: --- or biogas methane from agricultural manures and city sewage.

(Outbursts from audience.)

MR. PETERS: We have sacrificed our farmlands, our public forests and now our transportation system, on this all-consuming altar of gas exploitation, with hardly any discussion of alternatives, let alone safety. This deal having been made and the bid accepted, however, I raise the important question, why did the county accept the lower of two bids? What are these unusual negotiations going on after the bid process, and why are these negotiations not subject to greater public scrutiny and greater government transparency. The real question, however, is why the Fitzgerald County administration would accept such a tremendous public safety risk from the lowest bidder, when the governments of many of the nations that use our world class airport have banned fracking in those nations?

(Outbursts from audience.)

MR. PETERS: France, Bulgaria, Romania, South Africa, Germany, the Czech Republic, Poland, Scotland, Spain and others, have all been enacted full or partial bans, moratoriums and other restrictions that protect public safety and the environment, to a far greater extent than the virtual free for all in this state. Our neighboring state of Maryland has recently banned fracking, and town after town in New York and Pennsylvania are banning the practice based on the clear and present danger that this method of gas exploration manifests. I've got one second and two paragraphs left. I ask that you follow up and read the rest of my comments. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thanks, Matt. Mel Packer, followed by Dennis Gilfoyle.

MR. PACKER: Thank you; Mel Packer. I live in the Point Breeze section of the City of Pittsburgh, 15208. Let me make something clear from the beginning. I'm not a scientist, not an intellectual. I don't possess a Bachelor's degree. I've led a pretty simple life as a truck driver, a hard worker, a steel hauler, recycled myself into emergency medicine as a physician assistant, retired, married and two adult kids. Don't claim a huge knowledge base, folks, on my 67 years of hard work and sometimes hard times, give you a vast reservoir of common sense.

My sense of responsibility to my fellow inhabitants on this planet and my common sense says, the fracking process itself is just no damn good.

(Outbursts from audience.)

MR. PACKER: I'm not going to give you documented evidence that usually help with that, because of environmental destruction. I'll just give you an idea that my --- because also my common sense tells me, what we're really doing here is simply a show, a set of pretend democracy where Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald gets his way and delivers the airport to his handlers in the fracking industry unless you stop it.

(Outbursts from audience.)

MR. PACKER: I think this makes the simple facts about politics become a connect-the-dots game. Fact, Rich Fitzgerald wants fracking extended everywhere and anywhere. Fact, Rich Fitzgerald's campaign manager was Mike Mikus or Mikus (changes pronunciation), whose job as Director of the Consumer Energy Alliance, Mid-Atlantic, a phony consumer group funded by the Independent Petroleum Association of America, which promotes drilling and fracking everywhere and anywhere. Damn the environment, damn the workers there, damn the people, as long as the oil and gas companies make huge profits.

Back on June 27th --- January 27th, as stated before, Rich Fitzgerald sent a personal whiny e-mail to Katie Klaber; again, Katie, not Kathryn or Miss Klaber, because they know each other pretty well. He's complaining about lack of funding. Quote, I love going to the expensive Captains of Industries parties in New York, but would rather have the Captains put their money behind a candidate who will promote the growth of the industry. Quote, I need money and I need it fast. Fact, Robert Lewis of Orbital Engineering donated $50,000 to Fitzgerald's campaign. Orbital provides engineering solutions and project management expertise to pipelines, for the shale/gas refining industries.

Fact, David Minnotte --- or Minnotte (changes pronunciation), Chairman of Allegheny County Airport Authority and the head of Minnotte Corporation, a leading engineering construction company, that could benefit from fracking, donated $45,000 to it. Fact, what the hell is Aquanef, a solely-owned company by Rich Fitzgerald. It has nothing to do with energy, water treatment, no employees except him, no website, no reviews; the news say

hundreds of industrial clients. I can find out what my neighbor had for breakfast on the Internet, but I can't find out what this water company is that Rich Fitzgerald owns. If it walks like a duck, it talks like a duck, it's a duck, folks, so it's pretty simple to connect the dots. What we have is a picture of political corruption and a man not only willing to sell his soul, but the health of the people of Allegheny County to the highest bidder, which is the fracking industry. Whether this Council is willing to play that corrupt game is entirely up to you, and it's your choice. Is $40,000,000 worth the future health of our children and families? Is $100,000,000? Is a billion? It's not to me. My kids are not for sale, and my kids will not be the fracking industry's lab rats.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Mel. Dennis Gilfoyle, followed by Sally Spencer.

MR. GILFOYLE: Good evening, everyone. I'm Dennis Gilfoyle. My address is 364 McMurray Road, in Upper St. Clair. Thank you for the opportunity, Council, to speak today in support of the Council's and Airport Authority's efforts to further strengthen our region's economy through drilling for natural gas. I'm President of Junior Achievement, the region's oldest and largest youth development organization, and I do see many benefits this initiative can bring to our young people.

JA came to western Pennsylvania in 1939 through the efforts of companies like Westinghouse, U.S. Steel and the old Consolidation Coal Company, with the purpose to better prepare our young people to become business owners, entrepreneurs, good employees and community leaders. Over 2,000,000 young people have participated in JA programs here in western Pennsylvania, which focus on workforce readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy.

My guess is, looking in this room, there's probably a few people here that either directly or indirectly have participated in Junior Achievement. At Junior Achievement, we've ridden the tides of many changes in our economy over our 74 years of serving this community, and here we are today in the early stages of one of the largest economic opportunities this region may ever see. Some people have called it a game changer. The Marcellus Shale has allowed southwestern Pennsylvania to recapture recognition as a leader in driving innovation, reviving our country's manufacturing base. As I travel

across our region, I do get to talk to business and community leaders frequently about the local impact Marcellus Shale has had on their communities. I hear story after story about the impact natural gas had made and wonder, is it Allegheny County's turn? Good paying jobs are one of the leading byproducts of natural gas drilling --- we've heard a lot of that tonight --- and I feel that Allegheny County should have the opportunity to benefit, as well.

We respond as an organization, though, by creating a hands-on program for students, called JA Careers and Energy. Simply stated, this program introduces middle and high school students to all aspects of energy development, the economic impacts, the environmental challenges and focuses heavily on the thousands of jobs associated with the energy industry in this region; and I want to say, all forms of energy. Local companies like CONSOL have stepped up to partner with Junior Achievement in delivering this program to hundreds of area classrooms throughout our region.

We rely on the support of successful organizations who lend their time and talent, in addition to financial support, to help us reach thousands of students with an important message for their future. We teach our young people, with the support of companies like CONSOL, that it is possible to produce American energy in a safe and responsible manner, while balancing the environmental impacts and the economic benefits and jobs for our future generations that come with it. Thank you again, Council, and to the Airport Authority, for showing strong leadership towards this enormous economic development opportunity the airport lease presents. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Dennis. Sally Spencer, please, followed by Abby Samuels. Is Sally Spencer here? Okay. Abby Samuels, please, followed by Mark Fera.

MS. SAMUELS: Hi. My name's Abby Samuels. I live in Point Breeze, Pittsburgh, 15208. I want to say, first of all, no fracking anywhere connected or along our three rivers. As concerned citizens, we have the right to undisclosed fracking and to possibly defeat any long-term crisis in all counties dealing with this issue. I propose we demand to know all the ingredients in the fluid. Who can protect all life forms and ecosystems associated? We

have the right to self-govern our sustainable energy and food source in this town and for infinite problems as to continue to have clean air, water and frack-free food, with all parties disclosing all information, including but not limited to, organic and chemicals being used in fracking and pipelines. We demand jobs in our county and our community of engineers to check all locations being unchecked, for safety and the risks, to prevent leaks and explosions disrupting the environment. We all know the jobs are barely going to us, and it's our job to create jobs, to make sure no life form gets harmed in the process, and the processes have already begun to pop up surrounding Allegheny County.

It's our duty as a city to be free of toxics. We have a right to pure water, free from fracking fluid and other chemicals, including fluoride, in all fracking fluids, a right to clean air and complete access to all disclosed information of parties, corporations and politicians involved, destroying our atmosphere --- for example, Chemtrails --- a right to natural communities, ecosystems, rivers, aquifers and all other water systems, along with all current culture processes, enforced and delivered, and to unlimited resources to and for the people, by the people, to preserve this earth.

(Outburst from audience member.)

We have the responsibility to our children and the future generations to stop Halliburton and its affiliated gain, and to clean up the mess without any further toxic obstacles. We have rights to this and flourish in the surrounding lands. We have the right to invest legal standing and to enforce these rights on behalf of all those communities and ecosystems, the right to peaceful enjoyment, free from interference, intrusions and nuisances, such as tearing up local roads and highways just to have trucks and barriers, to prevent the fluid from leaking into our ecosystems, to be free of even imbalance vibrations.

We have the right to be valued as unlimited, all of us, and no millions or billions of dollars will ever be worth more than my life, the body of the earth, our support system and the pain of my brother and sisters. On behalf of all beings everywhere, I will not permit the rape and oppression of our earth any longer. The end of our oppression begins now. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Abby. Mark Fera, please, followed by Eric Vaccarello.

MR. FERA: I am Mark Fera, and I live in Robinson Township, where they just raised our taxes. I work in Robinson Township at a company called Bulldog Office Products and CONSOL is one of our customers. I have a different prospective on them. To me, CONSOL --- I can see them as the individual people that they are. When we signed the contract --- when they kicked out Office Depot one the day they signed our contract, 2005. Their number three guy looked at my father and said, when the minds call for coffee, you get it to them as soon as possible.

And that's because they do care. Their president explained that they have a culture of caring, and they have a culture of wanting to have safety. They're not gamblers. They're not Wall Street executives. I did work at Carnegie Mellon. I have a B.S. Someone has got to explain to me why this company, who's as successful as those billboards stated they are, is going to jeopardize all that on something that they don't believe in. I've met their people. I know that they're not going to --- they're not in it just for the money.

(Outbursts from audience.)

MR. FERA: They're not. They have 10,000 people --- they have 10,000 employees. They're going to jeopardize all that?

(Outburst from audience member.)

MR. FERA: Why?

(Outburst from audience member.)

MR. FERA: They do care. They do care. And you know what, when I'm parking my car in the parking lot out there ---.

(Outburst from audience member.)

MR. FERA: We're driving cars. We're putting on our lights, and we're going to complain? We're going to worry about something that that's probably going to be in there. It's a great thing, mostly for the --- and for bullshit, like, that comes on at the stuff that you guys are talking about. I've talked to people that are going to have 10,000 employees when you work in our area, in our face, in the minds that they come from.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Mark, would you please give us your address?

MR. FERA: 114 Amy Jo Lane, in Robinson Township.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Eric Vaccarello, please, followed by Kristen Holloway.

MR. VACCARELLO: That's a tough act to follow there. My name is Eric Vaccarello. Excuse me. I'm battling a cold here. I was born and raised in Allegheny County. I've been here all my life. I have two primary businesses in Allegheny County, one is Land Clearing Specialists and one is recycling. We clear land for gas and oil folks; for the coal folks, also. And we clear for the pads and we clear for the access roads and pipelines. We take that material and we recycle it. I have another company called Wood Waste Recycling. We recycle all the material and we put it back for control measures.

