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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

RENEWAL OF QUAD CITIES LICENSES

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TUESDAY

APRIL 8, 2003

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MOLINE, ILLINOIS

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The Open House Public Scoping Meetings were held at The Mark of the Quad Cities, 1201 River Drive, Moline, Illinois at 1:00 p.m., F. Chip Cameron, presiding.

- PRESENT:
- F. Chip Cameron
 - John Tappert
 - T.J. Kim
 - Duke Wheeler

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

(1:30 P.M.)

1
2
3 MR. CAMERON: Good afternoon everyone. My
4 name is Chip Cameron. I'm the special counsel for
5 Public Liaison at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
6 and I wanted to welcome all of you to the Nuclear
7 Regulatory Commission's public meeting today.

8 We're going to try to keep the acronyms
9 down or at least explain what they are but one that we
10 will be using is NRC for Nuclear Regulatory
11 Commission.

12 And it's my pleasure to serve as your
13 facilitator for today's meeting and my responsibility
14 will be to try to assist you all in having a
15 productive meeting this afternoon.

16 As most or all of you may know, Exelon has
17 submitted a request to the NRC to renew the operating
18 licenses for the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station
19 Units 1 & 2. And the focus of today's meeting is the
20 NRC's evaluation of the environmental impacts
21 associated with any NRC decision to renew the licenses
22 at Quad Cities.

23 Before we get into the substance of
24 today's meeting, I just want to go over a couple of
25 items concerned with meeting process. And one is the
26 format for the meeting. It's a relatively simple

1 format. We're going to break the meeting up into two
2 segments. And the first segment is going to consist
3 of some brief NRC presentations to give you some
4 background on what the NRC process is for evaluating
5 an application for license renewal. And we'll go out
6 to you for questions that you may have concerned with
7 those presentations.

8 The second segment of the meeting is going
9 to give us an opportunity to listen to all of you and
10 to give you an opportunity to make some more formal
11 comments for the record.

12 And the ground rules associated with all
13 this are very simple. If you - when we get to
14 question and answer - if you have a question just give
15 me a signal and I'll bring you this cordless mic or if
16 it's easier for you to go to the standup mic in the
17 aisle here that's fine too. But if you could just
18 give us your name and affiliation if appropriate and
19 ask your question.

20 I would ask that only one person speak at
21 a time because we are keeping a transcript. Mr.
22 LeGrand is over here as our stenographer and all of
23 your remarks will be captured on the record and will
24 be considered as formal comments in the NRC's
25 evaluation.

1 And I guess the last ground rule is just
2 try to be to the point in your comments. I know that
3 this can be a controversial and complex issue and it's
4 tough sometimes to be concise, but I want to make sure
5 that everybody has an opportunity to talk today so
6 that if you do try to be to the point that will allow
7 us to achieve that goal.

8 And in terms of time for the formal
9 comments, I'm going to limit that to approximately
10 five to seven minutes. So if you could try to do your
11 formal comment in that time period that would also
12 help us out today.

13 In terms of the agenda we're going to
14 start off as I mentioned with the NRC presentations
15 and we're going to go first to Mr. John Tappert from
16 the NRC, who's right here, and I've asked John to
17 formally welcome you because he is the Chief of the
18 Environmental Section of the License Renewal and
19 Environmental Impacts Program at the NRC.

20 And John and his staff are responsible for
21 not only doing the environmental review on this
22 application for Quad Cities, but on all the other
23 plants that we get license renewal applications from
24 as well as other types of NRC facilities.

25 By way of background, John has been with
26 the agency for approximately 12 years and has served

1 in a number of different capacities. He has been a
2 resident inspector. Those are the NRC inspectors that
3 are at each nuclear reactor that we regulate. His
4 undergraduate degree is from Virginia Tech in
5 aeronautic and oceanographic engineering, and he has
6 a masters degree in environmental engineering from
7 Johns Hopkins University.

8 After John is done we're going to go right
9 to our first substantive presentation and Mr. T.J.
10 Kim, right here from the NRC is going to do that. And
11 T.J. is the Project Manager for the safety evaluation
12 on this application for license renewal for Quad
13 Cities.

