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2 LONG ISLAND POWER AUTHORITY

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4 Environmental Impact Statement

5 Scoping Hearing

6 RE: Proposed Southampton to Bridgehampton

7 Transmission Line Project

8 (EVENING SESSION)

9 -----X

10 Southampton Inn
11 91 Hill Street
12 Southampton, New York

13
14 September 18, 2007
15 7:08 o'clock p.m.

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18 B e f o r e:

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20 THE HON. DONALD E. BELFI,
21 The Presiding Officer

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23 NOTE: FOR REASONS OF PRIVACY, EXACT ADDRESSES OF SPEAKERS
24 HAVE BEEN DELETED. NO OTHER CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE TO
25 THE TRANSCRIPT

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A P P E A R A N C E S:

For the Long Island Power Authority:

Mike Hervey -
Vice President of Operations

Monique Brechter -
Director of Environmental Affairs

Bert J. Cunningham -
Vice President, Communications

For AKRF, Inc.:

Philip C. Sears -
Senior Consultant

ALSO PRESENT:

The Press
The Public

Marc Russo,
Reporter

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P R O C E E D I N G S

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Good evening.

My name is Judge Donald E. Belfi, and I am a retired Nassau County Court Judge.

At the present time I am sitting as a Judicial Hearing Officer and tonight I will be serving as the presiding officer for this evening's public comment program.

The purpose of this public meeting is to solicit comments on the Draft Scope of Work for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Southampton to Bridgehampton Transmission Line and the Expansion of the Bridgehampton Substation Project.

Copies of the Draft Scope of Work are available at the registration desk at the entrance of the room. The Draft Scope of Work is also available on the LIPA website at www.lipower.org under the "About LIPA, Powering LI" tab and at the following three libraries: The Hampton Library in Bridgehampton, Rogers Memorial Library in Southampton, and John Jermain Library

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in Sag Harbor.

The notice of this meeting was published in the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Environmental Notice Bulletin on August 29, 2007 and in the Southampton Press and Suffolk Life during the week of September 12 and 13, 2007.

A mailing describing the purpose, date and location of this meeting was sent to LIPA rate payers within 1,000 feet of the project.

Anyone who wishes to comment at today's meeting must complete a card at the registration desk. You may also hand the stenographer, seated at my right, any written comments.

The public comment period will remain open for two more weeks following tonight's meeting.

Any written comments on the Draft Scope of Work, if not filed today, must be mailed to the Long Island Power Authority at 333 Earle Ovington Boulevard, Suite 403, Uniondale, New York 11553, attention Southampton to Bridgehampton Transmission Line Public Comments.

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Comments must be received by LIPA by 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 2, 2007. Please note that this is a one-week extension of the comment period that was published in the Environmental Notice Bulletin.

Copies of the Environmental Notice Bulletin, including the mailing and address for filing of written comments on the Draft Scope of Work, are available at the registration desk.

I will briefly give some background about the environmental review process that will take place under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act, known as SEQRA.

Because of the considerable public interest and the scope of the proposed project, LIPA, as the lead agency under SEQRA, has decided to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement. The Town of Southampton Planning Board has challenged LIPA's lead agency role. It is anticipated that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation will resolve this challenge.

In the interim, LIPA will continue to act as the lead agency so that the environmental review process proceeds in a timely

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manner.

While not required under the SEQRA regulations, in order to ensure maximum public input, LIPA decided to prepare and make available this Draft Scope of Work on the Environmental Impact Statement for public review.

The Draft Scope of Work essentially describes the methods that will be used to examine the potential environmental impacts of the project in areas such as visual resources, cultural resources, land use, zoning, public policy, coastal zone management, and natural resources.

The analyses will include potential operational impacts as well as the potential construction impacts of the transmission line and expansion of the Bridgehampton Substation.

The Draft Scope of Work also identifies the range of alternatives to this project that will be considered in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, including a No Action Alternative, alternative methods to meet increased demand for electricity on the South Fork, alternative routes, and alternative transmission line design.

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After LIPA receives and considers all public comments on the Draft Scope of Work, a Final Scope of Work will be issued. The Final Scope of Work will include responses to all public comments on the Draft Scope of Work. The Final Scope of Work will serve as a guide for preparation of the environmental studies in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Thereafter, LIPA will prepare and release the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for public review. LIPA will also hold a public hearing so that the public can provide oral and written comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Information about the proposed project will continue to be made available on an ongoing basis on LIPA's website at www.lipower.org under the "About LIPA, Powering LI" tab.

After all comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement have been received and considered, a Final Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared. The Final Environmental Impact Statement will include responses to all comments received on the Draft

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Environmental Impact Statement.

Only after the Final Environmental Impact Statement has been considered by and accepted by the Board, by the LIPA Board of Trustees, will the Board of Trustees reach a final determination regarding the Southampton to Bridgehampton transmission line and expansion of the Bridgehampton Substation.

Prior to commencing the public comment portion of this meeting, LIPA's Vice President of Operations, Mike Hervey, will describe the proposed action that is the subject of this meeting.

Mike.

MR. MIKE HERVEY: Thank you, Your Honor.

For the benefit of the group in the room here, I'd briefly like to describe the project that we're talking about.

In response to the dramatic growth of electric load on the East End of Long Island over the past several years, we have been implementing several fairly major projects from year to year.

1
2 We are at the point in the growth of
3 the electric load here on the East End where the
4 next increment that we have to do in our system is
5 to build this transmission line from the existing
6 substation in Southampton to the existing
7 substation site in Bridgehampton.

8 One of the issues that confronts us
9 is the timeliness of this project. It is very
10 important that we complete this project before the
11 summer of 2008. We have a few consequences if we
12 do not.

13 The best case consequence of not
14 completing this project before the summer of 2008
15 would be that we will have to configure our
16 distribution system so that it exposes all of our
17 customers east of Southampton Village, and all of
18 our customers on the South Fork, and all of our
19 customers east of Jamesport on the North Fork to
20 additional electrical outages.

21 Also part of this best case scenario
22 is that we will have to run all of the East End
23 generators throughout the summer. The East End
24 generators are located in Southampton,
25 Easthampton, Montauk and Greenport and Southold.

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Now, that best case scenario includes that all of the generators must be up and mechanically able to run for the entire summer.

A more likely scenario is that without those modifications in our distribution system that we would have to temporarily make for next summer, and without the operation and reliable way of all of those generators at the same time, that we would be operating our system at a very high risk level so that there is a possibility of blackouts under certain system operating configurations.

If we do have those blackouts, it will not only affect those people east of Southampton Village and east of Jamesport on the North fork, but could possibly cascade back into Riverhead and even Brookhaven Town.

In considering this project we have looked at four alternatives and we'll continue to look at four alternatives. I'll describe those briefly from north to south.

The first alternative is along the exiting transmission power line along what's called the Moraine.

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The next southern most route is what is sometimes called the back roads route, but consists of leaving Southampton Village along the Long Island Railroad, going to David Whites Lane, Seven Ponds Road to Lower Seven Ponds Road, to Head of Ponds Road, to Scuttle Hole Road and then Sag Harbor Turnpike north to the existing Bridgehampton Substation site.

The third alternative that we are looking at essentially takes the Long Island Railroad eastward from the Southampton Village Substation to the Sag Harbor Turnpike and turns north and goes to the existing Bridgehampton site.

And finally, the fourth alternative that we're looking at essentially takes the Railroad route out to Montauk Highway, takes Montauk Highway out to Sag Harbor Turnpike.

For all of these routes we will look at alternatives of overhead and underground construction combinations, all overhead and all underground combinations.

It should be mentioned that to clarify some information that's out in the public, in the routes that we are considering where there

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are existing 35-foot poles, the poles that we would have to put in to accommodate these transmission lines would be -- would go to a 48-foot pole. In the existing areas where there are now 57-foot poles, then those are approximately -- that is right in the Village. Those 57-foot poles would go to 61-foot poles.

One additional point of clarification to mention is there are no alternatives, including any underground alternatives, that actually decrease the number of poles.

This has been a question that's been open in the community asking if the transmission project itself would remove the existing distribution lines. And the answer is no, there is no proposal to do that. So all projects would essentially have the same number of poles whether underground or overhead.

Your Honor, that concludes my briefing.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

I will shortly open the public comment portion of this meeting after a review of

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several administrative items.

We have a stenographer, seated at my right, who will be recording all comments received at this session.

Prior to beginning your comments, please clearly state your name and any affiliation for the record.

I will ask elected and public officials to speak first. Thereafter, I will recognize the speakers in the order in which we received the cards at the registration desk.

If you would like to speak and have not done so, please complete a card at the registration desk located outside the room through the back door.

Because of the need to make sure that everyone has an opportunity to comment, I will limit each speaker to three minutes. The speaker is to address me and I request that the audience does not interrupt or interject remarks. I also request that the audience holds its applause to the end of the entire session.

Please note that there will be no responses to comments at this meeting. Each

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comment will be addressed in writing for the Final Scope of Work.

Again, if you have a statement in writing, please leave it with the stenographer after you speak.

In addition, the public comment period will remain open after this meeting through 5 p.m., October 2, 2007. The registration desk has copies of the Environmental Notice Bulletin that provides information for filing the written comments.

One final note before we begin, I would like to remind everyone that we are here tonight to hear comments on the Draft Scope of Work and approach to the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. This meeting is not to evaluate the merits of the project or related matters of providing electrical services.

Many people would like to speak so please limit your comments to the potential environmental impacts to be addressed and the methods to evaluate those potential impacts.

Councilman Christopher P. Nuzzi.

COUNCILMAN NUZZI: Thank you and

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good evening.

I'm Councilman Chris Nuzzi from the
Town of Southampton.

And I want to begin by stating that
my comments today regarding the scope of the
environmental issues of this project are made
notwithstanding the fact that I'm in full support
of the Town Planning Board's request for lead
agency status, and that I believe this scoping
meeting is premature as the issue of lead agency
has not yet been settled.

With regard to the Draft Scope of
Work for this Project, I'm here to offer comments
and recommendations to help ensure that the many
concerns of the local community are fully
addressed by the Draft Environmental Impact
Statement for this action.

I'll read an edited version of my
comments in light of the time limit, but will
provide my full comments for the record along with
a letter from myself to LIPA indicating my
concerns dated April 19th; a response letter dated
May 2nd from LIPA; and the Southampton Town
Planning Board letter requesting lead agency dated

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September 12th of this year.

"As you're aware, the proposed installation of new overhead transmission lines from Southampton to Bridgehampton has already been met with strong concern and opposition by local residents, to the extent that the construction of the new lines may pose environmental and economic risks for the Town.

For this reason the DEIS needs to fully explore solutions for addressing environmental and economic problems created by this project, including, among others, possible underground construction of the entire transmission line, which I believe to be a viable alternative.

As you know, the Town of Southampton and the greater East End is well known for its outstanding natural beauty, its rural heritage, its open spaces, its farmland vistas, its quaint residential neighborhoods, and its exceptional quality of life. It's these very qualities which we hold in such high regard, as evidenced by the financial commitment and preservation efforts by our community.