In 2009, I had --- between the two companies, I have 15 employees and was barely struggling to get by. Today, because of the gas industry, we have over 50 employees, full-time employees, in Allegheny County. We have up to 75 with part-timers and sub-contractors, the jobs we're bringing to Allegheny County. I believe that the Allegheny County Council showed great leadership and responsibility by leasing this property. My small company is a testament to the benefits that the Marcellus Shale has to bring, adding real growth to Allegheny County businesses and to the employees that live here, the employees that pay taxes here; and they go to our restaurants and send their kids to our schools.

I believe it's possible for America to produce energy in Allegheny County, throughout western Pennsylvania, in a safe, responsible, environmental-friendly manner, while benefiting our economy. I see it every day, folks. We're out there working on the front line. These people that are working for ---, they're committed to doing the job and doing it right. I support the Allegheny County Council and the Airport Authority, to further strengthen our local economy through safe and responsible drilling. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Eric. I just want to make one comment here, that this isn't a foregone conclusion. We haven't voted on it. This is a public hearing. Okay? Kristen Holloway, followed by Michael Mikus --- or Mikus (changes pronunciation).

MS. HOLLOWAY: Good evening. My name is Kristen Holloway. I'm the founder and CEO of Operation Troop Appreciation, coming to you from 3075 Clairton ---.

CHAIR MACEY: Name and address, please.

MS. HOLLOWAY: Kristen Holloway, founder and CEO of Operation Troop Appreciation, coming to you from 3075 Clairton Boulevard, in West Mifflin. We are a Pittsburgh-based charity that provides for our military. When hearings such as this are held, community commitment tends to focus on the economic impact on jobs and costs. Tonight I'd like to present information regarding CONSOL's impact on the communities from a charitable perspective. As one of many beneficiaries of CONSOL's generosity and support, OTA has been able to provide help to thousands of troops overseas facing harsh conditions and dangerous missions.

It would take much longer than three minutes to give you all the ways in which CONSOL has helped OTA, but I'd like to share some highlights of the contributions they've made to our cause in 2012 alone. CONSOL Energy was the premier sponsor of our Veterans Day Military Appreciation event, resulting in donations to OTA of over $8,500. They partnered with OTA to host a Military Appreciation Night at a Wildthings game, honoring our veterans and active military members and providing game attendees with an opportunity to demonstrate their support for the troops, resulting in monetary donations and two large cartons of much needed items.

And this December, OTA was chosen for CONSOL's Corporate Giving Initiative, in which they adopted two specific units of Marines and soldiers serving in Afghanistan. We were amazed by the generosity demonstrated by CONSOL employees and your corporation. This project alone resulted in almost $12,000 in monetary donations and corporate-matched funds and 31 cartons of donated items from every single location CONSOL does business in. This project was the largest and the most successful corporate giving project we have experienced in our nine years of operation as a non profit.

Not only was CONSOL successful in meeting the needs of the two units they adopted, this program alone helped to support an additional 1,500 troops serving overseas. OTA is one of a million non profits in the country competing with other charities. As a 100 percent volunteer non profit, we ensure that 98 cents of every

donated dollar goes to our troops, and CONSOL is our biggest corporate sponsor. Their generosity and support to our cause is invaluable. In closing, when you are considering this initiative, please take into account the impact CONSOL Energy has on community charities it supports. Without them, we would not be able to complete our mission in supporting the brave men and women of the United States military. Thank you for your time and consideration.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Kristen. Michael Mikus, please, followed by Stephanie Gonzales.

MR. MIKUS: Good evening. My name is Mike Mikus. I'm the executive director of the Consumer Energy Alliance's Mid-Atlantic Chapter. I want to thank the County Council for giving me an opportunity to speak. The Consumer Energy Alliance is a group that advocates on behalf of energy --- for energy policies, from the perspective of large consumers, manufacturers, everyone from steel to chemical to plastics to transportation organizations.

Large consumers of energy have a lot at stake, and our county has a lot at stake with this decision, whether or not to sign this lease at the airport. You know, we've already witnessed all through the county and throughout the region the economic gains that we've seen as a direct result of natural gas drilling within the Marcellus Shale. We've seen companies like U.S. Steel, companies like Dura-Bond, all benefiting directly. What a lot of people don't realize is the indirect benefit. And by approving this proposal, there will be both direct benefits and indirect benefits; and the direct benefit, obviously, meaning the companies, CONSOL, companies that do business with CONSOL, but the indirect, the people, the business travelers, the companies that would want to locate or expand here but have not done so because of the lack of flights.

Now, we've already seen, you know, in and around the airport over the last decade or so, more than $1,000,000,000 of private investment, yet the airport is still struggling. And you know, the Consumer Energy Alliance supports this proposal and believes that the County Council should approve this proposal and move forward, because it will mean, literally, tens of millions of dollars to a struggling airport, to invest and to lower

landing fees. In the end, Allegheny County, the region, will benefit by a stronger airport, and this will strengthen the airport. I thank you for your time, and I ask you to support this proposal. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thanks, Mike. Stephanie Gonzales, please, followed by Max Dizard. Stephanie Gonzales, please. Okay. Max Dizard. Okay. We now have Christopher Masciantonio.

MR. MASCIANTONIO: Thank you, Councilman Macey. My name is Chris Masciantonio. I work for the United States Steel, third generation. U.S. Steel commends the leadership provided today by the Allegheny County Council in support of environmental stewardship and economic development. As you may know, just last week U.S. Steel commissioned our new C Battery at the Mon Valley Works, Clairton plant. The Clairton plant investment and our 3,000 Mon Valley employees, represented by the United Steelworkers of America, will benefit from the continued development of the Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania.

The U.S. Steel-Mon Valley Works is the largest manufacturing facility in Pennsylvania and the only remaining fully integrated steel mill in Pennsylvania. At the Mon Valley, as you heard from Representative Marc Gergely, the company manufactures coke. It used to produce iron in our blast furnaces, then later into steel. Among the many customers of the Mon Valley Works is our company in McKeesport, Tubular Operations, which produces steel pipe for the oil and gas industry.

The United States Steel Corporation is well positioned to serve customers in the Marcellus Shale by providing high-quality, reliable steel products from the safe natural gas exploration and distribution. In addition to increasing demand for American-manufactured steel products, particularly where a formation such as the Marcellus Shale are located, the energy industry's efforts to develop domestic energy resources have been good for domestic steel producers and manufacturing, because it's also created a safe, reliable and competitively-priced supply of energy.

From the perspective of American manufacturing, increased availability of affordable energy allows us to reduce our cost, improve our environmental performance and enhance our competitiveness in a very difficult global economy. For example, just at U.S. Steel, we consume more

than 100,000,000 MMBtu's of natural gas per year. So just a few dollars difference in the price per MMBtu, allows us to realize important savings, reinvest those savings in our steel mills and in our workers. As a supplier of high quality steel products, we want to help the natural gas industry achieve its goals. U.S. Steel is the oil and gas industry's only integrated, made-in-America tubular steel supplier. We mine the raw materials, make the steel to manufacture tubular products, all in the United States by American workers. It's so critical to our industry and others like ours to have access to reliable, competitively-priced supplies of energy. For these reasons, U.S. Steel is pleased to support Allegheny County and the Airport Authority's decision to drill for natural gas on its grounds.

It makes sense for the county and the airport to explore new funding streams, especially in light of the benefits to the regional workforce and for economic prosperity in southwestern Pennsylvania. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Chris. Marissa Hicks, please, followed by Dana Dolney. Marissa Hicks? Dana Dolney? Thank you, Dana.

MS. DOLNEY: I want to start by apologizing for my appearance and my shakiness. I kind of look like a junkie right now, but it's unfortunately because I just came from the hospital because I have been re-tested to make sure that my cancer hasn't come back. So I stand here today as an advocate for public health and safety. Now, I know what you need to hear is this; money, money, money, money, jobs, jobs, jobs, jobs, jobs. So if I have your attention now --- because everyone who has spoken before me all benefit with money. So what I want to talk to you about is what I, as a cancer survivor, has had to do to help the people who are being ignored in this state. I know you all received this. I want to --- hands up. Who read through this entire thing? Who read through this entire booklet; any of you? Not a one.

You were given this, like, a month --- December 4th. These are hard-earned families. These are the families that I work with every day, volunteers. I have started a non-profit in this state called Shale Test, because I have to go out on my days off, when I'm not slaving as a bartender, to keep the benefits that I need to get my cancer treatments done. Right? I have to go

out and help families because the DEP and the state has failed to do so. I have to help them; me, Dana Dolney. These are the helpless. You know what they call the Department of Environmental Protection? The four-year-old calls them don’t expect protection. But you know what they call them in the North and Butler, for the 21 families that we help, that we had to raise money for to give them water, because their own representatives will not even help them, they call them the Department of Energy Production.

(Outbursts from audience.)

Is Mr. Fitzgerald here? Shocking, because he --- I have to run a race as county executive against him to make a point, with one week's time, with $11; one week's time with $11. I got 1,000 people to write my name in for county executive, because of that letter, because of what the media ignored, because of what you've all ignored. He is a puppet for the industry. I didn't need to read the letter here today; you've heard enough of it. You have a choice here today. You can either be puppets like him, or you can put public health and safety first. Money and jobs should not be talked about until public health and safety is assured.

I have a genetic mutation; my mom has a genetic mutation; my sister has a genetic mutation. And it comes from industry fracking, and you cannot convince me otherwise, because I come from a long line of steelworkers. My grandma died from breast cancer. I watched it happen. I lost both my breasts at 35. I had six friends had to deal with cancer, in the age of 30 to 40, within the last five years. I watched my cousin die from it a year and a half ago. We have a epidemic here. We have the second most toxic air in the country. And Mr. Fitzgerald just relaxed our air quality standards, as he invited in more and more industries.

You need to know what you're dealing with here. I will personally handle ---. I am not an angry woman, okay, I'm very nice. I will take you --- I will pay for it out of my own pocket. I will take you on a reality tour and show you the families. You need to know what happened, not just what they tell you, because it's bullshit.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: First of all, I want to thank you for your volunteerism. Our volunteers make a big

difference in the quality of life for our community and state. Thank you, again.

MS. DOLNEY: I need money for air testing and water testing. That's what I need, so ---.

CHAIR MACEY: Okay. Okay. Dana, thank you.

(Outbursts from audience.)

CHAIR MACEY: Donna Klimas, followed by Aaron Booz. Donna? Aaron Booz, please, followed by Marion Shannon.

MR. BOOZ: Aaron Booz, 3181 Bel Air Drive, Whitehall. It's bad enough that private companies want to take the resources out of our communities and leave us with the cleanup, as has already happened with drilling and fracking in so many places. It's bad enough that these private companies keep privately leasing land and bringing the toxic fracking closer and closer to the dense population centers of Allegheny County. But now we have our own county representatives inviting these new companies to come here and harm our public land.

There are many reasons to doubt this scheme and for you to vote no. Educated citizens have told you about these reasons all evening, and you won't hear industry people refute any of those specific arguments with actual research, because they cannot. They'll talk about everything else except the actual harms. Take note of that. Here's another reason to vote no, though; the dangerous pipelines that you're signing up for, if you read this ordinance.

The Philadelphia Inquirer did an excellent article called, Powerful Pipes Weak Oversight, that you should read. It's about how in Pennsylvania these large diameter and high pressure pipelines are stretching across the state with minimal monitoring, and even without tracking, where the pipes have been buried. It goes on to explain about how there are few inspections, just trusting the companies to install pipes that won't leak, catch fire or explode, as the dangerous pipelines are actually doing frequently in Texas now. Texas has gone before us in some of these cases.

Do you know about this information, County Council? Do you even know the differences in the different kinds of pipelines and where they're placed?