14 And he's been with the NRC for about 19
15 years. He's also been a resident inspector. He has
16 a chemical engineering degree from Drexel and a
17 technical management masters degree from Johns
18 Hopkins.

19 T.J. is on the safety side as we call it
20 of the License Renewal and Environmental Impacts
21 Program. So he does not work for John Tappert. One
22 of the things that you'll hear today is there are two
23 basic components and there's other components but two
24 basic components to an NRC decision on whether to
25 grant a license to renew. And one is the safety
26 evaluation and T.J. will be telling you about that.

1 And the other part is the review of
2 environmental impacts and both of those come together
3 in our decision.

4 And to tell you about the environmental
5 impact review process, we have Mr. Duke Wheeler from
6 the NRC who is here. He is on John Tappert's staff.
7 He's the Project Manager for the environmental review.
8 He's been with the agency for 20 years, worked with
9 Westinghouse before that on the navy nuclear power
10 program. He was a nuclear weapons officer in the
11 United States Army and he has a nuclear engineering
12 bachelors degree from West Point.

13 And after T.J.'s done we'll go for
14 question and answer. He's going to talk about the
15 overview of the license renewal process and then we'll
16 also go out to you for questions after Duke talks
17 about the environmental review.

18 And with that I'm going to ask John
19 Tappert to talk to us for a minute.

20 MR. TAPPERT: Thank you, Chip. And good
21 afternoon and welcome.

22 My name is John Tappert and I'm the Chief
23 of the Environmental Section in the Office of Nuclear
24 Reaction Regulation.

25 On behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory
26 Commission, I'd like to thank you for coming out today

1 and participating in our process. Next slide, oh, you
2 got it.

3 Some of the things we'd like to cover
4 today and I'd like to briefly go over the purposes of
5 today's meeting. First of all we'd like to give you
6 a brief overview of the entire license renewal
7 program. And that includes both the safety review as
8 well as an environmental review which is the principal
9 focus of today's meeting.

10 We'll discuss some of the areas that we
11 will review as we assess the environmental impacts
12 associated with extending the operating life of the
13 Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station for an additional 20
14 years. We'll also give you some information on our
15 schedule and the opportunities that you will have to
16 participate in our process.

17 At the conclusion of the staff's
18 presentation, we'll be happy to receive any questions
19 or comments that you may have today which is, of
20 course, the principal purpose of today's meeting. But
21 first, let me provide some general background of the
22 license renewal program.

23 The Atomic Energy Act gives the NRC the
24 authority to issue operating licenses to commercial
25 nuclear power plants for a period of 40 years. For

1 Quad Cities Units 1 & 2, those operating licenses will
2 expire in 2012.

3 Our regulations also make provisions for
4 extending those operating licenses for an additional
5 20 years as part of the license renewal program, and
6 Exelon has requested license renewal for both units.

7 As part of the NRC's review of that
8 application, we'll be preparing an environmental
9 impact statement. Right now, we are in what we call
10 scoping where we seek to identify those issues which
11 will require the greatest focus during our review.
12 And again the principal purpose of today's meeting is
13 to receive your input into that scoping process.

14 With that brief introduction I'd like to
15 ask T.J. to describe the safety portion of our review.

16 MR. KIM: Thanks, John. As Chip mentioned
17 my name is T.J. Kim and I'm the NRC's project manager
18 responsible for the safety review of the Exelon's
19 license renewal application for both Quad Cities and
20 Dresden plants.

21 Before I get into the discussion of the
22 license renewal process, I'd like to take a minute to
23 talk about the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the NRC,
24 in terms of what we do and what our mission is.

25 As John just mentioned, the Atomic Energy
26 Act of 1954 is enabling legislation that authorizes

1 the NRC to regulate the civilian use of nuclear
2 materials. In carrying out this statutory authority
3 the NRC's mission is really three-fold.

4 One, to ensure adequate protection of
5 public health and safety. Two, to protect the
6 environment and three, to provide for common defense
7 and security.