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2 It is LIPA's responsibility to
3 safeguard our communities' character which is
4 currently threatened by a project of this
5 magnitude. And in response to LIPA's assertion of
6 urgency in the installation of these upgrades, I
7 am disappointed that LIPA did not begin the SEQRA
8 and community outreach process earlier.

9 More importantly, the responsibility
10 for not having done so should not be shouldered by
11 this community nor result in anything less than a
12 meaningful environmental analysis.

13 Potential Environmental and Economic
14 Impacts.

15 A full evaluation of the potential
16 impacts is needed in order to study, in depth,
17 environmentally sustainable options for meeting
18 the current and future electric power needs of the
19 East End.

20 Upon review, the Draft Scope of Work
21 and Environmental Assessment Forms, Parts I and
22 II, seem deficient in many of these areas and
23 therefore need to be greatly expanded upon to
24 ensure that the full effects of the project is
25 addressed.

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Some of these potential impacts include:

Impacts on residential neighborhoods, hamlets, and property values;

Impacts on aesthetics and the economic viability of the Town;

Impacts on emergency and public safety; and

Impacts on environmentally sensitive areas within the Town including, among others, the Aquifer Protection Overlay District and the Agricultural Overlay district.

Need for a Cost Benefit Study and full assessment of alternatives.

The need and justification for installing overhead lines as opposed to underground cables has not yet been demonstrated. Given the aesthetic, environmental, safety and economic benefits of installing power lines underground, a full cost benefit study and evaluation of project alternatives is warranted.

In addition, other ways of meeting the electric needs of the East End should be examined, including the installation of new,

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possibly more efficient technology at existing substations, constructing emergency generators, employing energy conservation measures, and researching alternative energy sources.

The cost estimate evaluations should consider the potential long term benefits of underground electric cables rather than overhead towers and lines which may include:

Prevention of environmental and visual impacts;

Reduced power outages and transmissions losses due to protection from storm damage;

Reduced impacts on emergency services, schools, and businesses during and after severe storms;

Reduced vegetation clearing and tree pruning costs;

Public safety benefit of avoidance of motor vehicle collisions with poles; and

Improved electricity service reliability.

In view of the community's concerns, I ask that you expand the Draft Scope of Work and

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Environmental Assessment Forms to ensure that these issues are adequately addressed by the DEIS.

And in closing I want to recognize the importance of the work that LIPA does and thank them for what has predominantly been a close working relationship between the Authority, the Town of Southampton and our community.

It is my hope that as we move into the future to address power demand and delivery needs of a growing community, that we can continue to work towards building consensus on how to provide for these upgrades. Most importantly, we should respect the character of the community that we have all made a significant investment in.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.
(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: As I said earlier, if you would please hold the applause until the entire meeting is over.

VOICES: Can't hear.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: They took my microphone away.

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(Laughter.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: I would ask that you refrain from applause until after the entire meeting is over so we can proceed more quickly.

Legislator Jay Schneiderman.

SUFF. CON. LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN: Thank you, sir.

I suppose my button gives my position away a little bit here.

I think it's fitting that we're meeting in an underground room to discuss this issue.

(Applause & laughter.)

SUFF. CON. LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN: First let me say that I concur with Councilman Nuzzi that the lead agency for this project ought to be the Southampton Planning Board.

I also want to point out, you know, the reason why our property values are so high out here on the East End of Long Island is because we are one of the most beautiful places on the planet. It's extraordinary out here and we get concerns anytime somebody proposes something that

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may take away from that scenic beauty.

When you start talking about new power lines, there's going to be an impact to those scenic resources that we all hold dear. There ought to be -- as a matter of policy, all new power lines ought to be buried and not continued to be a blight --

(Applause.)

SUFF. CON. LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN: Thank you. And we work hard.

We spend hundreds of million of dollars preserving open spaces, historic resources, buildings. The thought of, you know, high power lines moving through these beautiful areas has got to be an anathema to most of us.

A lot of us have lately been faced with homeowner policies being cancelled. I guess some actuarial mathematician in some insurance company has determined that we're due for a large storm coming up. And we haven't had a major category two-plus hurricane since I guess 19 -- 1938 I think was the year. And so now they're anticipating a large storm in this area.

And it seems LIPA, as a matter of

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2 policy, recognizing that we're in a storm prone
3 area, would be taking measures to take the power
4 lines that are existing and as well as all new
5 power lines and getting them out of harm's way in
6 terms of the storm. I think in the long term
7 perspective it would save LIPA an awful lot of
8 money if these lines were all buried.

9 So as you do your Environmental
10 Impact Statement I guess the main points I want to
11 underscore is to look at the long term effects in
12 a storm buried versus non-buried, but also look at
13 the impact you're having on our property values
14 and the general aesthetics of the East End which
15 is really an extraordinary place. And I think we
16 all want to see it stay that way.

17 Thank you.

18 THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 THE PRESIDING OFFICER: E. Brolin.

21 MR. BROLIN: Mine's been covered by
22 previous speakers.

23 THE PRESIDING OFFICER: You withdraw
24 your request to speak?

25 MR. BROLIN: Yes.

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THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Teal Squires
Velpi, is it?

MS. TEAL SQUIRES VELLA: How are
you, gentlemen?

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Good
evening.

MS. TEAL SQUIRES VELLA: My name is
Teal Squires Vella.

I'm a resident of 40-plus years here
on Southampton and Water Mill. I live on the
route. I live on Head of Pond Road.

And I've been listening to the
politicians. This was scheduled tonight. It was
very nice that you invited us, but it's a very big
night. There's a primary going on so a lot of
people are at that. It's Meet the Teacher,
because I'm a public teacher, Meet the Teacher at
the local high schools so a lot of people couldn't
come.

So I want to just kind of put a
couple of ideas across to you also.

Definitely I looked at the website.
I received the information about hurricane
preparedness and you guys seemed very concerned

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about that. But if we think that there's a hurricane coming our way and we have this very, very large towers and they go down, people are going to get hurt.

Property values.

Forbes came out today. Water Mill has one of the highest values around. We're working class family. My parents are working class people. We are working really, really hard to stay here and we want you to bury the lines.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.
Gloria Rabinowitz.

MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: Good evening.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Good evening.

MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: I'm Gloria Rabinowitz and I'm a Water Mill resident.

I going to go into some specifics. In the scoping document that I downloaded from the Internet, I'm going to refer to a couple of chapters.

Chapter six states, "aesthetic
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impact occurs when there is detrimental effect on the perceived beauty of the place."

Explain fully how LIPA can mitigate the effects of the high poles on the aesthetic beauty of the residential and historic roads of Water Mill, which are important resources that contribute to the special historic character of Water Mill, a community established in 1644.

Please justify in the scoping how large poles are not considered significant visual structures. Will your EIS address this?

Under cultural resources in the document, explain in detail how LIPA will, "design structures to physically blend with existing surroundings."

(Laughter.)

MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: Will your EIS address this?

Detail the wind speeds that all the poles on the proposed four routes, on the proposed four routes, are built to withstand.

Hurricane Gloria left many in Water Mill without electricity for two weeks. What was the cost to bring up a crew from the Carolinas to

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fix the lines? The poles on Montauk Highway in Water Mill are still tilted from Hurricane Bob in 1991.

The cost of hurricane damage to community electricity needs is to be addressed in the scoping document. Will your EIS address this?

LIPA needs to address proposals for ways to directly or indirectly decrease energy consumption. Will your EIS address this?

Thank you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Bill Thayer.

MR. BILL THAYER: Thank you for the opportunity.

My name is Bill Thayer. I'm a attorney and real estate broker in Bridgehampton and have lived here all of my life and daily go by the area which you are going to effect with these poles.

I just had a quick chance to look at your proposed EIS. But I want to stress one thing that is very important. And I've seen it in other parts of the country and that is this electrical

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79

2 magnetic field situation.

3 They're -- as you probably know,
4 there have been a number of studies that have,
5 both ways, that have indicated that this -- these
6 poles, this electricity emits electromagnetic
7 fields which cause cancer and other diseases,
8 mainly cancer.

9 The other issue I'd like you to
10 address in depth in your EIS is the impact on
11 wildlife.

12 Since I've been a kid here I've had
13 open fields. The open fields have been
14 subdivided. The reserves now have deer fences
15 which prevent deer from going across properties.

16 We now have increased traffic on
17 this proposed route number two, Scuttle Hole Road.
18 And I, as a real estate broker, have to explain
19 why there's so much traffic on Scuttle Hole Road
20 and Head of Pond Road. And now I'm going to have
21 to explain why there's 65-foot poles. It's just a
22 huge detriment to the aesthetic -- visual and
23 aesthetic properties of this area.

24 And then one -- and the wildlife
25 impact I want to stress, you know, geese overhead

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and deer, but mostly birds. It's just a shame that you can't bury these lines.

And the issue -- the last question I'll ask is will the EIS reference your previous -- I understand you buried lines in another part of -- before Southampton. I don't know if it was Riverhead or what, but you chose, I think, correct me if I'm wrong, to bury lines as opposed to put these poles.

Will you make that EIS available or is there a way that we are able to access that? That's just a question.

And then just a general comment.

You know, we're all members of this community and so is LIPA. I just think from a personal perspective that it's a shame. As a good citizen, LIPA should heed the concerns of all these people and other people who aren't here in terms of the visual impact of what the proposal is. It's just -- this is not Hoboken, New Jersey with towering lines and six train tracks. It's just not. And I think this is just another step in the aesthetics in ruining the Hamptons.

That's all I have to say.

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Thank you very much, sir.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.
Jenice Delano.

MS. JENICE DELANO: I'd like to --
I'm Jenice Delano from Bridgehampton.
I'd like to bring up two -- two
issues.

One was that over and over we've
been -- we've been given dollar amounts for the
cost of burying one mile of line versus the cost
of having a mile of line be above ground.

I would like to know if the EIS will
provide a detailed, auditable accounting for the
cost of burying one line versus running one mile
of line above ground, one that will very clearly
split out fixed versus variable cost, so that an
accountant, accounting person can audit these
estimates so that we all really understand what
we're looking at.

And number two is I would like to
ask -- in fact, the beginning of this discussion
here was that we are anticipating potential
electrical outages in the summer of 2008 which

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clearly must be based on certain growth and other assumptions.

I would like to ask whether the EIS will document their growth and other assumptions as to the high probability of electrical outages in the summer of 2008 so that we can see if this whole project is as -- needs to be expedited as quickly as it's been presented to us.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Nancy Mgann.

MS. NANCY MGANN: Good evening.

And I thank you for the opportunity to speak.

My name is Nancy Mgann.

A VOICE: Can't hear you.

MS. NANCY MGANN: My name is Nancy Mgann and I live in the Village and I'm also a Village trustee.

I have great concerns. I have followed what your plans are and I have looked at the poles that are presently along Willow and Prospect going down to David Whites Lane and then crossing over.

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For many, many years the people living along that route have had concern over the poles that are there. You're bringing in increased wattage that's coming in. They have all had concerns about electromagnetic fields. Now they have more concern over electromagnetic fields.

If you watch the news and the Weather Channel every evening and we see what is taking place across this country, with increased storm occurrence, more severe storms, not only the high winds, but increased tornado occurrences that are happening. We have had them here.

Those families that are along that route are very concerned about those poles coming down in their very small yards. They are living below those poles. They have children who play in those yards and they don't want to see it. They want to see these lines buried and I agree with them.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Towin

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2 Maloney?