MS. DOLNEY: Yep.

MR. BOOZ: I'm now going to quote an article from a newspaper in Fort Worth, Texas, from November.

Gathering lines are the least regulated type of line in the whole pipeline system. Because they carry wet gas, they are the most likely to corrode. But because of the way gathering lines are built, they are much more likely to explode and to leak, and leaks are dangerously difficult to detect. A former pipeline executive said for that story, quote, everyone in the industry thinks this is a ticking time bomb, and all pipes leak over time. They corrode and rot out, and the initial builder sells out, and you wind up with somebody with little insurance owing the lines and not being able to maintain them properly, unquote.

Fort Worth, Texas is a city very much like Pittsburgh. The damage done by fracking in the middle of a dense population center has been clearly demonstrated there for those residents. And do you know about the type of eminent domain property confiscations that occur when you invite fracking, and thus, this web of pipelines that have to go across people's lands? Has CONSOL explained to you exactly where these 50 to 100-foot right of ways will be going? Whose land will be affected. You should have told those residents, if you know where that is, before you lock us into this lease.

But if you don't know the answer to that question, then you've got to reject this proposal, because how can you explain it to the residents who are affected? We elect you to think for the long term, not to chase a one term --- one-time check. If you were straightforward with people and admitted that these companies plan to chop up our communities and take our land through eminent domain for private profit, you'd have a line of speakers so long, that it would reach the airport.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Aaron, and I apologize for mispronouncing your last name. Marion Shannon, please, followed by Gary Sheffler. Marion Shannon? Gary Sheffler, followed by Steve Templeton.

MR. SHEFFLER: Thank you. And as the Chairman indicated, I am Gary Sheffler. I'm a long-time resident, 70 years in Allegheny County. I grew up in Moon Township, started a business there in 1970, an engineering and surveying company. Yes, I do work for all of the exploration companies in the area by providing engineering and survey insurance. The airport's been a real impact on our personal family. My mother went to work there in the

early '50s as a chef for AC Catering, who provided all the airline food. And she was a great Italian cook, so watch what you say about airline food. It was a lot better than it is today. She went to work there to help my --- my father, of course, raised a family of six and subsequently --- and graduating from high school and starting an engineering company. The airport had a great impact on our business. We had many jobs associated with the airport, the land development around the airport, and it served us very well.

I suppose that the environmental side of things is of more importance than money, and I agree with that. I believe that the energy companies do follow best management practices. They are permitted to do what they do.

(Outburst from audience member.)

MR. SHEFFLER: We --- they get permits to do so. We do provide engineering services that ensure best management practices and act as stewards for those regulations. At the companies' behest, we inspect facilities to make sure that surface water is controlled. I know there's been spills. Okay. There will be. So I think that the energy companies are responsible for what they do, and the impacts --- economic impacts have been given over and over and over again. But to put a personal face on the economic impact, on the U.S. air lab and downturn in the economy, my company went from about 15 people down to 3.

With this new industry coming to town, I can tell you that we've grown to 70 people. And I frankly have a hard time going back to just so many people. I've heard a lot of compelling arguments tonight, and I have a hard time telling 70 people with families and kids, that I think we ought to shut her down because this industry is doing a bad environment job.

(Outburst from audience member.)

MR. SHEFFLER: I just can't do that. I think the evolution of engineering practices will get better as the industry proceeds. Thank you, Council, for your efforts in this, and I encourage you to --- at least to look at properties from an economic standpoint of the county.

CHAIR MACEY: All right. Thank you, Gary.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Steve Templeton, followed by Barbara McNees.

MR. TEMPLETON: I am Steve Templeton. I live in Coraopolis, PA, 15108. Council members, elected county and township officials are responsible for protecting the public and in doing what is in the best interest of the public, and that includes health. I came here with questions. I got some of the questions answered. But I wanted to understand how you keep chemicals out of the --- out of the groundwater. And they showed a nice cement tubing. BP had a nice cement tubing, and we know what happened to that. An earthquake has been linked to shale gas drilling. That's a concern.

Where is the water going to come from, and how is it going to affect residents? And where are the chemicals to be used in the water? I think that we should know what those chemicals are. That should be public knowledge. How will we know the water is being disposed of properly? Are you going to reduce our taxes --- school taxes, county taxes --- and/or add additional community programs? Other concerns include air pollution, traffic, noise, health, infrastructure, economy and social conditions. Shale gas development risks the public health of Allegheny County and its residents.

Contaminants associated with gas development are present in air and water in many communities where development is occurring. Many residents have developed health symptoms that they did not have before ---

(Outburst from audience member.)

MR. TEMPLETON: --- indicating the strong possibility that they are occurring because of gas development. People living near natural gas wells in Pennsylvania say drilling has triggered respiratory problems, fatigue, severe headaches and skin rashes. Elected county and township officials are responsible for protecting the public in doing what is in the best interest of the public. It is obvious that shale gas drilling benefits the county in the short run. But more time and information is needed in order to make a decision as to whether this will benefit the quality of life of the residents of Allegheny County in the long run. And we need to be thinking about the long run.

Please do not allow Council --- CONSOL or any other gas driller to poison our water; please. Just

because we can drill doesn't mean that we should. Now, is not the time. Please vote no.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Steve. Barbara McNees, followed by Kim Eichenlaub.

MS. MCNEES: Thank you. Good evening, and thank you for the opportunity to be here to present testimony this evening. I'm Barbara McNees. I'm the president of the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce. We're at 11 Stanwix Street, Pittsburgh, 15222. I am here tonight to express the support of the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, for the passage of proposed County Ordinance 7387-13, that will enable the Airport Authority to move forward and lease the mineral rights and permit drilling on the property at the Pittsburgh International Airport.

As we've seen over the last two years, southwestern Pennsylvania is home to a wealth of shale gas that has the potential to help meet current and future energy needs, both locally, nationally and to help us secure greater energy independence for our nation. Shale gas is part of the broader energy sector in southwestern Pennsylvania, which has had a positive impact on our economy. The energy industry generates $19,000,000,000 a year in gross regional product, representing 16 percent of our regional economy.

In our ten-county region, we have more than 800 firms that support 150,000 direct and indirect jobs. Overall, our region has fared better than most for this recent recession, but we still have issues that we must address to maintain and to increase competitiveness today in this global economy. The proceeds from the airport shale gas drilling can help in two ways. First, we can improve the competitiveness of our airport, including improvements to its facilities. By more quickly paying down the airport's debt, we can decrease the per passenger landing fee and make the airport more attractive and cost effective for the destination for airline.

Decreasing the landing fees is a critical step in retaining the service we currently have to in-demand business designations and to attract an expanding service and service to new markets. Good progress has been made in reducing the debt, and this can only help. Second, we must increase our inventory of pad-ready sites. Over the last decade, public/private efforts successfully prepared 2,000 acres of pad-ready sites. We have been very

successful in filling those sites, so successful that we are now facing a renewed shortage of sites ready for companies wanting to expand or locate here. Our topography is very difficult to develop, and lack of infrastructure presents problems. It takes additional public intervention to assist in preparing sites, so the private sector can move forward with constructing buildings. Lastly, the shale gas revenues may also give the county the opportunity to reevaluate the best ways to deploy funding to support activities. These new revenues may provide greater flexibility and opportunity to the projects and programs otherwise you would not have the funds to do.

Again, we encourage you to vote yes for these --- for the leases and for the purpose of gas drilling. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Barbara. Kim Eichenlaub, followed by Peter Eichenlaub.

MS. EICHENLAUB: I'm Kim Eichenlaub. I live in Gibsonia, Richland Township, Allegheny County. As we all know, there is a lot already going on in our airport's 9,000 acres. In addition to having a commercial air terminal, there are military units, the U.S. Airways Operation Center, cargo freight business and 5,000-acre free trade zone, a massive fuel farm, five de-icing pads, maintenance centers, an international food cargo hub, a hotel, a fire school and the global headquarters with its own hangar of Dick's Sporting goods. It's already an industrial zone.

Thankfully, the overall of our industry is aviation, because aviation puts safety first; safety of life, safety of environmental surroundings, safety of equipment and property. When you have upwards of 25,000 souls a day passing through or spending their day on airport property, with millions of gallons of combustible fuels in the same space, a culture of safety is precisely what we want. Now, here comes an energy company and a number of non-Allegheny County cheerleaders tonight, waving a dollar --- $1,000,000 or maybe $1,000,000,000 benefit in front of us that --- like aviation, fracking does involve highly combustible substances.

And I can keep secrets about what many of those are. The fracking industry is not well regulated. The track record shows it racking up thousands of violations

but never paying any serious consequences and never correcting much of the damage that it caused. The FAA cannot regulate or ensure safe fracking of our airport property, and neither can county commissioners once those have been signed. Why should we care? Here is some risks the FAA and FEMA have and associated with fracking on airports; proximity of rigs and pipelines to runway and aircraft operations, ruptures and leaks, fires due to pipeline explosion, chemicals and explosives, hazardous material in the waste and terroristic threats with the additional access of outside workers onto the airport infrastructure.

A FEMA report concerning fracking at Dallas/Fort Worth, the first airport to do so, concluded: with each day of their life, the risk of a major catastrophe. Commissioners, safety should not be for sale. Your decision will be your legacy. You may choose to ignore the growing body of evidence, much of which occurred about tonight, but when catastrophe occurs, you will not be able to plead ignorance. Now, eastern PA already has large scale commercial farms, either in use or underway, to help supply the power needs of a growing number of companies and communities, without usage of water supplies, land or putting people in harm's way. Think of your counterparts in several counties there and see how that was funded. Go take a good look. Read the FAA Guide on Solar Construction of Airports.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Kim.

MS. EICHENLAUB: Read the --- solar farms and not a nightmare to the airport.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Kim. Peter Eichenlaub, followed by Ron Tominello.

MR. EICHENLAUB: Pete Eichenlaub, Richland Township. I'm a pilot who was formerly director of Flight Safety for seven years at U.S. Airways. The very nature of aviation is hazardous. I know because I've lived it for 41 years, a mixture of aircraft, ground vehicles, and most importantly, people. To add the unstable industry of national gas --- natural gas extraction with its associated hazards, is paramount to courting disaster. I want to know if a risk assessment has been completed. If so, where is it? If not, then we don't have any idea of why we're here tonight.

We shouldn't even be at this meeting.

(Outbursts from audience.)

MR. EICHENLAUB: I should think some of you have probably seen the aerial photographs of the Dallas/Fort Worth airport, with its gas wells and pipelines plotted in very close proximity to every runway and almost every taxiway. Well, try as we hard in the aviation industry and as successful as we are in reducing the numbers in severity, accidents and incidents, unfortunately, do occur. A large percentage of those events occur right on airport property, as previously mentioned by Mr. Peters, and they are survivable. But with wellheads, pumping stations and pipelines as obstacles, a minor incident could tragically become a major accident.

I know that this perspective would involve the, obviously, of the safety hazards, would be the answer to many of the Authority's prayers. However, let's remember one of the lessons from our youth. If it seems too good to be true, then it probably is. And let's all step back, take a deep breath and get the dollar signs out of our eyes. Let's discuss natural gas and its alternatives. I'd like to close with a statement made by the FAA Eastern Region, at the Airport Conference held in Hershey one year ago in April: it's an airport, not a gas field. Since I still have time, I will say that I think this Council has a lot of audacity to make us sit here and listen to propaganda from CONSOL representatives and elected officials outside of Allegheny County, while the Allegheny County citizens wait for their precious three minutes.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Peter. Ron Tominello, followed by Ernie Leopold.