8 The NRC accomplishes its mission through
9 a combination of various regulatory programs and
10 processes such as inspections, enforcement actions,
11 assessment of licensee performance, the evaluation of
12 operating experience at nuclear plants across the
13 country and in fact it includes reactor experience
14 overseas as well. And the NRC program also includes
15 rule making, promulgation of regulations and rules,
16 and, of course, licensing activities.

17 Again, these are some of the major ongoing
18 NRC programs and processes that ensures we meet the
19 NRC statutory mission.

20 The Atomic Energy Act of 1954 allows a 40-
21 year license term for power reactors, but it also
22 allows for license renewal. The 40-year term, by the
23 way, is primarily based on economic and antitrust
24 considerations rather than safety limitations or
25 technical limitations. So to address the requirements
26 and the NRC processes for license renewal the

1 Commission has promulgated license renewal rule
2 entitled 10 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 54.

3 If I can go back to the previous slide
4 please.

5 Okay. The NRC's license renewal process
6 as defined in 10-CFR Part 54 is quite similar to the
7 original licensing process for power reactors in that
8 it involves a safety review, an environmental impact
9 review, confirmatory plant inspections, and it also
10 involves independent review by the Advisory Committee
11 on Reactor Safeguards, the ACRS.

12 There is an important distinction here,
13 however, in that when in promulgating the license
14 renewal rule, the Commission has determined that many
15 aspects of the current licensing basis, including
16 emergency planning and the plant physical security,
17 can be and will be adequately addressed by the
18 existing regulatory processes such that they can carry
19 forward into the license renewal term. Now that's a
20 very important concept to remember when we discuss
21 license renewal process.

22 Before I move on to the next slide, I want
23 to mention briefly about the role of the ACRS. The
24 ACRS basically is a group of nationally-recognized
25 technical experts in the nuclear safety area that
26 serve as a consulting body to the Commission itself.

1 And the ACRS independently reviews each license
2 renewal application as well as the staff safety review
3 and reports their conclusions and recommendations
4 directly to the Commission.

5 Next slide please.

6 Okay. This slide really gives a big
7 picture overview of the license renewal process. And,
8 as you can see from this slide, the process involves
9 two parallel paths. Safety review being one and
10 environmental review being the other.

11 The safety review involves the NRC staff's
12 review and assessment of the technical information
13 that's contained in the licensee's license renewal
14 application.

15 I have a team of about 30 NRC technical
16 reviewers back at the NRC headquarters in Washington
17 who are conducting the safety review right now. And
18 I should also mention that my team is supported, my
19 team is supported by technical experts at three
20 different national laboratories, Argonne National Lab
21 outside of Chicago being one, Brookhaven National Lab
22 in Long Island, New York and Pacific Northwest Lab out
23 in the state of Washington being the third. So I have
24 quite an expertise put together in my team to conduct
25 this safety review.

1 The staff's safety review focuses on the
2 effectiveness of the proposed aging management
3 programs that are contained in the license renewal
4 application. And we, the staff review the
5 effectiveness of the proposed aging management program
6 to ensure that the plant's safety can be maintained
7 throughout the license renewal term, i.e., going from
8 40 to 60 years. And that is the one important aspect
9 of the safety review.

10 The safety review also involves staff's
11 assessment of what's called time-limited aging
12 analyses that are contained in the licensee's
13 application.

14 The license renewal rule requires the
15 applicant to reevaluate those design analyses that
16 assumed 40-year plant life. So the reevaluation
17 obviously requires extending that to 60 years.

18 An example of an aging, time-limited aging
19 analysis would be an environmental qualification
20 analysis for certain electrical components and cables
21 that are expected to survive and function after its
22 qualified life. So, as part of the license renewal
23 application, each applicant must demonstrate through
24 the time-limited aging analyses that these components
25 will remain functional after 60 years of extended
26 life.

1 So those are the two major components of
2 the staff safety review. Again, assessing the
3 effectiveness of the eight proposed aging management
4 programs in the application and also to assess
5 effectiveness of time-limited aging analyses.