3

MS. TONI MALONEY: Oh, come on.

4

That's the easiest name. Toni Maloney.

5

(Laughter.)

6

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: You

7

didn't dot your "I."

8

MS. TONI MALONEY: Thank you.

9

I live in Water Mill on Mill Pond

10

Lane.

11

And I think no one wants to be in an

12

adversarial position with LIPA. We all want to be

13

partners together in stewardship of this community

14

and we all want to take a long view. And we want

15

to work with LIPA. We want you to work with us to

16

take the long view on preserving this beautiful

17

piece of the United States.

18

And we ask that not only it's -- I

19

know this is part of the process, but to not have

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a dialogue. We have yet to have a dialogue with

21

LIPA on these issues.

22

So in the EIS survey, study, which,

23

again, will not be a dialogue but a report, we

24

would ask that you cover lots of things that

25

you've heard tonight, but also when will we have a

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2 dialogue.

3

4 Some of the issues that I would like
5 to see in the EIS study involve migratory birds in
6 this area. What will taking down some of these
7 trees in the entirety and pruning these trees back
8 do to migratory bird paths?

8

9 We have a terrible drainage problem
10 here when we have heavy rains. What will these
11 deeper poles -- I assume, I'm not an engineer, but
12 they have to go deeper if they're taller and
13 thicker -- do to drainage patterns on these roads?

13

14 Long Island is very flat, especially
15 in this area. What -- how far will these poles be
16 visible and not only intrude on the scenic vistas
17 of the people in whose front yards they are, but
18 people a mile away?

18

19 I live on Mill Pond Lane. I look
20 across Mill Pond, I can see the light tower at the
21 Southampton Recreation Center. How visible will
22 these towers be from how far? Will the EIS study
23 address that?

23

24 How many years -- again, this
25 shouldn't be a short-term look. It should be a
long-term look. And how many years will this new

1

2 transmission lines take care of the needs of this
3 community?

4

5 At the last meeting at the Water
6 Mill Community House, a LIPA representative told
7 me that this really is only good for five to ten
8 years and that LIPA has a plan for beyond ten
9 years. Will the EIS study tell what that plan is?
10 It can only be transmissions or generation
11 stations. So what's it going to be after ten
12 years and what is the additional environmental
13 impact of that?

14

15 And I'd just like to say that in the
16 community, the environment and the economy are
17 intertwined. You can't separate them. And when
18 our environment is damaged, so is our economy.

19

20 THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

21

22 (Applause.)

23

24 THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Joe Redding.

25

MR. JOE REDDING: Thank you.

26

27 I'm Joe Redding, a resident of

28

29 Southampton Village.
30 I agree with all of the comments
31 that have been made about the environment. But I
32 have a specific question, since I'm an engineer,

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and that is I request that the EIS give a quantitative picture of the electromagnetic field caused by either a buried or an elevated overhead transmission line, and also reflect the exposure to fields based on these four routes that are being considered 'cause there's different population density along each one of those.

I think that's it.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Christine Sullivan Witker.

MS. CHRISTINE WITKER: My name's Christine Sullivan Witker.

A VOICE: Can't hear you.

MS. CHRISTINE WITKER: My name is Christine Sullivan Witker.

My parents came out here a long time ago, more than 50 years ago.

I wanted to just mention that it would be a great surprise to me that LIPA is in a lead role to determine specific natural resources here in an area in which they are presumably

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familiar with electro-transmission and volts and
that kind of thing.

And I would hope that your EIS will
very specifically address who locally, what
resources, both in the Village and in the
communities, from every standpoint, are going to
be consulted before anything is done.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Frederic
Owen.

MR. FREDERIC OWEN: Good evening,
Your Honor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Good
evening.

MR. FREDERIC OWEN: You did such a
good job this afternoon I had to come back for the
second act.

(Laughter.)

MR. FREDERIC OWEN: By way of
background --

A VOICE: Your name.

MR. FREDERIC OWEN: I'm 78 years
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2 -- my name is Frederic Owen. I'm sorry.

3

4 Seventy-eight years ago I was born
5 on Long Island. It's my life. My wife and I have
6 owned property here in the Bridgehampton area for
7 35 years. And I weaned her away from Red Bank,
8 Rumson, New Jersey because of the environment.

8

9 And I just find it appalling that a
10 public utility can come into an area like this --
11 we have hamlets that date back to the 1600's --
12 and almost in a sense rape the area, because
13 that's what you'd be doing with these monster
14 poles that you want to put up.

14

15 Now, I lived through the '38
16 hurricane. I've lived through every hurricane
17 here on Long Island and I've lived in quite a few
18 in Florida in recent years. And you ain't seen
19 nothing yet. And I understand theses pole will
20 withstand 130, 140-mile an hour winds. That's
21 peanuts in today's world. How about 175 or 200.

21

22 What economic cost will that cause
23 this community when they all blow down. It costs
24 LIPA and all the resident here.

24

25 Now lastly, I was involved in
utility financing in Wall Street for many years

1

90

2 and I dealt with a lot of utility executives, and
3 their lawyers, their engineers, and they have a
4 myopic point of view which is everything is in
5 mils.

6 And in the EIS you have to consider
7 that this area has some of the most expensive real
8 estate in the country, if not in the world and you
9 can't rape the area. You just can't do it.

10 And lastly, having spent all the
11 years I did in Wall Street, I'm very skeptical.
12 And I find it curious that this meeting was
13 scheduled on a primary day here in Southampton
14 when there's an open house at the high school
15 tonight and when most of the wealthy people aren't
16 out here to attend this meeting - the guys who
17 will really be effected by this. Just drive along
18 Scuttle Hole and look up on the hills of these
19 magnificent homes.

20 So if you can build power lines
21 under Long Island Sound, you sure as hell can put
22 them underground here in Southampton and
23 Bridgehampton.

24 Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

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THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.
Steve Abramson.

MR. STEVE ABRAMSON: Good evening.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Good
evening.

MR. STEVE ABRAMSON: Steve
Abramson. I'm a resident of Water Mill.

This is the scenic end of Long
Island. Everyone appreciates it for its beauty.
We would like to maintain it that way.

We should think that a public
utility, emphasis on that that word "public,"
should really be very much concerned about its
public here. Not just the rates that we pay them
but why we are here and why we are paying them.
We are here because we want to be in this
beautiful section of the country. It's a magnet
for people to be here because of its environmental
beauty.

These plans, if -- and now I know
they're going to look at an underground route and
we certainly hope that it comes out that way and
it may. But if we have over -- above-ground poles
that are 48 to 60 feet high in areas that are 22

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to 30 inches around it, I could not, as tall as I am, put my arms around.

And if we have not lines, but cables that are five inches in diameter -- people are talking about poles coming down. More often a cable could come down. This is very definitely a hurricane zone. It's been designated as such.

It's not just a pole you have to worry about. It's these lines if they come down. And this is a very narrow geographic area with only a main thoroughfare for an escape evacuation route and the back roads.

So if this -- if these lines go down on the back roads here, you're endangering the lives of all of these people in the event of a hurricane and we're much too vulnerable to accept that.

There are also some areas here that are -- people talk about electromagnetic effect, bird migration. We, in Water Mill have Mill Pond which is the largest freshwater lake in the Hamptons. It's a migratory pond for birds. We have egrets, we have herons, we have osprey. I'd like to be sure and I'd like to know in the

1

2 environmental impact study what effect is it going
3 to have on the nesting of these birds which are
4 endangered.

5

6 And I'd also like to know who will
7 be the person who will designate our scenic
8 resources out there. We have many historic sites.
9 Who's going to be the person or what organization
10 is going to do it? LIPA does not reside right
11 here so what experts are they going to select from
12 the local community to determine that when they
13 look at it?

14

15 And importantly, the tax base of
16 these areas are going to be immediately affected.
17 It's been estimated by a local appraiser that on
18 Head of Pond Road alone that these poles will
19 cause a loss of \$50 million in tax base.

20

21 Now, if that's the case, is LIPA
22 going to make that up to the Town of Southampton?
23 Has the supervisor of the Town board considered
24 what the loss will be if there's a loss in
25 assessed valuation directly on that -- on those
26 roads?

27

28 And furthermore, these poles, even
29 according to LIPA's own documents, if they go up

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will be seen from one mile away. So it's not just the houses that are on those roads, but it's the houses within a mile that can be affected by the visual impact which is not nice to look at, but also because it's not nice to look at will affect their property values when somebody else considers whether they should buy that house or another one where they can't see these poles.

So we would hope with all of these considerations it's clear that the best thing that can happen here is for LIPA to come out and decide that they should bury the entire route. One hundred percent of the lines should be buried.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Bill

Dalsimar.

MR. BILL DALSIMAR: Good evening.

My name is Bill Dalsimar and I'm a resident of the Village of Southampton.

I'd like to make four points and request for inclusion in the Environmental Impact study by LIPA.

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None of the material that LIPA has shared with us refers to the Southampton Town Master Plan. The master plan was a creation of this Town and is a blueprint for guiding this Town's development.

I would like the Draft Environmental Impact Study to refer to and take into consideration the Town of Southampton Master Plan and the DEIS should address specifically whether LIPA's proposals are consistent with or deviate from that plan.

Two, LIPA's proposals, as shared with us, refer to a one-half mile study area. Yet on page three of the material the document states the size of this study area will vary depending on a group of factors.

Are we to believe that the study area is limited to a half mile? A study area of a half mile is an inadequate study area and I would request that the DEIS take into account a study area much larger than the half mile that they refer to and propose.

Thirdly, in considering alternatives, I request that the DEIS explore the

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feasibility of burying the lines throughout and constructing a bike path and jogging path route along the entire pathway. LIPA should be prepared to address the financial resources, which may be available for this project through funding from local governments, community preservation funds, for the creation of a landscape buffer between the route and the bike path and the roadway.

Also, LIPA should, in its DEIS, address the positive economic impacts from the creation of such a bike path and any partnership between LIPA and this local community.

And finally, at the end of Scuttle Hole Road where it joins the Bridgehampton Sag Harbor Turnpike there's an enormous amount of wild pheasants and wild turkeys. And I would like the DEIS specifically to address the impact that this route, that these lines, whether along Scuttle Hole Road or down the Bridgehampton Sag Harbor Turnpike, will have on that flock of pheasants and turkey.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

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Michael Irving.

MR. MICHAEL IRVING: Thank you,
gentlemen.

I'm Michael Irving. I live on
Prospect street in Southampton.

LIPA has always been somewhat of a
neighbor to us in Prospect Street. And in the
years past I must admit that they never have been
a good neighbor.

But I would ask that LIPA, in
consideration of the DEIS, reviews their option
routes, specifically option 2 and option 4, as
both these routes go through the historical
district in the Village of Southampton.

In fact, all their routes are close
to the buffer areas of the historical routes and I
ask the DEIS to address how they're going to
approach the historical society in the Village of
Southampton so that they can address the aesthetic
value of 64 poles in an historic area.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Suzanne

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2 Caldwell.