MR. TOMINELLO: Ron Tominello, West Penn Energy Services, 4257 Gibsonia Road, Gibsonia, PA, 15044. I'm the director of Health and Safety Environment for West Penn Energy Services and its affiliated companies. Our group of companies provide oil field services to the natural gas industry, such as pipeline as well construction, engineering and survey services, compression station design and construction, heavy hauling, including rig moving, well pad services and frack rentals.

We are a western Pennsylvania-based business that has been started over 20 years with just a couple of employees --- employees. Today our companies employ over 200 employees, mostly from the western Pennsylvania. Over the next year, we anticipate doubling the size of our

company due to the Marcellus Shale drilling in this tri-state area. For many years, our companies have maintained a long relationship with CONSOL and their predecessor in the natural gas industry, and resources. On all companies' projects, we work closely together with our kinds to ensure the work is completed safely, efficiently and with the utmost concern to the environment in the communities in which we work and live. We take great pride, as does CONSOL Energy, in striving for the incident-free work environment.

As the director of HSC for West Penn, I have personally visited many of CONSOL's energy project locations, have worked directly with CONSOL's HSC and Operations Department. My experience with CONSOL and its operating employees, is that they are as passionate as we are responsible for developing the vast natural gas resources of the Marcellus Shale in this tri-state area. Natural gas resource is located in enormous potential and supply much needed domestic energy to our country for decades. By developing these resources in an environmentally-responsible manner, we can all benefit greatly.

West Penn Energy supports Allegheny Council's and the Airport Authority's efforts to further strengthen our region's economy through the drilling of natural gas in Allegheny County. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Ron. Ernie Leopold, followed by Tracy Cassidy.

MR. LEOPOLD: My name is Ernie Leopold. I live at 795 Route 30, Imperial, Pennsylvania. I'm also the Chairman of Findlay Township Land Commission. I served on the Southwest Regional Commission and I also served on Jim Roddey's New Idea Factory on the Airport Committee. Nobody is going to be more affected by what is happening on this piece of property than Findlay Township residents and Moon Township residents. I currently own 14 acres of ground in Findlay Township; 1,300 feet of my property borders the airport site. And contrary to what most of you think I might have to say, I've done some due diligence.

I was on the fence on this subject for some time. And what I have found is prominent scientists and professors at Penn State University, NYU, USC-Berkeley, have all come out and dispelled many of the propagandas

that are being spread by the anti-drilling faction. The ASC --- the American Cancer Society has also made statements that there's no validation to the higher incidence rates of cancer within drilling communities. And the Susan G. Komen Foundation has also made similar statements. As Chairman of the Findlay Planning Commission, I have an obligation to the residents of my community. In 1964-65, about that time period, my parents received a certified letter from Allegheny County, a condemnation letter that Allegheny County was going to take 30 acres, our home and our business.

We were fortunate. We were able to relocate our home and business directly across the road. My property borders the airport, and this will have a profound effect. I have no objection to it, and I believe that the due diligence has been done. And I do believe that the County Council should move forward with this proposal. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Ernie. Tracy Cassidy, please, followed by Harvey Holtz. Tracy Cassidy? Harvey Holtz? Thomas Conway. Thomas Conway? Robert Mullin, followed by Rick Steigerwald.

MR. MULLIN: Thank you, Chairman Macey, for this opportunity to speak. My name is Robert Mullin. I live in Point Breeze, 15208. I have recently relocated to Pittsburgh after being born and raised here, with the purposes of actually starting a business with some friends of mine. And our business that we decided to locate here and give me the opportunity to come back is to try to bring C and G, compressed natural gas infrastructure for vehicles and complete infrastructure for local businesses to benefit from this resource; and to try to bring a benefit of --- and cleaner options to drilling, to try to develop in an American fuel and try to help energy independence.

It's exciting for me to --- as someone who was born and raised in the community --- to have an opportunity to actually come back, bring my family and raise my children in Allegheny County, as I was. And a lot of the opportunity that we see in the companies that we're working with, is the opportunity to take advantage of what is an important resource. We have spent a lot of time working with trucking companies, and you know, struggling with tight margins and a lot of competition.

And this is going to really change a lot of people's lives, and you know, we're working hard. And the key to the whole thing is, the development has to be safe, and we're relying on the industry for safe development. We're relying on the government to regulate it appropriately, so that we all can benefit and the environment is --- when we can see through the process. And so with that in mind, we speak in favor of this development at the airport, and thank you for the opportunity.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Robert. Rick Steigerwald, please, followed by Bernadette Puzzuole.

MR. STEIGERWALD: Hi. My name is Rick Steigerwald. I live in Wexford, PA, 15090. I'm also a steamfitter for Local 449 in Pittsburgh. I've worked in the pipe industry for a long time. I'm a third generation steamfitter. I worked on the airport. I worked on the gas lines at the airport, to safety and quality control, which was --- which we had done out there. We had no accidents. There hasn't been any accidents. I think the worst that happened out there was a little bit of concrete damage. So over the years, I've worked in many power plants. I work in nuclear plants. I worked in steel mills on the furnaces. And all the time that I've been working and doing this, I find out one thing, the quality control is always a must. It's always something that we have to watch out for.

Every worker, himself, is his own safety man that they have, safety regulations, and we follow them, especially with the nuclear plants. There's a whole new industry out here with this fracking; and a lot of the piping we will be doing, Steamfitters Local 449. I think that we have to seize the opportunity now to take this to new heights. I think the Marcellus Shale has allowed southwestern Pennsylvania to bring back and revive our manufacturing base. Can you imagine all the businesses here that people are going to get for this, not to mention that we're recognized by other states as leaders in this industry?

As a worker in the pipe industry, this means that I can work in my home state. I can be here with my family every night, instead of traveling all over the country doing this in other states. I think that the gas prices --- you know, me, personally, I'm a little tired of Saudi Arabia. Every time that somebody wants to buy a

race horse over there, they raise the price of gas here. Then it takes months to go back down. It's ridiculous. I think that --- I know some people that work for CONSOL Energy personally, and I know they have kids. And I've been with them with their kids and their parents, and I know personally that these people would not do anything, anything, to endanger their kids. I don't care how far away they live from it; I don't think they'd do it. So I think that with the natural gas, our own gas, balancing the environment, economical benefits, good jobs for people here, I support what the Council proposes there, and I appreciate your time.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thanks, Rick. Bernadette Puzzuole, followed by Buzz Thropp.

MS. PUZZUOLE: My name is Bernadette Puzzuole, and I am the president and CEO of the Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber of Commerce, a position previously held by the irreplaceable Sally Haas. I'm here not only because Sally would want me to be here, but also because the Chamber's mission is to advance economic vitality in the airport corridor by providing advocacy, information and services to our members and communities. I am here, not advocate, in favor of the proposal of the county contract with CONSOL for shale exploration and production on the airport property.

In my first career --- and this is the third --- I was a teacher in an Ohio mill town school where 60 percent of the students were on welfare when the mills cut back and eventually shut down. I saw children who faced a future of no jobs or jobs that would not pay enough to support their families, and so they moved away. The nearby mill town where I grew up saw its population drop from 45,000 in the '60s to 17,000 today. Economic vitality cannot exist in an area where job and population --- with job and population losses. Since the discovery of Marcellus Shale formations in our area, the outlook is much brighter. Companies with ties to the shale industry have moved their existing offices or their new offices in the airport corridor. We've got new office jobs now. Companies never involved in the oil and gas industry have new opportunities for business growth in that industry. Schools in the area are expanding their curriculum to add programs that will enable a new group of students to find jobs in an industry that didn't exist in

our area when they started school. Our hotels and restaurants are full of workers flogging to this area from Oklahoma and Texas to fill newly created jobs. Our own students will soon be able to have the training and skills to fill those jobs and other new jobs created daily.

I know there are a lot of concerns about environmental impact of fracking and health issues that go with it. I've read the same concerns in other articles. But we had those same concerns with the steel mills. And that was an example of systems working. State, county and local governments didn't prevent the steel mills from operating. They had actually stopped them from polluting and allowed new ones to open recently. There were and are regulations monitoring inspection procedures in place to make sure that the public health and welfare are protected in the course of these operations. Government should not discourage or prohibit economic growth because of potential harm. It should adopt and enforce regulations and procedures to prevent and mitigate potential harm.

I commend County Executive Fitzgerald for pushing forward the idea of drilling on airport property. When I was growing up in West Virginia Pittsburgh was synonymous with manufacturing. When I moved here 26 years ago, that identity was gone. It's high tech opportunity and we should diversify into new industry. Thank you.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Bernadette. Buzz Thropp?

MR. THROPP: I'm Buz Thropp, director of business development for Mascaro Construction Company based in Pittsburgh, 1720 Metropolitan Street, 15233. We are here tonight to show our support to Consol Energy in their efforts to develop the oil and gas rights at the Allegheny County Airport Authority. We have --- many of our people have been employed for the last three and four years as a result of the developments in Utica and Marcellus Shale. We believe this is a safe process. We believe it's environmentally compliant. It will create jobs, stimulate our economy and help lead this country to energy independence. We encourage the Council to vote positive. Thank you.

CHAIR MACEY: Thanks, Buzz. Timothy O'Brien, followed by Bruce Longenecker.

MR. O'BRIEN: Good evening. My name is Tim O'Brien. I live on Murray Hill Avenue, Squirrel Hill, 15217. I represent a family-owned construction business,

P.J. Dick Trumbull and Lindy Paving. P.J. Dick Trumbull and Lindy Paving is a union contractor that has been headquartered in the Pittsburgh region for over 60 years. I'd like to thank the county executive, County Council and the Airport Authority for sponsoring this most important event. It represents an excellent economic development opportunity for the county.

The rise of the Marcellus Shale has brought real economic development to Southwestern Pennsylvania and other communities across the Commonwealth in the form of jobs. For manufacturing, food service, construction and engineering services the oil and gas industry has provided economic opportunities that simply did not exist six years ago. It has brought good-paying jobs, stable sustaining jobs. These are good union wages. Our company alone during our busy months employs over 300 union workers at job sites across Southwestern Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia. Sadly, none of these job sites are in Allegheny County, and I hope that changes. Responsible development of the Marcellus Shale will play a major role in enabling our country to become energy independent. We can and are doing so at a safe and environmentally responsible manner.

County Council and the Airport Authority could not have picked a better company than CONSOL Energy to develop the airport's lands. CONSOL has deep roots in this community. It strived to make our home a better place to live, work and play. As a service provider, CONSOL, we respect the core values of the company, safety, compliance and continuous improvement. I see it on the jobsites that we work on. These core values make CONSOL a great company and service providers like us never contractors. I support the Airport Authority and Council's efforts to strengthen our regional economy through drilling for natural gas in Allegheny County. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Tim. Bruce Longenecker, followed by Bob Mason.

MR. LONGENECKER: Good evening. My name is Bruce Longenecker. I'm vice president of the Elmhurst Group. We're a Pittsburgh-based real estate and development management company. But I'm also on the board of BOMA and I'm here representing them. BOMA is the Building Owners and Managers Association. BOMA has represented the interests of Pittsburgh real estate,

commercial real estate, since 1919. We have over 200 members and we represent over 20 million square feet of commercial real estate in the region.