6 Okay. And the results of the staff safety
7 review will be documented in a safety evaluation
8 report, and a copy of that will be provided to the
9 ACRS, as I mentioned earlier, for the second look,
10 basically.

11 This safety review process also involves
12 on site confirmatory inspections. And for the Dresden
13 and Quad Cities license renewal application we're
14 planning three such inspections. One at the Exelon's
15 engineering office, one at the Dresden site and the
16 third inspection will be conducted at the Quad Cities
17 site.

18 And each of these inspections will be
19 conducted by a team of seven inspectors pulled
20 together from both NRC headquarters as well as NRC's
21 Region 3 office. And the results of their inspections
22 will be documented in separate inspection report.

23 Okay, now as I mentioned earlier the
24 second process involves an environmental review and
25 that involves scoping activities, which this meeting
26 is a part of, and it also involves developing a draft

1 supplement to GEIS which stands for Generic
2 Environmental Impact Statement and then we will be
3 publishing that for public comment on that draft. And
4 eventually we will be issuing a final supplement to
5 the GEIS, again, the Generic Environmental Impact
6 Statement.

7 So as you can see from this slide, the
8 final agency decision on whether to approve or deny
9 the application will factor in a number of things.
10 Safety evaluation report which documents the results
11 of the safety review. The final supplement to GEIS
12 which documents the results of the environmental
13 review. Inspection reports will be factored in as
14 well and also the independent report from the ACRS
15 will all be factor into the final agency decision.

16 And I should mention that the Commission
17 schedule for this whole process is about 22 months.

18 Now one last thing I want to mention on
19 this chart is hearings, in this splash mark here, if
20 there is intervention, if there's a petition filed to
21 intervene in this process by an individual or group of
22 individuals and if they have adequate standing, in
23 other words if their request for a hearing is granted
24 by either the ASLB which stands for Atomic Safety
25 Licensing Board or the NRC Commission itself, then an

1 adjudicatory hearings may also be involved in this
2 process.

3 And an adjudicatory hearing is a trial
4 type hearing that's presided over by a panel of
5 administrative law judges. It involves contentions,
6 discovery, cross examinations just like a court trial.
7 And if we do get into a hearing process then the
8 Commission's schedule for the whole process is about
9 30 months.

10 That actually concludes my prepared
11 remarks. If there are any questions I'll be happy to
12 answer.

13 MR. CAMERON: Good job, T.J. Do we have
14 some questions on the overall process to enable you to
15 understand this a little bit more clearly? Any
16 questions at all?

17 Okay. And we can come back to questions
18 on this presentation after Duke Wheeler is done with
19 his presentation on the environmental program.

20 Thank you, T.J. Duke.

21 MR. WHEELER: Thank you, Chip. I am Duke
22 Wheeler and I'm the environmental project manager on
23 the NRC staff. And I'm responsible for coordinating
24 all the activities of the NRC staff and various
25 environmental experts at National Labs to develop an

1 environmental impact statement associated with the
2 license renewal for Quad Cities nuclear power plant.

3 May I have the next slide please.

4 The National Environmental Policy Act of
5 1969 requires that Federal agencies follow a
6 systematic approach in evaluating potential
7 environmental impacts associated with certain actions.

8 We're required to consider the impact of
9 the proposed action and also any mitigation for those
10 impacts that we consider to be significant. We're
11 also required to consider alternatives to the proposed
12 action, in this case license renewal, and that
13 includes the no-action alternative. In other words,
14 if we just decide to not approve the requested license
15 renewal what are the environmental impacts.

16 The National Environmental Policy Act and
17 our environmental impact statement are disclosure
18 tools. And they are specifically structured to
19 involve public participation, and this meeting is a
20 big part of that aspect of our review.

21 Our Commission has determined that we will
22 prepare an environmental impact statement for license
23 renewal. And we are now gathering information for an
24 environmental impact statement here and we will
25 collect your comments on the scope of what our

1 environmental review should be for the proposed
2 renewal of the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station.