3

4 MS. SUZANNE CALDWELL: My name is
5 Suzanne Caldwell. I live in the Village of
6 Southampton.

6

7 And the 60-foot pole in my backyard
8 currently buzzes when wet. Will the DEIS consider
9 the impact of another set of poles buzzing over my
10 head and to what effect it will have, not only on
11 myself, but my children?

11

12 And I would also like to ask and
13 inquire if the DEIS will address the air quality
14 of my neighborhood and consider the increased
15 power demand for air conditioning when they cut
16 down all the shade trees to accommodate the
17 proposed poles.

17

18 Thank you.

18

19 (Applause.)

19

20 THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

20

21 Howard Doleh.

21

22 MR. HOWARD DOLEH: My name is Howard
23 Dolhem (phonetic), resident of Water Mill.

23

24 Your need for increased power in the
25 coming years is a result of increased construction
in homes. Obviously there's going to be an

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increased number of cars. There's already an intolerable number of cars on route number 2.

Currently when exiting a driveway, the existing poles, which are about 12 inches in diameter, cause potential accidents because you can't see oncoming cars. I can only imagine what will happen if you try to make a left-hand turn out of a driveway with a 30-inch diameter pole obstructing the visibility.

Will the EIS address potential fatalities and injuries to people in cars caused by the blockage of visibility on these poles?

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.
(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: William Benkoski.

MR. WILLIAM BERKOSKI: Good evening.
I'm Bill Berkoski. My wife,

Michelle and my daughters live on Lower Seven Ponds Road in Water Mill. This is directly on one of the routes that is chosen for the poles to be on.

I would like to address just one point and then I'll yield the rest of my time to

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my fellow speakers.

To Chairman Law, CEO Kessel and the members of the LIPA Board, will your Scope of Work explain away the obvious contempt and disrespect the public at large will have by a SEQRA process that allows LIPA to act as one, the regulatory agency, two the utility applicant, and three, the lead agency all at the same time.

Please have your scope of work explain why this is not an incredible conflict of interest.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

Marlene Haresign.

MS. MARLENE HARESIGN: Marlene Haresign. A resident of Water Mill.

I'm actually going to repeat some of the things that have been said.

I want to start out by thanking -- saying that I think this whole review process is a flawed process because the electric company gets to review itself. It's like allowing the fox to have complete control of the design of hen houses.

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The DEIS has to address the justification for self review.

The second item.

Since the purpose of SEQRA requires that economic consideration not be the most important consideration, the DEIS has to include social, human, environmental and community scenic character for all four routes.

The documents that you have given out in the past doesn't even show the advantage for the route over the Moraine. It just leaves that box blank. So you're not giving all the information. We'd like a complete study for all four routes, not concentrate on the one you're interested in.

Local historic resources and archives must be used. The Water Mill Museum must be contacted for information about historic resources.

Also, similar historic resources in Bridgehampton and Southampton Village must be used. The DEIS has to address this concern.

Chapter 8 notes that a field survey of potential historic resources will be conducted.

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How do utility outsiders know if an individual property -- and I'm going to quote the characteristics that you have to use for a field survey.

How do you utility outsiders know if an individual property "possesses special character, historic or aesthetic interest of value as part of the cultural, economic or social history of the community, or is a familiar visual feature of the neighborhood."

The DEIS has to address that review. The DEIS has to explain how a scenic resource can be identified by outsiders who do not daily view the community.

The other thing you should do is get your map option route numbers to line up with the listed option routes in your documents. Because right now in the presentation that first started this, you go down and say these are the four routes. But then -- and you refer to four routes. And yet when you look at the map, they have different numbers on them. So it's very difficult to cross-reference things when you don't keep all of your information together.

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The DEC -- the DEIS has to address proposals for ways to directly and indirectly decrease energy consumption. That's part of the SEQRA process. So I ask that that be done also.

And lastly, how can LIPA, a public utility and a regulatory body, act as its own lead agency. The Town of Southampton Planning Board needs to be given an opportunity to comment on the DES -- DEIS.

The DEIS has to provide information on why that Planning Board is not involved. Controversy is a very important part of the SEQRA process and there certainly is controversy in this community and the DEIS has to address it.

And last, I would just like to say it seems to me that LIPA would save a lot of money and a lot of time if they just bury the lines.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

Mayor Mark Epley.

MAYOR MARK EPLEY: Mark Epley, Village Mayor of Southampton. Thank you for holding this.

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2 The Village of Southampton on April
3 24th, the Village Board passed a resolution. It
4 was a 100 percent approval and we believe in 100
5 percent burial of the lines.

6 There's a few things that we want to
7 talk about.

8 First of all, I almost feel like
9 this is almost a joke in a lot of ways and I'll
10 tell you why.

11 In the on-line piece on the
12 Bridgehampton to Southampton transmission line
13 proposal routing options, the very last page, on
14 the next step, it says order long lead material
15 September of 2007. EIS scoping hearing, September
16 of 2007.

17 Have the long lead materials been
18 ordered before the scoping session is complete so
19 you've heard from the public? Obviously almost
20 everybody here tonight is going to speak in terms
21 of burying the lines, 100 percent burial of the
22 lines. Nothing less than that.

23 And I don't understand how you can
24 have in your schedule a lead time saying you're
25 going to purchase materials until you've heard

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from the public to determine what you're going to be doing. So I think LIPA has already made up their mind on this.

But the Village and the Town residents feel strongly that a new circuit should be placed underground. They object to the negative visual and aesthetic impacts of an overhead design and they do not want the aesthetic character of the Village and the Town of Southampton to be degraded by yet another overhead, high voltage transmission line.

In fact, LIPA met with Town representatives as early as March of 2006, with the Town -- and they met with the Town and Village representative on March 29, 2007.

I have to say that it seemed like almost everybody knew about this, the Town, the Water Mill CAC, the Southampton CAC. And LIPA showed no respect to the Village -- the municipality itself by notifying the Village Board. I was notified by a reporter from the Southampton Press who asked me my opinion on the above ground lines and I knew nothing of it. So from that standpoint we stepped off on the wrong

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foot.

The Village urges LIPA to underground the entire nine-mile line to maintain the overall community scenic beauty which is already impaired by existing overhead, high voltage lines.

The Village notes that LIPA, in June 2000, placed in service a new 22.5 mile underground, high voltage transmission cable that brings electricity to Southampton Substation from Riverhead. This cable is capable of operating at 138 kV and is presently operated at 60 kV.

The Riverhead Southampton cable demonstrates dramatically that undergrounding the presently proposed new 69 kV transmission circuit at East Port, to meet growing demand, as well as -- is well within LIPA's technical and economic grasp.

In addition, in 2005 LIPA undergrounded segments of a new 69 kV transmission line within the congested areas of Riverhead as part of the newly upgraded Riverhead Jamesport transmission upgrade on the North Folk.

LIPA in 2007 also placed in service
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2 a 65-mile under-sea cable capable of delivering
3 660 megavolts of energy into Long Island directly
4 from New Jersey. And it is rebuilding existing
5 submarine cables that interconnect Long Island
6 with Connecticut.

7 About 22 percent of LIPA's existing
8 high voltage transmission lines were underground
9 as of 2004. These facts show that the Village's
10 strong preference for undergrounding is
11 technically reasonable and consistent with recent
12 LIPA practice.

13 The increase costs of undergrounding
14 would not appear to be unreasonably high,
15 especially considering that the overall
16 alternative would blight ten miles of Southampton
17 viewshed over the next three or more decades.

18 Contentions that undergrounding the
19 new transmission circuits would be too costly,
20 would be dampened considerably by recognizing that
21 the cost differential, while paid at a time of
22 construction, should rightfully be amortized over
23 the line's expected life.

24 Moreover, modern dialectic cable and
25 technology now allows the existing and unsightly

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2 impacts of overhead transmission lines built as
3 long as 75 years ago, be completely mitigated at a
4 manageable cost as demand grows and overhead lines
5 are expanded and replaced.

6 Common sense and sound community
7 planning dictate that LIPA should adhere to such a
8 replacement and expansion policy with respect to
9 future transmission line expansions and upgrades.
10 Such a policy is, in fact, established by SEQRA
11 which directs LIPA to prevent and eliminate damage
12 to the environment.

13 The Village received a copy of
14 LIPA's Environmental Assessment positive
15 declaration finding that because of the
16 Southampton Bridgehampton transmission line
17 project may have adverse environmental impacts,
18 LIPA intends to prepare an Environmental Impact
19 Statement to evaluate the adverse impacts and how
20 they can be avoided and minimized.

21 The positive declaration notes that
22 scoping of the EIS will be done. And this Village
23 will be submitting an entire package on the
24 comments on the EIS and I'm not going to get into
25 a lot of it.

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But the one thing is that this goes through a historic district and a couple of the options end up in its historic district in the Village of Southampton. And the fact that LIPA has deemed that there's no adverse impact of the historic district, any time you remove a pole it impacts historic district.

And finally, the Village also is going to reserve our right to assert our zoning laws in the Village of Southampton.

And let me just if you didn't get the gist of my statement here, bury the lines 100 percent. You can do it. We can find the money. I'm willing to work with you guys and do what we have to do and I understand the increase in demands of electricity. It's needed. There's no one in this room who's not saying it's not needed.

Bury the lines. Bury them, bury them, bury them, bury them, bury them.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Carl Negro.
That first letter, is that an N or a U?

MR. CARL NIGRO: N. Nigro.

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THE PRESIDING OFFICER: I'm sorry.

MR. CARL NIGRO: Hi. My name is Carl Nigro. I live at XXX Lower Seven Ponds with my wife and seven-year-old triplets.

Now, I sort of resent LIPA for adding the perception of official sanction by hiring an ex-county Judge to oversee the proceedings.

The problem with the power lines is we live in a tourist community. I'm in real estate. We're one of the only real estate markets that is not devastated in this country. We survive by our vineyards, our farm stands and our open fields.

People come out here to enjoy the Hamptons. It is the Disney World for adults. Now, a public company would not see that. Disney World would not put power lines all over their parks because they know it would detract from people coming there.

I live day-to-day with the shortsightedness of public decisions as far as I live on the 39 Bypass. I can't get my kids on the school bus without a car passing the bus once a

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week. I can't see oncoming traffic because of existing poles.

Presently, is there a study done in the EIS form to look into the speed of the traffic going down these roads? I can't even have a mailbox. I've lost seven mailboxes. You're going to put power lines in?

Then you also have underground aquifers. Are you going to put conical piles through these aquifers?

We're also in a flood plane. I don't know if you know part of it is through a flood plane. Is the DEIS going to address the fact that the power lines are going through a flood plane?

You know. That's it. I mean bury the lines. As a young man, a gentleman who just immigrated from Europe, he said only a conquered nation puts their power lines above ground. We are not a conquered nation. Bury them.

(Laughter & applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Mr. Nigro.
Mr. Nigro?

MR. CARL NIGRO: Yes.

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THE PRESIDING OFFICER: I just want to point out one thing to you. I am not hired by LIPA as such. I am here merely to make sure that everyone has an opportunity to be heard. Everything is taken down by the court reporter.

MR. CARL NIGRO: I understand.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Everything will be reported back to LIPA. I make no decision as to anything that happens in this --

MR. CARL NIGRO: I think that went into the planning in their decision to pick you and as well, the timing of this coinciding with the primary and the school.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Well, I just wanted you to know my position.