First, I'd like to thank the county executive, County Council and the Airport Authority for recognizing the tremendous asset our region possesses in natural gas supplies. It is abundantly obvious the economic benefits that shale gas has brought to the region. Our neighbors to the south in Washington County have already realized significant improvement in employment, economic growth, private investment and tax revenue. I can attest that the local real estate market here in Pittsburgh is one of only three metropolitan areas of the country that has shown growth since the 2008 decline.

Marcellus Shale may not be the only driver but it is significant. Pittsburgh has always been a tertiary real estate market where most ownership investment was local. But now Pittsburgh's success story has gone national. Pittsburgh is on the radar to out-of-town investors. The two largest transactions last year were made by out-of-state investors that would not have considered Pittsburgh five or even three years ago. One of the largest owners and tenants alike is already patient for low-cost utilities. Earlier this week I was contacted by a broker representing a company out of Virginia who wanted to move to Pittsburgh. The reason for choosing Pittsburgh was their high energy need and our low relative energy costs.

Pittsburgh has also experienced an influx of companies that deal directly within the energy industry. They have traded the demand for office industrial space that we have seen before. Many older properties are now leased, new and modern buildings are built. This demand has created additional jobs outside of those directly related to the energy industry. To service these buildings we hire or contract maintenance personnel, electricians HVAC techs, office cleaners, security personnel and managers. Shale gas itself has the potential to create significant outside investment in the chemical and manufacturing industries. The shale fracker plant if developed could create thousands of direct and indirect jobs and spur additional investment and development.

I know there are environmental concerns and I share them. But I also know that it's possible to produce

American energy for Americans in a safe and responsible manner. So on behalf of BOMA, I thank County Executive Fitzgerald, County Council and the Airport Authority for showing leadership and recognizing the tremendous economic development opportunity the airport presents.

I do want to say, however, I am a resident of Butler County. I have a well that's built within 500 yards of my home.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Bob Mason, followed by Bob Howard.

MR. MASON: Good evening. My name is Bob Mason and I live in Trafford, Pennsylvania. I'm here tonight as a father and grandfather. I believe we need to think globally and not just locally. We cannot afford any more human activities that contribute to an increase in greenhouse gas emissions and the related global warming if we care about the health and well being of our children, grandchildren and future generations. Massive uncontrollable forest fires, extensive drought and raging super storms like Hurricane Sandy already define our immediate future.

In addition, hydraulic fracturing of Marcellus Shale, contaminates our air and threatens our drinking water through extensive use and inevitable contamination. For example, the Governor Accountability Office, a nonpartisan, independent organization that works for Congress reported and I quote, underground migration of gases and chemicals poses a risk of contamination to water quality. This contamination and risk of spillage of hazardous waste --- I'm sorry, there's a risk in addition to this contamination from spills of hazardous waste. Air contamination is also an issue. Air contamination includes methane which is 72 times more potent to greenhouse gas than CO2 over a 20-year period. That also includes nitrogen oxide, formaldehyde and volatile organic compounds emitted during the industrial process. And this doesn't include pollution given the significant truck traffic. The Earth and all its inhabitants can no longer afford the mining of fossil fuel. Instead we should invest much more heavily in renewable energy. And I hope Council will consider this. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Bob. Bob Howard, followed by Douglas Shields.

MR. HOWARD: Good evening. I'm Bob Howard and I reside at 229 Seasons Drive in Wexford. Ladies and gentlemen of the Allegheny County Council, thank you for taking the time to hear from citizens of Allegheny County and taking into consideration our inputs. First, I'm not a member of the gas petroleum industry. I'm not being paid to address you this evening. My interest is that of a taxpaying citizen of Allegheny County that wants our area to experience economic growth, jobs for our region and a world that has a healthy environment. As a citizen, I've heard alarms and shrieking from so-called environmentalists. I've heard job loss I've seen gas lands, burning facets and tails of woes. I've also visited fracking production sites. I've seen farms before and after gas production. People can get emotional and upset, but public policy is not good public policy unless it is based upon the facts and the realities and not on outliers or personal grievances.

No industrial site is without risk. But in this case, the risk is very manageable and provides a favorably payoff for our area and region. I'm here to request a rational response based upon facts. I'm here to ask the Council not to be bullied by zealots, believe that the worse that could happen is what will become average. These zealots are the same, come in the same mold that told our great grandfathers that George Westinghouse's alternating power and light were much too dangerous and that people would be electrocuted daily in the streets of Pittsburgh and that daily houses would explode from electricity. Yet nearly 100 percent of our citizens here use electricity, and they call the minute it is lost. It is time to move forward with safe energy by authorizing the lease of minerals underlying the property at the airport. It is time to utilize this God-given resource to stimulate growth in our region and help the average citizen.

This is a resource that benefits us all in many ways. Because others elsewhere have taken this action, natural gas, for example, for Marcellus Shale prices have fallen. And many of us and probably all of us here that heat our homes with gas have benefited greatly by saving hundreds of dollars this winter alone. The only exception I have for the proposal is I believe the proceeds to the county from these mineral rights should be used to reduce

county taxes instead of more spending and subsidies. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Bob. Doug Shields and after Doug is finished we're going to take a five-minute break. Our stenographer is good but she's only human. She needs a break.

MR. SHIELDS: Thank you, Council members, for convening this hearing. I was extremely disappointed and it has been echoed before with the infomercial at the beginning. And I take great exception to the executive from CONSOL Energy who for a great deal of time talked about how wonderful all this is and to point to university studies and whatnot which have been repudiated this past summer, if you've read the papers. A number of major university research papers have been industry backed. They were funded. And after peer reviewed, the universities themselves took them down and reputed them. He didn't mention that. He didn't mention it at all.

And there's a lot of things that haven't been mentioned. One of the things that has been mentioned quite a bit is money. Lots and lots of money, money, money. Public policy cannot be determined by money. And in Pennsylvania, with the passage of Act 13, which is a crime in and of itself and now before the State Constitution --- well, portions of it found unconstitutional in supplanting local authority for zoning rights and so forth is now before the Supreme Court. I don't know what your contingency plan is no matter how that decision falls. That's going to affect everything that's being talked about here today.

It cannot supplant the health, the welfare and the safety of the citizens that you were elected to represent. You don't rule us, you represent us. The county executive puts forward a proposal. He tells us that he will have a public hearing. Actually, he said, public hearings, it was plural. He also promised members of the 14th Ward Democratic Committee that there would be hearings before the RFP. That never happened. In some quarters some people would say a lie, others a misstatement. Say it any way you want, it didn't happen.

A promise was made. And a promise was not kept. The RFP was kept under wraps, Mr. Sheehan finds out about it, it rolls out, the county executive spends about 15 seconds or less on the news to discuss it. The Burden of

Proof does not fall to the public as the county executive said. He said we're going to have a public hearing and if the citizens can convince us otherwise, we're going to go ahead with this. It is not for me to give into you. You're the electeds. You're the governing body and it's for you to put your case before us. You have not done that. You have not talked to us about planning. You have not provided an environmental impact study for the citizens to consult. You have not had a health risk assessment that I know of that you can point me to that I may bear the weight as a citizen. I have not seen any risk analysis. Nationwide Insurance did a risk analysis and last summer said we will no longer underwrite properties that are leased as an insurer because of the long-term liabilities that could come back and bite us. People are making decisions. Business decisions on money and decisions about my health, my welfare and my safety. And Mr. Fitzgerald gives me the burden of proving them wrong. It is not what we believe where, it is what we know. And I want to know what you know. I want to know what has gone on in the backrooms and the consultations in the Airport Authority and here. I want a number for that information and I was told it would cost me, the taxpayer, 420 bucks to get it. I want the information. I know he's not paid for it, and Mr. Fitzgerald, you need to make your case and I'm prepared to hear it.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: We'll take a five-minute break.

MR. SHIELDS: For the record I'm at 2329 and I live in frack-free Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

SHORT BREAK TAKEN

CHAIR MACEY: John Eichinger, followed by Frank Hanzel.

MR. EICHINGER: Thank you, Chairman Macey. And I'd like to thank the Council for the opportunity to speak this evening. My name is John Eichinger and I reside at 1217 Lincoln Highlands Drive in North Fayette. I'm the president and CEO of the Ruff Grouse Society. It's a national conservation organization that focuses on early succession, forest habitat and the wildlife that live there. Our headquarters is located in Moon Township. Our headquarters building is less than 2,000 feet from the boundaries of the airport. We're very close. Six months

ago our organization in the Pennsylvania Audubon Society cosponsored a number of listening sessions concerning Marcellus Shale around the state. We had several of those and have read all the proceedings for it. I'm here to speak on behalf and in support of the oil and gas expiration that is proposed for the current airport.

In the more than 50 years that our organization has been in existence we have found that it is possible to have safe responsible environmental regulations that are observed. We have found that it is possible to have --- it's possible to have economic development that is done in a responsible way, job growth and work towards energy sustainability for this country. And all of those goals are mutually possible that we can do that in a way that it's compatible with one another. I'm here to speak on behalf of that because I also know that CONSOL Energy is an organization that is in this community and they're going to see to it that all the rules and regulations are followed very closely. Thank you very much.

CHAIR MACEY: Frank Hanzel, followed by Eric Traupman.

MR. HANZEL: Hello. My name is Frank Hanzel. I live in Castle Shannon. I'd like to thank Mr. Fitzgerald and County Council for having this. This is my first time at a Council meeting and first time speaking. I have a couple of degrees in chemistry and I actually teach chemistry here at Robert Morris University. And you know, I'm actually one of a few people that is, I wouldn't say in the middle, but in between. I stand in the back for several hours and I see employees of CONSOL Energy, you know, freaking out like somebody has a family of four that's freaked out that he's going to lose his job because, you know, we're not going to allow this fracking. I see a gentleman holding, you know, a no fracking, don't poison our water sign. He's freaked out because, you know, he doesn't know what's in the fracking fluid.

So again, this is my first time here and I didn't know it was going to be a debate, I thought it was going to be a discussion. And I guess that's the problem. Everybody is freaked out on both sides because there hasn’t been a discussion. And I see both sides of the argument. I'm not against fracking in sprit. There's a trillion dollars underneath our city. I don't get it, it's coming out, okay. And there's a lot of potential to

do a lot of great things, you know. I'm a proud Pennsylvanian.

I don't feel it's being done in the right way right now, that's my opinion. I got my degree in organic chemistry and that's where my focus lies. I personally have worked with the chemicals that they use in fracking. CONSOL uses these compounds but they've been found in somebody's fracking fluid. And I know they're very harmful, especially benzene. If a person is exposed benzene, I know it causes cancer. I know that in 1948 --- said you know, the only safe level of benzene is the concentration of zero. And 75 parts per millimeter can actually be poisonous. That means --- you know, parts per millimeter means that if there's a million molecules of water or whatever benzene is in, you don't have to get 75 molecules of benzene for it to be toxic. So it's a very, very potent chemical. And that was known 65 years ago.

And again, I'm not saying CONSOL Energy uses benzene in the fracking fluid but we don't know what's in the fracking fluid and that's why people have freaked out because they don't know what's in the fluid. They want to know. And that's why they're scared. And you know, fracking companies don't have to reveal that because it's proprietary. And I think that's a bunch of crap because they feel like, you know ---. If the president of CONSOL told me what was in this fracking fluid and I told the CO of Halliburton, I don't think CONSOL's revenue and profit will go down. And so I can see both sides of the equation. I just want it to be done right. I want us to evolve. And I'll say a little bit, Halliburton developed a fracking fluid that's totally nontoxic so we can have an evolution in fracking. I just want to do it clean, do it right. And you know, work together. We're Pennsylvanians. We all root for the Pittsburgh Steelers; okay? Thank you.

CHAIR MACEY: Eric Traupman, followed by David Bundy.

MR. TRAUPMAN: My name is Eric Traupman. I live at 576 Engelman Drive. My backyard is actually against the airport property which is kind of why I came here. I signed up to speak because I felt that if I heard things, I'd want to say things but the way things work, you have to sign up in advance and say what you want to say before you know exactly what you're going to say. So I'm here and I'm concerned --- my biggest concern, you know, I have

a software company. I have nothing to do with oil and gas. I've lived next to the airport property for the last 24 years. My family is there. My biggest concern is that everything gets done right. From what I can see, this is probably going to happen at some point in time, whether it happens next week, next month, next year. But in order for it to get up and running, it has to be managed right. And the best people to help manage that are the local leaders of the local communities which is what was said at the beginning by one of the Findlay Township commissioners.

And they have to get involved with this and they have to stay involved with this because they live there. They're going to frack this on a day to day basis. Everybody else is --- everybody else is going to go away. The only people that are going to be there every day are the people from the energy companies and the people from the local township that live there. So the only thing that I ask and that I'm concerned about is that the company keeps that local presence involved in the whole process through and there's communication back and forth between them. It's not a one-way street. And I thank you for your time.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Eric. David Bundy, followed by Michael Dunleavy.

MR. BUNDY: Thank you. My name is David Bundy. I live at 1325 Southbury Road, one of the few people that live in Moon Township. I notice there's a lot of people here that are from out of the area, even out of the county but get to speak. I am in favor of the oil leases but my issue is completely different than what everybody else has brought up here. I presently own real estate in Moon, Findlay, North Fayette and Robinson and a few other areas that surround the airport. And several years ago I had the opportunity --- one of the things I do is I'm a developer. And I had the opportunity to do a subdivision in Findlay Township. When I bought this piece of property, I didn't realize that there was an active well pumping oil from underground at the site. So I purchased the mineral rights not knowing what that was at the time so now I own mineral rights and I don't know how large it is.

Several months after I bought it, I got a call from an attorney at the county airport. And I'm sure some of you people know him. All I remember is he was a very

old gentleman at the time. And he said to me, we have to buy your mineral rights that are under there in that general area. And I said, oh, great, I'm trying to recoup some of the money for expenses that I paid for the well which I really did need. And I said, well, what are you prepared to pay for it. One dollar. I said what, one dollar? He said one dollar. And I said, you are kidding me now. I can remember back in the '60s when my parents owned property at the end of the runway. I used to throw stones at the airplanes, true story, as they were landing. And the county also took their property by eminent domain. So I remember that.

So I told the attorney a dollar, forget it, you're going to have to take it by eminent domain. So you people did take my property by eminent domain. So now you're talking about 9,000 acres that you have and every time I go right by, I'm thinking, wait a second, my mineral rights used to be there, and I got less than a dollar. I got nothing for. So now you people are talking and again, I'm in favor, obviously there is a financial gain for me. But I'm in favor of it. But I lost a lot of property or mineral rights to the county for this much because I didn't take the dollar. When he offered me the dollar I wouldn’t take it. Now, obviously I've come to contact legal counsel to see what my rights are. Now, somebody's benefiting considerably. The parcel was over 3,000 acres, not that you took, the 3,000 acres that was gas. And to be honest, I don't know how much you took. So anyways, thank you. I see some heads turning here but it's a true story. It just happened six, seven years ago when --- yeah, I see the look. That's the way it is. Thank you.

CHAIR MACEY: Michael Dunleavy, followed by Joy Ruff. Joy Ruff?

MS. RUFF: Good evening. Ohio Township, 15237.

CHAIR MACEY: Can we have your whole address, please?

MS. RUFF: My whole address, 117 O'Neil Lane, Ohio Township, Allegheny County. Thank you for allowing me to speak tonight. My name is Joy Ruff. I am an Allegheny County resident. And I also just want to let you know that I do work for the Marcellus Shale Coalition. We are a multi-state organization formed in 2008. And our numbers are very committed to save responsible shale gas development. And there has been a lot of misinformation

that has been shared tonight. And that really bothers me but I'm going to give my testimony so I'll give you that. In fact, I will leave a couple of you with some information. Frackfocus.org, please look at that website.

CONSOL serves as an executive board member of the MSC and is a recognized leader in the safe and responsible production of shale resources using advanced technology and state of the art practices. CONSOL and its members recognize that with this opportunity comes great responsibility. And responsibility to ensure safe workplaces, promote civil and open dialog which we're doing here tonight, transparency in our operations and responsibility to protect our air, water, land on behalf of future generations. And responsibility to encourage shared economic growth. Allegheny Council now has an unprecedented opportunity to provide a single broad based economic benefits to our region and our families.

The Marcellus Shale also represents a significant opportunity to provide energy security and environmental benefits to our nation. It allows Pennsylvania to become a net exporter of natural gas and provide lower energy costs to surrounding states. Domestically sourced natural gas can be a part of a more sustainable energy future, lead an energy portfolio and that has to be recognized in our industrial society. My role with the MSC allows me to see firsthand the transformational positive impact that shale gas has had on families across Pennsylvania, the jobs we have documented, the safety records we can document those. And I would encourage you to do the research and understand that we have spent hundreds of millions of dollars --- our industry has spent hundreds of millions of dollars on industries that are specific environmental and best management private programs to ensure that these operations meet or exceed regulatory requirements applicable to the oil and gas industry. This is science based and we are fully committed to the development of natural gas in a manner that will protect the environment, provide sustainable jobs for long into the future. And I appreciate the county for taking this opportunity. And that's my sign.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Joyce. Kathy Schiente? Kathy?

MS. SCHIENTE: Well, I am a nonprofessional speaker. However, how many people are still here from

Findlay Township? I think the major brunt of all of this is going to fall on Findlay Township. It would have been nice if this meeting was held in Findlay Township. Westbury High School holds a hundred more people than this place does. So that was my first negative towards what had happened. And people said to me, oh, don't bother going, because it's already a done deal, it's already a done deal. The first part of the meeting it sort of gave a lot of information but you weren't here to hear it. Then the second part of the meeting, when it got a little bit more flowery, you were here to hear it. So then I'm totally confused on where everybody stands.

And on the panel here, whenever it's time to make all these decisions, since we've heard so much stuff, how many months is it going to take you all to go over everything if it's really legit and you have to study everything that is --- the positives and the negatives. Because I live right beside the airport runway. When I moved there 40 years ago I was the first township supervisor of Findlay Township lady in that township and I always felt it was a wonderful township. We were very safe. And we have an airport right near us and we also have had a cemetery beside us. So I thought how safe can it be.

Now that I'm hearing all the talk of all the negatives and all the positives from either side I'm even more confused. But I'm not going to fall for the line you wasted your time going because it's a done deal. Because only one person in the room knows if it's a done deal and that will come to surface. The only thing I do know from a practical standpoint and what I could see, that 12 years ago I went over to Ohio and I kept seeing Chaney and Bush signs all over the Amish country. I thought to myself, what's going on. When I went across Ohio this year and saw all the farmlands burned brown as Hershey Kisses, they went oh, we've had fracking done. I don't know what's true. I don't know what isn't true. And now I'm totally confused.

So it's all up to you people to figure out how can we have good water, good atmosphere. They scared me tonight when they said you'd better have an emergency exit now out of the area. And that's the first time I've ever been told you better have an emergency road out of the area. So I'm sorry that if I'm talking to these people but these people will make all the decisions in what is

going to happen. And it would have been nice if there would have been wind or solar. The person I think that scared me the most --- I don't buy the story that the money is going to the airport, we'll see.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Kathy. That concludes all of the Allegheny County --- okay. I apologize. Laura Leet, followed by Mark Haibach.

MS. LEET: My name is Laura Leet. I live in Whitehall. My address is 4020 Belmont Lane. I'm a retired teacher. I've been called many names but never a zealot before. Almost every day I see that commercial on TV from the natural gas industry with the attractive woman telling me that drilling is safe. It's safe for the environment, that natural gas emits less carbon and that it makes us less dependent on foreign oil. But I never see the uncovered frack ponds filled with chemicals many of which are known carcinogens. They do not show the dead fish or the dead animals found near the streams and the ponds where the drilling takes place. They do not show the people who have been sickened by lead, methane, propane, ethane, barium, magnesium, strontium arsenic, radon, radium 226, radium 228 and uranium.

They don't talk about rashes on hands and feet, massive nose bleeds, stomach aches, dizzy spells, intestinal cancer, daily seizures, lead arsenic and barium poisoning. They don't mention that harmed individuals must sign nondisclosure statements after they've received compensation from other drilling companies. I never hear about the cost of water testing after contamination takes place. Some people have told me they pay between $500 and $1,200 for these tests. There is no mention either of incomplete test results from our state DEP. Nothing is said of property values going down, deafening noise while the drilling takes place, possible fire spills and explosions. No mention of flow back water or well casing failures.

If this fracking process is so safe, why has the State of Vermont banned it? Why are there moratoriums against it in Maryland and New York? Why have some towns and cities in New York also banned it? Why is it banned in France, Romania, Bulgaria and South Africa. Why the rush in Allegheny County? Maybe the things I was going to say have already been said. But there are insurance companies that will no longer accept claims from people who live near these drilling sites and banks that will not

issue mortgages. Where will the millions of gallons of chemically treated frack water go? Will they be dumped into the river, what the water treatment facilities in McKeesport and Clairton did for two years before they were caught and fined? I long for the day when elected representatives including our Governor refuse to accept campaign contributions from corporations engaged in extracting natural resource from our state. I look forward to the day when these politicians serve the people of Pennsylvania rather than influencing while they favor corporations.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Laura. Mark Haibach, please, followed by Dustin Kuhlman.

MR. HAIBACH: My name is Mark Haibach and I live at 18 Sylvan Road, in the Borough of Forest Hills, Allegheny County, 15221. I'm a professional ecologist and I work for a diverse group of individuals, organizations including CONSOL and other energy companies. There has been a lot said this evening and I'll keep my remarks brief. I just want to make two points regarding proposed ordinance to release mineral rights for oil and gas development on the Pittsburgh International Airport property.

First, as a citizen, I want to thank you, County Council, and the county executive for your foresight in helping us become energy independent. This is important to me personally. And I also thank you for supporting this local opportunity.

Second, I work as an ecologist on energy and development projects in 17 states during my 27-year career. It's been my experience that Pennsylvania has among the most comprehensive and stringent environmental regulations governing energy and land development projects. I firmly believe that we in the Commonwealth can produce energy in a safe and responsible manner. Thank you.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Mark. Dustin Kulhman, followed by Adam Simmons.

MR. KUHLMAN: Good evening. My name is Dustin Kuhlman. I live at 470 Arden Road, 15216. I'm a professional engineer. I work in Allegheny County at a civil environmental consulting firm in Robinson Township. I do work for the gas industry including CONSOL Energy. We employ 220 people at our office there and we've seen

the real benefits in terms of economic growth and job creation this industry has helped create for this region.

So I'm here tonight obviously in favor of the proposed ordinance. I believe this is an important step for the economic growth of Allegheny County. It is a fantastic opportunity for Allegheny County on behalf of its citizens to directly benefit the Marcellus Shale development as a source of robust economic growth in our region for numerous years. I live and work in Allegheny County and I see no reason why we should not allow the extraction of natural gas on the airport property.