MR. CARL NIGRO: I know, but I find that LIPA is an iron fist in a velvet glove. The horse is out of the barn and you're having a search for the horse that's still in the barn.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Robert Hertzia, Hertzka?

MR. ROBERT HERTZKA: Yes. I think my answers have all been addressed.

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Thank you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Robert
Simonson.

MR. ROBERT SIMONSON: My issues have
been addressed as well, but I'd like to cede my
time, if need be, to anyone that may need it.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Anna-Marie
Garret Wellins.

MS. ANNA-MARIE WELLINS: Hello. My
name is Anna-Marie Wellins.

I am a resident of Water Mill. I've
been living in Water Mill for over 20 years. I was
born in New York City, raised in New York City and
love living out here on the East End.

I don't think I really have anything
else to add to what has already been discussed,
but a couple of things.

I was at the meeting at the Water
Mill Community House about a month ago. I did have
an opportunity to speak to the LIPA representative
there. I don't recall any of them living in the
area. But I did ask a very basic question: Why
can't the lines be buried? And the answer was
cost.

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I find it really amazing that that was -- you know, that that was the response. I do know that states, including the Carolinas, bury their lines. If the Carolinas and other states can bury their lines, why can't we bury the lines? It just doesn't make sense.

Just one comment about the electromagnetic radiation.

There was a lot of discussion about the natural wildlife. The most vulnerable population that's effected by the increased electricity emanating from these lines are children.

It's been documented in many, many studies that the rate of leukemia increases in areas where there are electrical lines, particularly high-voltage electrical lines.

And my comment is, is this the legacy that we're going to leave our children on the East End.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

Margury Freedman. It looks like the

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last name is Freesima.

(No response.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Sandra
Dunn?

MS. SANDRA DUNN: Hi. My name is
Sandra Dunn.

I'm a resident of Hampton Bays and
I'm a democratic candidate for the Southampton
Town Board this year.

I won't rehearse the arguments that
have been presented in relation to aesthetics,
environment, safety and health because people have
presented those arguments very eloquently.

I will only say that I agree 100
percent with the need to bury the lines. That's
imperative.

I appreciate the opportunity that
LIPA's giving for everybody to speak out about
this issue. But I will echo what Ms. Toni Maloney
said earlier which is that a real dialogue needs
to happen and it needs to be at least a three-way
dialogue, among Village and town officials, among
the community and LIPA. Not just a forum where we
say our piece and then we go home. But I think a

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forum needs to be created where people can sit down together, where there can be real question and answer and real conversation about this.

And I think it's interesting and commendable that the loudest voice here has been the voice of the community. However, I would like to see the Town and other officials being more active and proactive in relation to making sure that a forum is created where real dialogue can happen.

And this is more of a question than a comment.

My understanding is that the previous power authority, LILCO, had a plan in place to bury all power lines some years ago. I would like to know why LIPA hasn't followed through on that plan and with that idea.

And I'd like to end by saying that this is not just a Water Mill issue. It's not just a Southampton Village or Bridgehampton issue. I'm a resident of Hampton Bays. I'm very concerned about this.

I'm a mother of seven-year-old twins. If it can happen here in Water Mill or

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Southampton Village or Bridgehampton, it can happen anywhere in Southampton Town. But it's also not just a Southampton Town issue. It's a Long Island-wide issue. It's a regional issue. It's a national issue.

Southampton Town has the opportunity to be a model community. And I think that it's wonderful that these members of the community are here to speak out meeting after meeting.

Please continue to hold these meetings, but in order for Southampton to be a model community we need to show that there is one place in this country that does know how to preserve its environment and this is it. And please help us to do that by burying the lines.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.
(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Sherry Cohen?

MS. SHERRY COHEN: I'm Sherry Cohen.

And I'm lucky enough to have a house in Water Mill. I'm not lucky enough to be able to live in it every day, but some day.

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I -- it would seem to me that by definition the fact that the plan includes burying the lines in a portion of the route answers the question. It's about money. And if the reason that the lines can't all be buried is about money, then I think the report that you are -- that has to be -- that we're talking about tonight really has to address what efforts LIPA has made to save money in other areas.

It would seem to me that if -- if the only reason that the lines cannot be buried is because of money, than LIPA should address what cost saving -- that they've exhausted all cost savings methods, including the salaries of their executives, their collective bargaining agreements.

(Laughter & applause.)

MS. SHERRY COHEN: In other words, they -- why don't we have the money? That's a question I think that should be answered.

And just a commentary about the need -- the fact -- I don't think its appropriate for us to be presented with scare tactics that if this is not done by the next summer, all kinds of

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terrible things are going to happen. I think all of us would be willing to, if it means being inconvenienced next summer by power outages, it's a small price to pay for the proper investigation of this issue.

And the reason you need more electricity is because of the development of this area. And the development of this area is the thing that's going to spoil the area. And I grew up in Nassau County, most of my life in the Huntington area. I pass an apartment complex that looks like Queens now and I remembered when that was a farm.

And every little breaking down of aesthetics leads to the next one so that these power lines will become a precedent for the next power lines. So I think you should address that as well.

And I second all the very educated comments made by people who are more familiar with the technicalities of this.

And I also would hope that -- I'm a lawyer by training and we have the expression in the legal -- substance over form or form over

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substance. And I hope that tonight is not form
over substance.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.
(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Marilyn
Kirkbright.

MS. MARILYN KIRKBRIGHT: Hi. I'm
Marilyn Kirkbright, a resident of Water Mill.

And I agree pretty much with
everything everybody said.

As far as the cost, which was
presented to me at the last meeting, I have a
personal example of this.

On my street we put -- part of my
street, we put the wires underground. And prior
to that we had about eight outages a year. And in
those last six years since we put the wires
underground we've had zero, zero.

So if they're talking about cost,
what are the man hours and materials for replacing
those poles and wires every year for six years
they've saved on our street.

So I don't know that the cost issue
is a real one. Maybe initial outlay, but

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definitely not a cost. It's -- as a lot of people were saying, take the long view. Well, six years isn't exactly a long view. But we've already saved LIPA thousands and thousands and I don't see why that wouldn't hold throughout lot calmer areas than where I live.

And another issue I would like to present is that in Water Mill this summer we had a wire down. And no cars -- now, we know no matter how many poles you put or how tall they are, it's the wires that come down.

And the wires were across the highway and there was a backup for hours. And you sit there looking at this sign that says "evacuation route" and you can't go anywhere. It's really frightening.

I think there's no alternative. Really, we need to bury the lines.

Thanks.
(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.
Pat Armusewicz.

A VOICE: Armechevitz.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: It's a

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tough last name.

A-R-M-U-S-E --

VOICES: Armichevitz.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Armichevitz?

(No response.)

A VOICE: I don't see her.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Not here.

All right. Thank you.

Tom Perez.

MR. TOM PEREZ: I want to thank you
for enabling me to speak.

A VOICE: Your name.

MR. TOM PEREZ: I was at the last
meeting.

A VOICE: What's your name?

MR. TOM PEREZ: Name is Tom Perez.
I live in Water Mill. I've lived
there for about 27 years and lived in Sagaponack
before then.

You know, we spend hundreds of
million of dollars have been spent on open space
preservation. And running these lines overhead on
the route that they call route 2 I believe it is,
you know, it's just crazy. We've already spent so

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many millions and millions of dollars to keep our land pristine, to keep it open. Just to be throwing up these poles is beyond my imagining.

You know, LIPA's concerned about, I forget what their cost estimate was, \$20 million or something like that. I mean that's peanuts compared to what we spend and what we will be spending in the future and to be considering that, really we should run them underground.

And actually -- we should actually start running all the distribution lines underground, i think all the lines along the road. LIPA should not be so shortsighted but should be thinking ahead, not five years, ten years, but think ahead 50 years. All these distribution lines along this route should now be put underground too, I believe.

The devaluation of property, you know, you've heard different amounts given. It could be well over that. And in 20 years it's going to be extremely high what the devaluation of property will have been.

And this ten-year estimate, five to ten-year estimate that this wire will satisfy the

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needs, ten years, that's like tomorrow. That is no time. And, you know, I've never been given a time frame for when this Bridgehampton Substation -- when is that going to become obsolete. As it is now, what I've seen in their design, that's huge. That's going to be an eyesore.

So I think LIPA kind of reminds me of the way LILCO was 20 some odd years ago. They have no care -- no concern for the general public. They're really concerned about their own financial well being, about having their executives with nice, fat severance pay packages and whatever they want they'll do it irregardless of what the public thinks.

As Mayor Epley said, they've already begun ordering materials for this project, a project that they're not even sure what they're supposed to be doing yet because they're supposed to be getting Environmental Impact Statements.

You know, how can an organization order material for something they're not even sure what they're going to build because they already have it in their minds. Yeah, we're going to stick this through in Water Mill irregardless of

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what the public says, irregardless of what the local politicians say, irregardless of anybody. We're going to do what we want to do.

Goodnight.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Catherine Milligan. Catherine Milligan?

(No response.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Jean Marie Hazelton.

MS. JEAN MARIE HAZELTON: Good evening, Judge.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Good evening.

MS. JEAN MARIE HAZELTON: My name is Jean Marie Hazelton. And I live diagonally across from the Southampton Village substation.

I'm also an attorney and I filed a lawsuit on behalf of myself and the citizens of the Village of Southampton against LIPA.

There's an action presently pending before the Honorable Justice Peter Fox Cohalen.

In that lawsuit I asked the Court to
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2 direct LIPA to provide us with all the notes,
3 minutes and writings made in reference to this
4 proposal. I asked them for, among other things,
5 their cost benefit analysis.

6 On July 5, 2007, we received
7 responsive papers from Steven Russo, who when I
8 walked in, who is the attorney for LIPA sitting in
9 the back of the room.

10 According to LIPA, "there has been
11 -- this is as of July 5, 2007. "There has been no
12 cost benefit analysis made with reference to this
13 project.

14 I asked for all notes, minutes and
15 writings made with reference to any meetings they
16 had with residents, officials and employees of the
17 Village and Town of Southampton concerning the
18 project. And the response we got was there was no
19 writings, no minutes, no notes.

20 What kind of public authority has
21 employees going to minute -- meetings for years
22 and nothing is in writing. No e-mail
23 correspondence, not one note to paper. Yet this
24 is what they told a Court of law.

25 If you look on LIPA's website, you

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would find that there was a final LIPA energy plan, which is 500 pages long, which I printed out and read and which was passed by resolution on July -- on June 23, 2004. That was supposed to encompass the plan of the energy for the years 2004 to 2013.

A listing of all the transmission plans that were committed, planned or under study for the years 2004 through 2013 reveals that this project for Southampton was never even contemplated as of that date.

I want to know in this Environmental Impact review that they're going to do, which people are going to look and analyze the needs and all the factors? Because obviously the people who did this study going through to bring us to 2013 are inciteful, incompetent, I could go on.

But how come this project was never even contemplated in the final plan that LIPA voted on?

Then within two years they started meeting with Town representatives, meeting with no representatives from the village of Southampton.

I want -- in this evaluation there's a concern

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2 about electromagnetic fields. According to LIPA's
3 own energy plan - and this is on their website and
4 I printed it out -- "electric and magnetic fields
5 can cause small electric fields in humans. But
6 there is some evidence that they might effect cell
7 function.