The benefits are numerous, direct economic benefits to Allegheny County and the Airport Authority, primary and secondary job growth, increased demand for real estate and the impact that the state and municipalities will see profit. This is also an important opportunity for Allegheny County to support and showcase the state and environmentally responsible extraction of natural gas in the heart of the Marcellus Shale. I realize the ongoing debate regarding potential environmental impacts of natural gas development in the Appalachian Basin. Many people have concerns about these activities in and around their communities. As a professional civil engineer I perform a significant amount of design environmental compliance and permit work for natural gas producer and companies. I can attest from firsthand experience that Pennsylvania has some of the tightest environmental regulations in this nation. The Pennsylvania DEP staff that I have worked with are dedicated to making sure that those regulations are followed. The previous companies that I have worked with are also dedicated to operating within the regulatory framework established by our lawmakers and Pennsylvania DEP. Many like CONSOL strive to employ environmental measures that are far in excess of the requirements. As a professional engineer and a citizen of this county I can tell you that I'm convinced that we have adequate safeguards in place to protect our environment. I encourage you to vote yes. Thank you.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Dustin. Adam Simmons, please, followed by Sharron Brown. Adam Simmons, please? Sharron Brown? James Protin, followed by Jennifer Fiscus.

MR. PROTIN: Good evening. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the Council for allowing me to speak to you this evening. My name is James Protin. I am

actually a resident of Moon Township, 512 College Park Drive, right across the street about a quarter of a mile. I am the oil and gas industry practice leader for Chester Engineers which is about a mile this way. One of them three-year-old is for a Moon Township firm consulting engineering firm, the oldest consulting engineering firm in this market in this part of the world. We are actively engaged in CONSOL Energy and other oil and gas producers and industrial companies. We design and build and monitor water systems which go from pipelines to impoundments to recycling and reuse of the water to high pressure gas pipelines and compressor stations from top to bottom, engineering design, construction management and environmental. We also have an air quality group that monitors air quality.

What I'm going to talk to you about this evening is we have 175 people right here in Moon Township paying taxes, raising families. I personally am a father and a grandfather, father of five and grandfather of six. And even though I do work in the industry, we also represent over 50 municipalities in southwestern Pennsylvania. I do work for the industry but I can tell you this much, there's no amount of money in the world that is going to make me turn the other way and not do the right thing for my children and my grandchildren. So the notion that this is not a safe industry is really kind of off base, it really is. CONSOL Energy --- I was really thrilled when I heard CONSOL Energy got this bid because it's a 150-year-old Pennsylvania firm right here just like Chester Engineers. Older than Chester Engineers. But it's just like us, you know, being rooted in this part of the world and doing everything possible to protect the environment and protect the natural resources and ensure that everything is done safely. Chester has a spotless and safe record which is one of the top requirements for working in this industry. They are very safe. They are very sound. And one of the most environmentally sound industries that I've ever worked with.

We've worked in the steel industry in the public sector and this is a good process and these are people that are doing, keeping our best interests at heart. So much like the steel industry, 50, 60, 70 years ago, the natural --- when Western Pennsylvania was a gold leader in the steel business in manufacturing, we are now on the cusp of being a gold leader in natural gas and providing

energy independence, not just for Pennsylvanians but for all Americans. That's a really big deal. I just wanted to come on and say that to you, that it is safe. But a lot of the things that have been said here. There's a lot of passion in this room, I said that a little bit ago, there's a lot of passion in this room on both sides and I'm thrilled to see that. Because this is a very --- it's a very passionate issue. So I'm glad to see that the debate is there, the discussion is there, and I commend you County Council people and County Executive Fitzgerald for affording me due diligence and the processes put forth. Thank you.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, James. Jennifer Fiscus, followed by Bob Schnetzel.

MS. FISCUS: Good evening. My name is Jennifer Fiscus. I live at 113 Gregg Lane, Imperial, Pennsylvania, 15126. I was born and raised in Allegheny County. I have an associate's in science and nursing. I have a bachelor of arts in environmental study. I left work early so I could come here to participate in this meeting because I felt it was very important. I'm very concerned about what I've been hearing regarding Marcellus Shale drilling. Not just here tonight but out in the community, personal testimony from doctors, hunters and community leaders that has raised many questions that I have not found an answer here, not tonight.

One question I'd like to ask is what do the people in Ohio have to say when CONSOL Energy dumps fracking wastewater in their state. I want to know what the long-term health effects will be in 10 and 20 years from now from fracking. I've heard a lot about the economic benefits of fracking. I heard no objections to the economy growing but at what cost. Fracking sounds like a cost. I personally would like to know what chemicals and toxic wastes are going to be released into the land, will it affect the local water aquifers and into the air that I breathe. Will the air quality become worse than it is already.

I would like to ask the County Council members to consider this and also consider safer alternative energy sources the county could look into and the economic benefits that these alternatives can provide. Would it be possible to see an environmental impact study or further analysis? I encourage you to take more time in reviewing this. Thank you.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Jennifer. Bob Schnetzer, please.

MR. SCHNETZER: I'd like to thank the Council for having this hearing and CONSOL for funding it. I'm going to ask you this evening to vote no on the ordinance. The reason that is, is because history does repeat itself. In 1966 and 1967 I served in Viet Nam. And I was exposed to the petrochemicals called Agent Orange which is known as dioxin. We were told it was harmless just like the propriety chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing. I breathed, drank and ate this toxic brew unknowingly like most Pennsylvanians today. Money was spent on this ten-year war, just like the drilling today. Now that I'm retired, those health effects are destroying me. The VA held an informational meeting last year at Penn State Beaver. Much has been found out in the last 30 years. Health hazards are being listed that industry and government denied. We found out that many of our spouses and children were affected with the dioxin with disease. My son was born with birth defects which is now listed 30 years later from the PA list.

History does repeat itself. When we fail to learn from it. Endocrine disruption is real. And there's a website called TEDX, the endocrine disruption exchange run by a lady who used to work for the EPA out in Wyoming. I would suggest that every one of you pull that up and get a real eyeful of what we're dealing with as citizens in Pennsylvania. I want you to stop the poisoning of America's air, land and water and I want you to vote no on the ordinance.

Another thing that startled me was, you know, I've worked at the airport building it. I was out on the runway on 9-1-1 when the jet came over the tower and crashed in Somerset. And I know that the Air Force has a refueling base right there. And it just scares me that the flaring just might blow that right off the map. Safety is important. And our children and our grandchildren matter. They are not collateral damage. And again, I ask you to vote no on the ordinance.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Bob. That does now conclude the speakers from Allegheny County and according to our agenda, we will now go to our registered speakers that are non-county residents. But before we do that, I'd like to mention that there will be a public works

committee meeting on Thursday, February 14th at 4:30 p.m. in Conference Room One at the Allegheny County Courthouse to discuss this particular ordinance.

First on the list is Joseph Sites, followed by Zach Smith.

MR. SITES: Joseph Sites, 129 Scenic Ridge Drive, Venetia, Pennsylvania, 15367. My name is Joe Sites. I will not make any secret that I work in the oil and gas industry. I've been fortunate enough to travel this great country working both oil and gas. I've worked in North Dakota. I've worked in Texas. I've worked in Louisiana. I've worked in Mexico. For the past eight years I've been helping this country develop the shale gas across this country. My background however is not the reason that I am request you listen to me right now. But I have not told you yet that I am an Allegheny County native. I was raised in Bethel Park and after graduating from Pitt in the year 2000 with zero job prospects. I ventured off into oil and gas services. Marcellus and shale have afforded me the opportunity to move back to Pittsburgh finally for good.

I've been fortunate enough to start a successful service company that employs over 100 workers in the Pittsburgh area with well above average paying jobs. Our employees and their families are from this area. And I can assure you that they do share the exact same care and concern for this region that everyone in this room has. I assure you that. We have seen successful and safe development of shale gas throughout this country. In fact, the EPA studies in Pennsylvania, EPA reports studies nationwide have shown little negative impact if any for shale development areas. Also for example it that airport who has successfully developed a safe abundant resource without disruptions of flights, travel or anything that negatively impacts the community.

In looking at the real statistics over 99 percent of the wells drilled have been completed without incidents. Not like many in this room I've been fortunate enough to see with my own eyes the real working well set operations. Our business and employees are happy to follow all city regulations surrounding this industry. We don't see restrictions from the DEP, EPA, OSHA, DEP/HMSA, ATF or any other regulatory body as bottlenecks; rather we see them as safeguards to our community in clearly developing resources responsibly. Satisfying those

obligations does not solely qualify us to work for CNX Gas. CNX Gas has an additional extensive criteria to be one of the best companies for safety compliance and quality to work on their projects. CNX as a potential partner on this project. In my experience with CNX Gas in the past I can tell you that above a 99 percent rating is actually 100 percent success rating.

Allegheny County Council is not just a development opportunity that benefits all Western Pennsylvanians. It's clear to me that they show the same sentiment as the developer to proceed in a safe and responsible manner, opportunity to grow the region, strengthening and improving our economy, developing a good clean domestic fuel source for all of our nation. And it's providing an opportunity that I didn't have in the year 2000, the ability for many hardworking graduates and Steeler fans to find a job and prosper right here in Western Pennsylvania. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Zach Smith, followed by Jeff Kotula. Zach Smith? Jeff Kotula? Jason Muncy, followed by Alex Paris.

MR. MUNCY: Good evening. I'm Jason Muncy, 21043 Skyward Drive, Abington, Virginia. I'm the manager of operations for Appalachian Production Services, Incorporated. We provide contract production management services for the oil and gas industry. And currently operate 2,500 wells and associated facilities throughout the Appalachian Basin. We currently employ 40-plus well operators, roustabouts and support staff at our field offices located in Shelocta, Pennsylvania and Graysville, Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania has taken a leading position in safely developing Marcellus Shale and we see the development of oil and gas at the Pittsburgh International Airport as an excellent opportunity to provide jobs, royalty income and tax revenue to the Pittsburgh community. This is not a question of sacrificing the environment to extract oil and gas. Our industry has a proven track record of safely and responsibly developing shale resources in Pennsylvania while fully protecting the environment. The U.S. has a unique opportunity to become energy independent by responsibly developing natural gas and oil resources. For the past 40 years, our national energy policy has been protecting the Middle East oil

fields for the military to maintain a low cost gasoline process. This project is yet another step in the right direction towards achieving American energy independence and increasing American jobs.

In the past 18 months, our small company has more than doubled the number of employees working in Pennsylvania. And we see this project as a winning opportunity to produce American energy, provide high quality jobs and expand the economic benefits associated with the shale drilling. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Jason. Alex Paris, please.

MR. PARIS: Good evening, Alex Paris, 1595 Smith Township Road, Atlasburg, Pennsylvania, 15004. My name is Alex Paris. I'm the president of Alex Paris Contracting a company that was founded in 1928. We've had the opportunity basically since day one to work in Marcellus development. And I can tell you firsthand that CONSOL has been a super company to work with during the development of this well and pipelines. They're committed to doing things right and the county's selection as the potential developer of the airport is an excellent choice. They are a Pittsburgh-based company with a long history of excellent compliance in the industry. It is very difficult to maintain the type of caliber company that they have. They spared no dollar to do things right. They're a very selective group of people to work for and I hope that you as Council vote to move forward with this project.