8 Some of these investigations suggest
9 that exposure to EMF, electromagnetic fields, may
10 possibly be related to a number of health effects.

11 The research completed so far raises
12 many unanswered questions. Extensive further
13 research is needed. In studies that have been
14 done show that there's increased likelihood of
15 childhood leukemia and childhood brain cancer.

16 I want to know if in the cost
17 benefit analysis they're going to evaluate the
18 cost of treating the 600 catholic school children
19 that will be under this electromagnetic field
20 through grades kindergarten through eighth grade
21 and all the other children that reside in the
22 areas along, I think the ten-mile route.

23 I want to know if they're evaluating
24 what the cost to take care of these children and
25 what the effects on the loss of these children are

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2 from their parents.

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4 I want know why, when we met with
5 the LIPA representatives in the Water Mill
6 Community House a month ago, that not one of them
7 had any idea that the Southampton Village was a
8 designated historic district.

9

10 And I want to know who is going to
11 actually be doing the research. Because since
12 they've been involved in this now allegedly for
13 two years just with Skip Heaney and Jeff Murphree
14 driving around the town, why -- why anybody else
15 is going to do this research that has some
16 knowledge. Skip Heaney told me I know nothing
17 about electricity. So I don't think you can rely
18 on the present Supervisor.

19

20 I also wonder why you scheduled this
21 tonight on primary day when Scappeni has opponents
22 that are trying to un-seed him through a primary.
23 Now, I didn't get to vote here because I think
24 this is important as well. I mean which one -- you
25 know, it was a terrible, a terrible thing that
they did. And they also have on back to school
night.

26

I mean what -- what concerns --

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who's making the decision? And this was supposed to be -- this draft, which was dated on August 27th, was supposed to be circulated to everybody. They sent us a postcard. This was not on the website until about ten days ago. I was supposed to get a copy of this from the lawsuit to Mr. Russo. I didn't get any of these papers.

A VOICE: I saw a banner on my neighbor's fence.

MS. JEAN MARIE HAZELTON: So in sum --

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: I think you have to limit yourself to three minutes.

MS. JEAN MARIE HAZELTON: Okay. I'm going to say I think that LIPA, it all boils down to dollars and cents. I think that some of the things that LIPA undertakes, the mailings when I get all my bills. I mean most of it is complete junk. The public relations stuff they shove in there, what does that cost? What does that cost to mail that to everybody on Long Island?

(Applause.)

MS. JEAN MARIE HAZELTON: And how come when I pay bill -- I don't have to pay the 41

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cents. I have to pay every other bill, I have to pay 41 cents. Why are they giving a freebie to everybody for the bills?

And if you have more than one electrical meter -- I've tried to save stamps, LIPA stamps. I've tried 'cause in my house I have, for some reason there's four electrical meters and they say they can't be joined. Okay. So each month I send in four separate checks.

I've tried writing one check and itemizing what it's for. That doesn't work because they'll cut me off. Whoever does it will only put it on one account. So then I tried writing separate checks and putting them all in one envelope for the 41 cents. No, because they'll still put it on one account. So I have to use every one of those free envelopes.

And I think there's really other ways that LIPA can save money instead of risking our lives.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Jeffrey Levitt.

MR. JEFFREY LEVITT: That will be a ROY ALLEN & ASSOCIATES, INC., (212) 840-1167

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tough one to follow.

(Laughter.)

MR. JEFFREY LEVITT: My name is Jeff Levitt. I've been a part-time Water Mill resident since '83. And I currently have property on Winding Way in the middle of what I'll call the hot zone between two of the proposed routes.

I think it should be more than clear to LIPA by now that the entire population in the effected area is totally against the overhead lines. They're completely out of character with the area and inappropriate for these proposed locations.

This is not Old County Road in Westbury. This is not Jericho Turnpike in Commack. This is some of the oldest and most beautiful rural vistas in the entire United States. They're cherished by those of us lucky enough to live here and by the visitors that come here from all over the world.

Everybody wants the lines buried. To me, the issue is not whether to bury the lines but how to pay for the burial. This whole meeting is all about money.

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LIPA, now our government officials, should urgently arrange to sit down and analyze the real additional costs for burying these lines versus overhead lines, including looking at future costs for damage and maintenance, and then figure out where the extra money will come from if there even is an added cost.

But if creative solutions are needed, lets get creative. Our Town collects a fortune in taxes every year to preserve our open land and our beautiful vistas. We can certainly find a way to avoid putting 61-foot tall metal poles through the middle of these reserve farm fields.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: John Higdom.

MR. JOHN HIGDOM: Good evening.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Good evening.

MR. JOHN HIGDOM: My name is John Higdom. I've been a resident of Water Mill for over 20 years now.

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We came out here for the vistas,
because of the beauty. During the past 20 years
the values have also gone up and has a tremendous
impact on property values. I'm also lucky enough
to have a property in Garden City.

A VOICE: Use the mike, please.

MR. JOHN HIGDOM: Sorry.

I'm also lucky enough to have a
property in Garden City. And I will tell you that
you can drive through Garden City and not see a
power line, that's because they're buried in the
street. Now, I can tell you that Stewart Avenue
is a very nice block, but it does not compare to
Seven Ponds Road or Scuttle Hole.

Bury the lines we like the vistas
and there's an economic value to it.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thomas
Shea.

MR. THOMAS SHEA: Good evening.

My name is Tom Shea. I live in
Water Mill.

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Many of the things that I have written down to speak about have been addressed by other people. But there are two specific things that I would like to make sure are incorporated in the Environmental Impact Statement.

On Head of Pond Road in a very small area between the Lower Seven Pond and the Town of Water Mill's break in the road, there is an extremely high water table. Now, I think several -- one person before mentioned something about groundwater, and one of the other speakers prior to Toni Maloney, who mentioned about the stability of poles.

The water table is approximately five foot in that area. If you put a 60-foot pole up, you have to go down a considerable number of feet for stability. But if you're going down into wet subsoil, how is that going to be addressed? How is it going to be handled environmentally? I think it's very important.

Also, in that section of road there is drainage, or water flow, underground water flow from the Old Seven Ponds area in the north, which LIPA probably knows very little about, which

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drains under the road in a culvert which is actually a stream that feeds Mill Pond.

Now, this is something that has to be considered. This is environmental and I really think it's very important. It's a small stretch of the option two proposal.

There's another thing which I'm not positive fits environmental concern, but it's neighborhood concern.

Two of the areas on the option two proposal, where area lines have been proposed, are through enclaves of the minority communities in the Town of Southampton. One in Southampton Village and one approaching Bridgehampton Sag Turnpike.

These people are economically in a different category than many of the people who are here tonight. They are people who don't have expensive homes. They don't have second homes. They are people who are scraping.

If their properties are further devalued by 60-foot poles in front of them, I think that is unconscionable. So these two things I feel must be considered in any complete

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Environmental Impact Statement.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Anna
Throne-Holst.

MS. ANNA THRONE-HOLST: My name is
Anna Throne-Holst.

I live in Sag Harbor. I am a
candidate for Southampton Town Board.

I have been to, I think, all your of
your hearings on this and begin to feel what I
think most people in this room feel, that we've
been treated to these hearings but with little
sense that anything is being done or that we are
being heard.

So I traveled up to the County
Executive's office to meet with Kevin Law, the
incoming Chairman of LIPA, and asked what he knew
of this issue. And asked that he, at the very
least, hold off on any decisions being made until
he had time to educate himself and take on his new
office.

He promised me that he would do

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that, that he would spend the next few days educating himself on it and get back to me. I have, to date, not heard back from him.

I think, as you've heard tonight, this is a community that cares deeply about the health and beauty of its environment and that the health and beauty of our environment impacts on our property values as well as our economic well being as a whole.

So I think we all share concern when we heard about LIPA's plan to put new and larger utility poles in here. And I think that we also shared the sense of shock when we saw the actual renderings of these poles. They are huge. They have rows of big arms. They are ugly and they will never fit into our environment.

It has also been explained to those of us who have looked into this further, that the technology and the materials for the underground lines are far more up to date. They are well resistant to weather and general wear and tear.

And it's a puzzlement to us then why it is that a good part of these poles are going to be over ground and other underground and the only

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2 reasonable explanation is that this is a cost
3 issue.

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5 So I think at this point we need to
6 be given a full proposal for what it will cost to
7 bury all of the lines and what impact this will
8 have on our utility bills, and what is being done
9 to offset some of those costs such as looking into
10 special tax districts, special rate structures
11 based on usage, or the impact on an overall rate
12 increase for all of us, or a bond issue to address
13 these costs.

14

15 And I'd also like to ask if there is
16 an independent oversight entity to look over the
17 proposal such as this that we can then be treated
18 to.

19

20 And I guess in the spirit of full
21 disclosure, any questions that you've been asked I
22 think we would like to hear how it is that you,
23 Your Honor, were asked to preside over this
24 process. And why it is that this is not a
25 community panel sitting before us with
26 representatives from our community, as well as
27 LIPA and why none of our town officials are here,
28 and who is, in fact, paying you.

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1

2 Thank you.

2

3 (Applause.)

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4 THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Kerry Jon

4

5 Macwuinnie.

5

6 MR. KERRY MACWUINNIE: That's me,

6

7 Your Honor.

7

8 Good evening, Your Honor.

8

9 THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Good

9

10 evening.

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11 MR. KERRY MACWUINNIE: Thank you for

11

12 having us this evening.

12

13 I have a lot of things to say.

13

14 A VOICE: Your name.

14

15 MR. KERRY MACWUINNIE: My name is

15

16 Kerry Jon Macwuinnie, XXX Head of Pond Road.

16

17 A lot of wonderful things have been

17

18 said this evening. A thousand things have been

18

19 covered. Good statistics by the Mayor. Ms. Dunn

19

20 was wonderful.

20

21 Sitting here for two hours I've come

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22 up with a simple solution that these lines can --

22

23 you have buried these lines. You can bury these

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24 lines and you will bury these lines.

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25 Of all these wonderful people that

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have spoke before us, cost, cost, cost, cost,
cost, cost has come up. Interesting factor,
somebody mentioned \$20 million to bury the lines
in the hot spot which is under discussion in Water
Mill. Ironically enough, myself and some of these
people know homeowners that are building \$20
million homes.

With that said, I think this cost
could be absorbed. A very simple solution -- and
this is directed to LIPA who's sitting in the
back. Nobody has given consideration to the fact
that on the existing poles lives Long Island Power
Authority, cable TV, telephone, including the
homeowners on that list. We could share that cost
between four people.

An example, my one-acre lot in Water
Mill if it was to cost \$50,000 to bury the cable
in front of my home, LIPA could come up with
\$12,500, Cablevision could donate \$12,500, and the
telephone company could donate \$12,500.

And LIPA, in the back, I would love
to sign a form next time I come here to donate my
\$12,500 to bury the cable in front of my home.

Thank you.

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(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Jim Henry.

MR. KERRY MACWUINNIE: It's not that complicated, folks. Let's all do it together, all right. I'm hungry, I'm tired, I've got to go home.

(Laughter & applause.)

MR. KERRY MACWUINNIE: Your Honor, one more thing, for real.

Let's talk about long-term savings. And LIPA, this is directed at you.

There were a couple of valid points made this evening regarding the maintenance and the knocked down poles, and this wonderful woman who, for six years has had a cable buried in front of her house with zero problems.

If you very simply - and LIPA you can do this yourselves - if you take the cost of the heavy machinery it's going to take to install these poles, the purchase of these poles, that's one investment which can be matched by burying it. There's not a problem in the mathematical offset.

The maintenance on the above-ground poles is going to be staggering with your new beam

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trucks and boom trucks and buckets and safety nets
and harnesses and things of that nature --

Pardon?

A VOICE: And man hours.

MR. KERRY MACWUINNIE: And -- oh,
pardon me. And man hours. Thank you.

A VOICE: Workmens' Comp.

MR. KERRY MACWUINNIE: And
Workmens' Comp.

-- that we are creating another --
there's a hidden cost here and it is the higher
pole, the higher -- I mean it's common sense, Your
Honor.

And you know something, in no
disrespect to you, I don't know you. I am hungry
and I'm tired so don't take this the wrong way.
But the fact that you're here is wonderful, but
the fact you have no decision making in this
particular event is, you know, forgive me, is
silly.

The gentleman or the woman before me
indicated that there are no Town Board members.
There are -- there's nobody here to defend us.
You're just simply taking notes. That's all you're

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doing. No disrespect to you.

But the people in the back from LIPA, the next time I see you, instead of me filling out something to oppose you or to fight you or to contradict you, how about I fill out a form to donate my 25 percent to bury the cable because I'm in. I'm in.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Mr. Macwuinnie, I just want to make sure that everyone has an opportunity be heard.

MR. KERRY MACWUINNIE: Oh, no, sir.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: That's the purpose of my being here.

MR. KERRY MACWUINNIE: Yes, sir.

But I learned from two different participants that you don't make a decision.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: That's true.

MR. KERRY MACWUINNIE: I'm not holding it against you. I'm not holding it against you. I just think that there's a -- I think that there's been a lot of wonderful information shared here this evening. And my --

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from my heart I think that if you were involved in the decision making, I think you would bury the lines.

(Applause & laughter.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Mr. Henry.

MR. JIM HENRY: It's hard to follow that decision, that view or improve upon it.

But I think -- my name is Jim Henry.

I'm a Sag Harbor resident. I'm a democratic candidate for Supervisor. I'm here to lend my support to our sister community, Water Mill.

It seems to me that this is a no-brainer and Southampton Town should have taken charge of this issue months ago. The fact that Skip Heaney doesn't know anything about electricity is no excuse for his not showing up at this hearing and protesting very loudly this proposal.

(Applause.)

MR. JIM HENRY: This is part of a general pattern of communities having to stand up and demand action to preserve their values and the values of their community. We're forced here with

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a very powerful monopoly, LIPA, which already charges us some of the highest electricity rates in New York State.

But this process I think is a terrible example of listening. There is no dialogue. We were informed very late in the day about this process in July. The Village, as we heard from Mayor Epley, wasn't informed at all.

It's almost as if you were waiting for this crisis to arrive and then almost forced through as if, you know, this is something that you absolutely had to do at the last minute, forcing a decision to be made because we have load growth problems next summer and have outages if we didn't respond.

In fact, load growth projects for electricity are something I know something about. I've consulted, as an economist, to some of the best managed utilities in the world.

Transalta Utilities, a Canadian company that charges two cents per kilowatt hour for its electricity versus the 20 to 25 cents we pay out here.

The Swedish Power Board, a very well

1
2 managed, publicly owned utility which also like
3 Transalta, buries the poles. They have best
4 practices. LIPA is not a well managed company.
5 Never has been. Barely struggles to break even.

6 And in this case -- it's not
7 surprising that they haven't, in this case, been
8 able to justify, when you look at the economics of
9 this closely, as well as the safety, environmental
10 and substantial sort of aesthetic impacts of this
11 project, to justify this proposal.

12 The last session I was at, which
13 considered this in the Water Mill Community
14 Center, LIPA spokesmen claimed that there would be
15 a \$9 million additional cost compared with their
16 55 percent burial base case in order to have 100
17 percent burial. They don't have any independent
18 analysts coming up with that figure. But I took a
19 shot at examining it a little more closely.

20 And what I found is, first of all,
21 as some other speakers have noted, they left the
22 maintenance costs of the above ground pole
23 structures completely out of that calculation.
24 They assumed that the land acquisition costs would
25 be at market prices compared with what we might be

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able to obtain if we had some of the procedures used by people like the Peconic Land Trust involved in acquiring the rights for the underground lines.

They didn't provide any credits for the cost for the additional risks involved here with the interconnection scheme that they've imposed with the costs of traffic accidents. You know, it's very hard to hit an underground line but it's not hard to hit one over with a car that's above ground.

People talked about bird life, about the risks or emissions and the hurricane risk, which I'll remind our observers here that the hurricane in '38 was not a class 2 or a class 3. There were parts of the time there -- this is the hurricane that created the Canal, the Shinnecock Canal.

It was a class four hurricane and that's why property insurers out here are withdrawing from the market because they expect another intervention, not ten years out, but much sooner.

The other basic thing -- I also

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mentioned the fact that the above ground approach would foreclose the idea of bike paths, which I think is something that's sorely needed out here. And that would have a devastating effect on the aesthetics and the property values, as other people have noted.

The final point I'd make about this is that this piecemeal approach plan, you know, stage by stage, section by section, ten miles now here, ten miles later, when we move out to Easthampton, you know, it almost seems like you've designed this process to balkanize it, to make it hard for voters and communities of all of Southamptton Town to stand up and organize against this.

We know that load growth is growing at six percent, seven percent. There is no energy conservation plan. We've had enormous amounts of development of large houses out here. The Town of Southamptton has done nothing to incent the adoption of sustainable energy.

You take a town like Aspen, Colorado, they provide -- if you have a new house that's 4,000 square feet or larger, you either

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have to solarize it or you have to pay into a fund to have other people adopt solar energy to the same extent that you're creating new load growth.

So that's the kind of incentive we can provide for conservation. And on our side of the story we have an obligation to think about adding a green plan to our master plan, to think about energy conservation which is something that we build into our forecast.

Because the reason these transmission lines are built ultimately is because those mansions are growing and they're all having air conditioning and a lot of them are being left on day in and day out whether people are there.

So there are things that we should be doing on our side. We have to fess up to that responsibility. But this pole problem is one where we demand that you bury the poles.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: John Bennett.

MR. JOHN BENNETT: Thank you for the opportunity to speak, Your Honor.

My name is John Bennett. I'm a
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resident of Southampton.

I'm a lawyer and I have I guess what I would call the exquisite joy of walking two of my five children to school every morning not that far from where this project is located so I'm very concerned about that.

Mayor Epley had a significant point in terms of his comparison of other completed buried line projects with this one.

Under the case law of the State of New York -- I'd be more than happy to present your counsel with it. It's the Fields Delivery Service case and its progeny. You have to -- there must be an explanation as to why conditions, in this case burying lines, were imposed in one application but in not a similar application.

I saw nothing in your scoping document that addressed itself to that. And I would suggest that therefore the scoping document itself without such an inclusion would be fatally flawed.

If dollars is the explanation, then there must be some sort of detailed and reasoned elaboration of that. And reasoned elaboration is

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2 something that comes out of the SEQRA document. It
3 can't be just because LILCO says so. That's, on
4 its face, inadequate.

5 What SEQRA also requires is a
6 presentation of meaningful and reasonable
7 alternatives.

8 The alternatives that are addressed
9 or indicated in the scoping document, one of them,
10 the Montauk Highway Alternative, which turns south
11 on North Sea Road to Windmill Lane to Nugent
12 Street to Hampton Road, I can't believe that the
13 creator of the scoping document actually thought
14 that was anything other than a fanciful
15 alternative that would be in position of this
16 project right through the heart of the downtown
17 Village area.

18 So that is not truly a meaningful
19 alternative and it should come out of your scoping
20 document.

21 Cursory review was given only -- and
22 I know this is a scoping document, but a cursory
23 look was given at the impact of electromagnetic
24 fields. I don't know what a "study based upon
25 current literature means." You have to define

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that because current literature seems to me to be the literature that the person who's generating the DEIS and ultimately the FEIS chooses.

It is important to note certain things. And I was able to find this. I'm not a scientist, but I was able to find this with just the third or fourth click of the mouse on Google.

The California Health Department's final report on power frequency EMF was published in October 13 of 2002.

This seven-year, \$9 million study concludes that there is increased risk of childhood leukemia, adult brain cancer, Lou Gehrig's Disease and miscarriage as a result of non-buried transmission lines. The evaluation further concludes that magnetic fields may cause adult leukemia.

The State of Connecticut passed by overwhelming margins in early May 2004, a law that requires power lines to be buried if they pass near residences, schools, hospitals, or other sensitive facilities.

I saw no indication as to what this "current literature" would be. And certainly I'm

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very suspect about how that will be defined.
There should be a serious discussion of these --
of these impacts other than some cursory statement
that there is no proven medical impact.

On this point, Mr. Redding's comment
about a comparative look at the electromagnetic
fields generated by burying as opposed to overhead
transmission lines seems particularly pertinent.
And I saw, again, no meaningful discussion
whatsoever in your scoping document.

And so the scoping document, which
as we all know, and as your counsel will tell you,
provides what is going to be in the DEIS. It
seems, in my humble opinion, quite inadequate and
drafted, if I may, with the result already in
mind. And that's not what the State Environmental
Quality Review is supposed to be.

It's supposed to be a law that gives
you a document that creates -- it's supposed to be
a choice document. It's supposed to be a document
that creates, particularly for a public applicant
such as yourself as opposed to a private
applicant, various meaningful choices. And I'm
afraid that it doesn't, based upon my reading of

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the scoping document, do that.

It appears that there has been no attempt to find other sources of income or consideration of a tax -- a rate increase, which my opinion would be that as an alternative or as a further means of doing away with those overhead transmission lines, which has an incredible deleterious effect on the property values, that the average rate payer would be -- would welcome a rate increase. That's my personal opinion. But I think from a cost benefit point of view it would be welcomed.

I thank you for the opportunity to speak and obviously it is my opinion that these lines should be buried throughout the Town, as they are in Easthampton.

I've always thought -- I'm a local guy who grew up here and I always thought it was very interesting that many of the lines are buried in Easthampton. It seemed LIPA -- or it's actually LILCO, it's the previous administration, sort of as it was, seemed to be able to do it in that community. They should be able to do it here.

Thank you.

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THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.
Doctor Ed Kush.

A VOICE: Didn't hear you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Dr. Ed
Kush.

MR. ED KUSH: Yes. My name is Ed
Kush and I live in Water Mill.

And I'm an engineering consultant
and especially in aerospace research and in
various aspects of energy, including wind energy.

I just want to bring up the fact
that we are indeed subject to higher winds on the
East End, especially the South Fork, that can be
seen in a wind energy map that's on the Internet
from ASW Scientific from whom LIPA obtains its
wind energy data.

It points out or it shows that there
are higher velocities certainly over the water.
There's a reason that LIPA wants to put windmills
up because we have high winds out here.