But I want to tell you a little bit about what I think are the reality of the world today. Life's about doubts. And you know, I had the opportunity to attend the Dallas/Pittsburgh Steeler game about a month and a half ago in Dallas. But Dallas changed about 30 years in Pittsburgh because when all the mills started to shut down, everybody ran down south to go to work. Because there were 35,000 Pittsburgh fans in Dallas and a lot of them were transplants.

We cannot continue in this country and this region not to utilize our assets. This gas is an opportunity that can be done right in a safe environmentally conscious way. We need to do that. We need to develop that. It can help to pay off the airport debt which opens up more opportunities for the airport.

It can move this area forward. I can't stress enough the things that have been done safely in this whole industry because we've worked with a bunch of different companies. I have two children. I would not be involved in this if I did not think it was a good thing. So I hope that the Council votes to support the drilling at the airport and I look forward to having potentially an opportunity to work there. Thank you.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Alex. Mary Dreliszak, followed by Michelle Vargo.

MS. DRELISZAK: I'm Mary Dreliszak, 207 Perry Street in Connellsville, Pennsylvania, 15425. I'm the director of program development with the Challenge Program, a nonprofit that is active in 115 high schools and career technology centers in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio. We partner with business, including the energy industry on a two-fold purpose, to motivate high school students to excel and to expose them to careers in the region. I applaud Allegheny County Council and the Airport Authority's leadership in recognizing the many benefits that will come with responsible drilling for natural gas in Allegheny County.

CONSOL Energy has more than 20 natural gas industry sponsored of the Challenge Program in 45 schools throughout this region. Through their sponsorship company employees including geologists and engineers have so far reached 50,000 high school students with a message, show up every day, continue improving, excelling in science technology, engineering and math and giving back matter to their success today and in the future.

As a result of this industry supported Challenge Program, student performance, including attendance and grades, are on the rise in our region's schools. The industry role in helping to build a solid work habit in high school students demonstrates their commitment to our future workforce. The job opportunity that are being created in our backyard are giving hope and promise to our youth. When high school students are motivated to excel and those same students know that through energy development they have access to high-paying jobs here at home, they have got it all. And that can be life changing.

I support Allegheny County Council's and the Airport Authority's efforts to further strengthen our regional economy through responsible drilling for natural

gas in Allegheny County. Your decision to do so will help to pave the way for families to stay in careers that will be there for generations to come. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Mary. Michelle Vargo, followed by Joel Wilken.

MS. VARGO: Good evening, Michelle Vargo, 914 Garden Street, Hoboken, New Jersey. I actually grew up across the border in New York State from Tioga and Bradford County so I had seen firsthand the economic development that this industry can bring to an area. I see it every time I go home and visit my parents. After I left that area, I'm a graduate from the United States Military Academy. I have a degree in civil engineering. I served five years active duty in the military and two tours in Iraq. After I did get out of the active duty military, I had the good fortune of joining a company named Linde. Linde is an industrial gases and engineering services company. And really when I was faced with the opportunities that I had coming out of the military I was just so compelled towards this company because of its focus on safety and environmental improvement and industry. So I was just really pleased with the opportunity to move from construction and improving quality of life for soldiers and Iraquees to doing something that I thought would be a great impact for our communities and industry.

So recently, I was promoted to the position of liquid natural gas technology and market development manager. And my job entails findings useful applications for liquid natural gas as an alternative fuel. So maybe as an industrial gases company we play several different industries, healthcare, pharmaceuticals, chemistries, refineries and alternative fuels. So safety is paramount in our industry. And so is our environmental impact. And we have the accolades to prove that. We're part of the responsible care program appointed by the American Chemistry Council and we're also the Dow Jones Quality Index. And it's these qualities that CONSOL decided to partner with us to look at alternative energy in their operations.

So it's those two things that we share in common. And I've been working with them since the summer actively on the project sites. And I'm just so impressed by what they bring to the industry and their focus on

safety. And we currently have signed a five-year agreement looking forward to bringing alternate fuel into the industry. And Linde is very much looking forward to that. Thank you for your time.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Michelle. I believe I can speak for the Executive as well as County Council, thank you for your service to our country. Joel Wilken, please, followed by Tyler Shank.

MR. WILKEN: Good evening. My name is Tyler Shank and I strongly believe we can produce American energy in a way that balances the environment, safe work practices and the economic job creating benefits associated with gas production. I strongly support the County Council's and the Airport Authority's efforts to strengthen the local economy as well as Executive Fitzgerald. I work for and I'm part owner of Penn Mechanical Group. We're a PA-based, PA-founded, family-owned company that provides turnkey contractor services within the natural gas industry. Truckings, site development, roustabout, skilled laborer, we currently employ over 150 employees whereas about eight years ago we had eight employees. I've seen and my family has seen firsthand the evolution of Marcellus Shale and I can say without a doubt that natural gas can and is being developed in a safe and environmentally conscious manner.

The leadership of Council in pursuing gas development must be recognized here. While there's no guarantee of the well quality or the results that could be underneath the ground in question, based on the general geographic area, the results are very favorable. And as I've read and researched the FAA guidelines, the proceeds generated from the gas drilling must go towards developing the airport and the grounds on which the gas is extracted from which is an obvious gain to the airport which has seen its share of problems.

Proceeding with environmentally safe drilling will result in a positive economic impact for Pittsburgh International Airport, the grounds and Allegheny County. Many of you here have seen, heard and received firsthand testimony from the surrounding communities of Greene, Fayette, Westmoreland and other counties and how they benefited from the job creation and the skilled positions being created with high wages. It's time for Allegheny County and Pittsburgh International to do the same.

The technology has never been better to develop natural gas safely with a strong focus on the environment. The environment is in a hot tub tonight and I can say as many of the others have said tonight working with CONSOL, their priority towards the environment is set is second to none. The ability to encase the well bore of multiple layers and contingencies in place to ensure environmental stewardship are there. And not to mention the lease prices, incentives and royalties that seem very well suited to the community and the local Allegheny County.

I want to talk about CONSOL. We worked for them for several years. They're an industry leader in natural gas development. They prioritize safety environment from the top down. What's preached at the executive level by CONSOL is also preached from the bottom up at CONSOL. It's lived down in the field. I see it every day at every well site.

In closing, CONSOL is exceptional. I have no doubt that corroborative efforts between the Council, Pittsburgh and Allegheny County can result in the safe development of American energy. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Tyler. Margaret Henry, followed by Kevin Lee.

MS. HENRY: Hi. My name is Margaret Henry and I come to you tonight representing Pennsylvania's number one industry. We've heard from a lot of other industries tonight.

CHAIR MACEY: Can I have your address, please?

MS. HENRY: Pardon?

CHAIR MACEY: Can I have your address, please?

MS. HENRY: 606 Columbiana Road, Bessemer, Pennsylvania, 16112.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you.

MS. HENRY: You're welcome. We've heard from the Chamber of Commerce promoting natural gas drilling and how wonderful it will be. And while I'm sitting here wondering what Pennsylvania's number one industry is, if you had a meal today, thank the farmer. That is what I do. I am an ordinary farmer in Lawrence County, Pennsylvania.

(Applause.)

MS. HENRY: And I have done everything that you could possibly imagine and probably some things that you can't imagine to try to prevent them from contaminating my

farm. I have not been successful. Not that I know that my farm is contaminated yet, but I know that I'm suffering from asthma that I've managed to catch in the last three weeks since they fracked the well 4,100 feet from my property. But what occurred here tonight makes me wish that I was back in the barn and had my boots on because that was what it is and that's exactly how deep it is. Okay? Pennsylvania has the strongest regulations in the industry? Oh, please, really? DEP is wonderful? Yeah.

You know, I was at a tasting conference and we were a little bored because it wasn't that well attended. And there was this girl and she --- there was no indication of anything on my table, I had scrambled eggs and some sausages and bacon cooked up. I had no indication of how I felt about fracking except for the moratorium from Penn environment. She picked it up and said, I have friends that work for DEP in --- I'm not going to tell you that. And she said they're dying to get away from the state and get new jobs because it has come down from the top that they are to sit on their hands and shut up. A couple days later I asked her what that meant. And she said, they're not allowed to write any sort of tickets or enforce any sort of violations that the oil and gas industries have done here in Rachel Carson's backyard. This is absolutely asinine. Not only are we wading in bullshit, it's just asinine that we do this. And the biggest lie that we've had forced down our throats tonight is energy independence. What is so independent about multi-national corporations stealing the gas from the bedrock under our feet so that they can make a profit? What is so independent about that? And the dude that said, well, why did you come here in tonight? It was a car that had gas in it from Saudi Arabia, not natural gas. Thank you for your time.

(Applause.)

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Margaret. Kevin Lee, followed by Jeff Dumm. Kevin Lee? Jeff? Tom Medvedic?

MR. MEDVEDIC: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Tom Medvedic. I'm the vice president with Calfrac Well Services which primarily works out of Fayette County. I'm from Denver, Colorado.

CHAIR MACEY: Can we have your address, please?

MR. MEDVEDIC: 1445 17th Street, Denver, Colorado. The reason why I came here tonight to share some of the ideas concerning the opportunity in front of

us was to really just give you some perspective in our experience in the State of Pennsylvania. And you know, it goes back to the early days when we were one of the first well field services providers to enter Southwest Pennsylvania back in 2009. Four years later we invested in excess of $200 million and currently employ approximately 300 people for the well paying jobs in the region. And as it's been said many times tonight but I think it's critical to understand, that even though we've created this through the energy business, it's equally important to understand that there's at least two to three additional jobs created outside the energy business through related services associated with this energy business that has evolved here in the last three to five years.

The safe and environmentally responsible development of domestic oil and gas resources provided a new clean, abundant and made in America source of energy. And I will take issue in suggesting that I think it is good that we create energy independence. There has been lots of issues on a global nature because we have been at the beck and call of some jurisdictions that aren't friendly to this country. And I think it's critical that we create this energy dependence. And this is the way we're going to do this.

(Applause.)

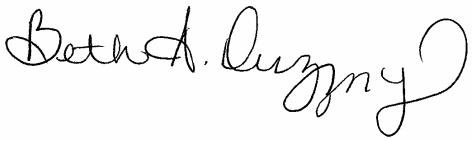
Given the fact that we can provide and have the ability to provide an effective source of energy also provides opportunities to rekindle the manufacturing sector in this great state. Providing this not only cost effective but also clean effective and abundant energy source is something that can't be overstated. With our local workforce having grossed the level that it has over such a short period of time we are a significant part of the local communities where we live and work. And we intend to remain this way for decades to come. That's why we have invested the money in the communities that we have.

We firmly believe that all these benefits associated with the responsible development of Pennsylvania's natural resources can be realized without compromising our future or the future of generations to come. Our experience in the state to date has demonstrated that development of these resources would only occur within the confines of the high standards of safety environmental stewardship.

This requirement is not up for debate or negotiation. Is a core philosophy of our company and for CONSOL as well that we've had experience with over the last several years. We believe that Allegheny County can realize the same benefits that we've realized through the rest of the state by drilling for natural gas. We fully support Allegheny County Council and the Airport Authority in their efforts to move forward with this initiative and look forward to investing in and being part of this community. Thank you.

CHAIR MACEY: Thank you, Tom. Andrew Corfront? Well, we have reached the time. I certainly want to thank you all for being patient. And I also want to thank Robert Morris University for hosting this quorum. Thank you very much. Have a safe trip home.

HEARING ADJOURNED AT 11:00 P.M.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify, as the stenographic reporter, that the foregoing proceedings were taken stenographically by me, and thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or under my direction; and that this transcript is a true and accurate record to the best of my ability.