Now, the force due to wind is equal
to the velocity squared, proportion to velocity
squared. So if you double the wind velocity, you
have four times the force to knock over a pole.

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But the power, which is really the action that does things, is proportional to the Q. So that's two times two times two, eight times. So when the wind is only ten percent higher, you might have 30 percent higher action to knock something over.

Now, that also comes out in the fact that if the poles are higher, there's a wind profile. In turbulent flow it's one-to-the one-seventh power. But it goes like this. That's why windmills are put up on towers so the higher you go the higher the velocity is. So the higher poles will be subject to more force. And not just the poles, as one gentleman brought out, it's the accoutrements and especially the cables and wires that can come down.

Now, I would add, I think from my own observations, that there are carters in micrometeorology, especially in Water Mill.

One example I saw was, being a volunteer fireman, I do monitor the scanner. One night there was a modest little wind storm. It was not a hurricane. It was not even listed on the radio. But six poles came down from the south to

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2 the north blocking Montauk Highway opposite
3 Dunmore (phonetic) Winery. Those -- one of those
4 poles came down on a car and people were trapped
5 in it. But if this were during a hurricane, there
6 would be no way you could evacuate that road.

7 Now, LIPA fixed those poles pretty
8 darn fast. Did a very good job. But consequently a
9 lot of people didn't know it happened. So my point
10 is the fact that we have stronger winds out here
11 leads us to physically, engineering-wise, address
12 the fact that we should put the cable underground.

13 You can't legislate the law of
14 physics. The winds are here.

15 Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Carol
18 Havemeyer. Carol Havemeyer?

19 VOICES: Ceal?

20 THE PRESIDING OFFICER: I'm sorry.
21 Ceal.

22 I'm sorry. That's just my eyes. Not
23 your writing.

24 MS. CEAL HAVEMEYER: Thank you for
25 having this open house. But I, too, have to say a

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little bit that I wish the scheduling had been better. There is a primary tonight. My husband is there.

A VOICE: Name.

MS. CEAL HAVEMEYER: My name is Ceal Havemeyer.

I live at XXX Montauk Highway. I happen to be a neighbor of LIPA. And until this evening I didn't know that you were going to be expanding your plant there. And I'd very much like to know why, as a neighbor, haven't I been notified.

Here in the Village I also have a house. I'm adding onto the deck. I've had to write every one of my neighbors a certified letter to let them know that I'm just simply enclosing my little deck.

LIPA apparently is putting up or would like to put up 60-foot poles as wide as your table, through our little Village streets along our rural roads, and Bridgehampton and yet I don't believe that anybody, certainly I haven't, have gotten anything identifying us or letting us know that this is happening.

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I think this is a terrible idea. I do believe they ought to be buried. I think they're ugly. They're enormous. They're going to be jutting over everything.

I'd like to know how many trees we'll be losing as well. Just a few years ago LIPA, in its wisdom, decided to cut down over 120 trees along a two-mile stretch, Water Mill South to Bridgehampton. And I saw that and created a little bit of a fuss. I hung up sheets. I hung up big signs protesting it.

We got a lot of media coverage and within six weeks Mr. Kessel was saying he was very sorry after saying at the beginning, oh, no, we've really only taken down a few trees. Not so.

It really changed the look of our area. Not only did we get an apology from Mr. Kessel, we got a \$100,000 check to replant.

Now there are a lot more people here that are very unhappy with this proposal. A lot of people you don't see here. As someone mentioned, it is an open house at our school tonight. I should be there with my eleventh-grader. I'm not. I'm here.

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I should be at my husband's side too at a primary this evening. No, I am here. This is very important. I think that these proposed towers are going to be very dangerous for several reasons.

I, too, have a concern about the electromagnetic fields all the way along. These are going to pass in front of some of my friend's houses. They're going to pass along a lot of peoples. Please don't believe that people don't become sick with this or I'll introduce you to a friend of mine's daughter who lives under a local cell phone tower. Thirteen years old. She was diagnosed with brain cancer and has gone through several operations.

Nobody should have to do that with their child. These are real threats. We are real people. We don't want increases in brain cancer, prostate cancer, breast cancer. We have enough of that already out there.

I think they will also pose a danger to cars. Every summer and winter we lose cars that run into them, for whatever reason. People avoiding deer. Perhaps people have been

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celebrating a little too much. But I can tell you in my house in Bridgehampton I can tell you when a car hits a pole by the way it flickers.

And I've been right because for years we know that. We don't need bigger poles. Someone hitting one of these things will probably buy a nice grave for themselves. This is not what we need.

I think these enormous towers stretching from Southampton to Bridgehampton are going to impact our economy. Now, our economy. As you all know, we are a second home tourist based economy. This is a world-class summer resort. We have people coming from all over. They buy. They rent. They roam our streets happily just for the day.

Every one of us in one way or the other if you question people in this room, make our living related to our economy. You're playing with it and you can't do that and we're all worried. People are talking about it at farm stands, at schools, in the supermarkets, on the streets. They may not show up here but they're very unhappy about your proposal because LIPA has

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not shown a very good track record out here. It's been rather arrogant, forgive me, but it has been.

On its own property it had three illegal poles. Didn't want to move it, giant radio poles. And it took my husband and I protesting and it took us maybe a year and a half before we got them to move the very large poles and cell phone tower that's there. I don't know if you've seen it, but it looks like something from the top deck of the Intrepid Battleship in New York. And they finally moved it back next to the railroad tracks.

We don't need a whole line of Intrepid Battleship poles going down through our -- we have really -- somebody here from the real estate community mentioned that it will impact. It absolutely will. I worked as a broker for years. I am not a broker now. But I can tell you showing houses, if you brought anybody near a house with large power lines behind it, they'd shy away. You can't get them in there.

And this is going to really hurt anybody living along those -- that's not going to hurt me. I'm on the highway. Nobody else wants to live on the highway but me. But all these back

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roads you're really going to hurt them.

I think too, the lines are better underground. They're not as vulnerable to storms. I know people mentioned it. I don't know if you went down to the Gulf Coast after Katrina, but I did. And it's amazing, the biggest poles were just bent right over. Those storms will definitely destroy them. And we do get them here. We've been blessed. We haven't had them for a few years. But this is a real issue.

And I think that it's not something that you're taking into consideration. I think price is driving this. It's cheaper to put them in the air than it is underground. But I do think that LIPA can find the money.

Certainly our Village Mayor has said he wants to work with you. I think our Town needs to be persuaded to work more closely with you. But I also know from my efforts trying to get the trees replaced, have been speaking to Gordy and Rachi (phonetic) who works, or he was an advocate for the public and worked with LIPA. He hold me that LIPA had a budget around \$2 million every year for public relations, you know, sort of like

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Pepsi advertising, "buy us instead of Coke."

Well, you guys don't have competition. There is no alternative out here. So the \$2 million budget to use for public relations, what better can you buy than ours. Come out here, use that money to bury it. In a few years you've already paid the different.

I'm sure if you look into our pockets or you sat here, and look around, you can find the money. It can be done. It needs to be done otherwise we're going to have to resort to finding attorneys and fighting and this doesn't need to be. This really doesn't. This needs to be sensible people sitting down working together, finding a solution.

They are ugly. They are dangerous. They're better off underground.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Before I close out the meeting session, is there anyone who would like to provide additional comments?

MR. JENICE DELANO: Excuse me. I

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forgot two little things. May I mentioned them?

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Yes.

MS. JENICE DELANO: I forget two little comments, one of which --

It's Jenice Delano again. Jenice Delano. I live in Bridgehampton.

I forgot one comment. In conjunction with our meetings with the LIPA management, I think it was Kessel himself mentioned that he felt that it was much -- he felt that it was much easier to fix above-ground lines rather than below ground lines. He felt it takes a lot longer to find the -- to find the break in a below-ground line if you have a problem.

And I would like to see the study specifically address this because since then we did speak with utility engineers who questioned that. And I don't really believe that that's necessarily true. And I think it's one of the reasons LIPA wants so badly to have as much above-ground lines as possible and I think they're wrong.

And secondly, I also -- since then the engineer, the utility engineer we have talked

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to had mentioned that there is an inherent weakness in the junctures as you go - I believe it's the word, junctures is correct - as you go from below ground and then above ground, that spot there, there's a weakness.

And then as you go along and you go above ground down to below ground, again, right when you go down there's a weakness. So as you go above and below and above and below, that's a very weak system. It would be far less weak to either be all above or all below. Obviously we would like it to be all below.

So I'd like that to also be addressed in the study. I would like them to look at that.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Again, I would like to add that besides receiving your oral comments tonight, LIPA is accepting public comments on the Draft Scope of Work through 5 p.m., Tuesday, October 2nd.

MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: Sir.

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the Draft Scope of Work are available at the registration desk and on LIPA's website at www.lipower.org under the "About LIPA Powering Long Island" tab.

Not hearing any other request to provide --

MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: Sir.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Yes.

MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: I do have a question.

Will a transcript --

Do I have to go to the podium?

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Yes.

THE COURT REPORTER: State your name, please.

MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: Yes, I will.

My name is Gloria Rabinowitz from Water Mill.

Will a transcript, a full transcript of this hearing be made available to this community and will it be made available - I'm asking the LIPA officials as well - to Mr. Kessel and Mr. Law and all the other major officials of LIPA? Do we get an answer on that?

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THE PRESIDING OFFICER: It
certainly is going to be supplied to --

A VOICE: And to the Governor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: -- all the
LIPA officials.

MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: How will we
-- this community be able to get a transcript of
these proceedings?

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: That you
will have to take up with the Reporter.

MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: The
Reporter is the one that decides whether or not
we're going to have a transcript?

(Laughter.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: He's the one
that's going to be able to be in a position to
type it out, unless there's some arrangement that
you've made with LIPA.

A VOICE: That means we have to pay
for it.

MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: We are
requesting a transcript of this proceeding from
LIPA.

MR. BERT CUNNINGHAM: It will be
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2 posted on the website.

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MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: Who's saying
4 that?

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MR. BERT CUNNINGHAM: Bert
6 Cunningham.

7

MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: Sir?

8

MR. BERT CUNNINGHAM: Bert
9 Cunningham from LIPA.

10

MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: And it will
11 be -- the proceedings this evening, the
12 transcript --

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MR. BERT CUNNINGHAM: The
14 transcript will be posted -- eventually posted on
15 the website.

16

A VOICE: When?

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MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: When?

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A VOICE: How soon? Can we get a
19 commitment for two weeks?

20

MR. BERT CUNNINGHAM: It will be
21 part of the EIS process. I can't guarantee
22 tonight when, but it will be posted on the
23 website.

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A VOICE: When will the transcript
25 be finished? That would be two weeks, right?

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Can't you commit to getting that up on the website sooner?

MR. BERT CUNNINGHAM: I can't commit tonight to a time, but it will be posted on the website.

MS. GLORIA RABINOWITZ: Thank you. Thank you very much.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER: Copies of the Draft Scope of Work are available at the registration desk and on LIPA's website and on www.lipower.org under the "About LIPA Powering LI" tab.

Not hearing of any other requests to provide oral testimony at this session, I declare this session closed.

Have a pleasant evening.

(At 9:24 p.m., the proceedings were concluded.)