3 May I have the next slide please.

4 We have a certain decision standard and it
5 looks like a few lawyers might have had a hand in the
6 wording of that slide. Basically what it says, are
7 the environmental impacts of the proposed license
8 renewal so great that maintaining the license renewal
9 option for Quad Cities is unreasonable? That's the
10 final decision that my environmental impact statement
11 will be structured to either support or not.

12 May I have the next slide please.

13 On the slide that T.J. had up on the board
14 a few minutes ago the process for license renewal
15 that, this slide is just an expansion of the lower
16 part of that slide and it gives in greater detail the
17 environmental review process.

18 We did conduct by the way, an
19 environmental site audit to help gather information.
20 It was out here about four weeks ago at Quad Cities.
21 And then on, that was on March the 12th and then a
22 couple days later on March the 14th, we issued a
23 *Federal Register* notice and also put out other
24 information to the public regarding our full notice of
25 intent to develop an environmental impact statement

1 and conduct scoping. And this started a 60-day clock
2 defined as the scoping period.

3 And we're more or less in the middle of
4 that clock right now. This meeting is a part of the
5 scoping process so that we can get comments from the
6 public to help us scope out the bounds of our
7 environmental review.

8 If, in the conduct of our review, we
9 require additional information beyond what was already
10 provided to us in the initial license, then we will
11 issue a request for additional information. And I
12 plan to issue that request for additional information,
13 if there are any such requests, on May the 23rd of
14 this year.

15 And approximately eight weeks later, I
16 expect to get an answer back from the licensee and
17 then, based on all the information we have in hand, we
18 will publish a draft of the environmental impact
19 statement for public comment.

20 Now I envision publishing that draft in
21 November of this year and when I publish that draft,
22 as I said, it will be for public comment and there
23 will be a 75-day public comment period and this will
24 be heavily publicized.

1 I plan to have another meeting out here in
2 the Quad Cities vicinity to receive your comments on
3 the draft of the environmental impact statement.

4 Once we get comments on our draft
5 environmental impact statement, then I will publish
6 the final environmental impact statement and I have
7 July of 2004 on my schedule to publish that final
8 environmental impact statement.

9 May I have the next slide.

10 This slide just shows a couple of the
11 sources where we gather our information. We do
12 communicate with Federal, State and local officials as
13 well as local service agencies. And we also consider
14 all of the comments that we receive from the public.

15 May I have the next slide please.

16 And this slide identifies just about all
17 of the environmental disciplines that we focus on as
18 we develop our environmental impact statement. One
19 term that may not be too familiar to you is socio
20 economic impacts and environmental justice.

21 Environmental justice is a consideration
22 of the question of whether or not any environmental
23 impacts associated with the Quad Cities license
24 renewal disproportionately impact low income or
25 minority segments of the local population.

1 And that others as you see, the
2 terrestrial ecology and land use, hydrology and so
3 forth on the slide, all of these will be evaluated in
4 our environmental impact statement.

5 May I have the next slide.

6 This slide just recaps a couple of the key
7 dates. Our scoping and comment period, which is
8 underway right now, began on March the 14th, will end
9 on May the 12th, and, as I mentioned in November, I'll
10 issue my draft and its SEIS.

11 T.J. told you about the GEIS, the Generic
12 Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal.
13 That's an environmental impact statement that takes
14 into account issues that pretty much affect all
15 nuclear power plants that may come to us for license
16 renewal.

17 But I will be publishing a Quad Cities-
18 specific supplement and that's the SEIS that you see
19 there. And that Quad Cities-specific supplement is
20 what I'll be putting out for public comment in
21 November and, after considering your comments,
22 publishing in final in July of 2004.

23 And when I publish the draft environmental
24 impact statement, I will be making that also available
25 at the Cordova District Library, The River Valley

1 Public Library, and the Davenport Public Library.
2 It'll also be on our web page.

3 In addition, as many of you came in, you
4 were asked to fill out little registration cards at
5 our reception table, blue cards or yellow cards. If
6 you've indicated on that card that you would like to
7 receive a copy of the draft and the final
8 environmental impact statement, I'll make a note of
9 that and will add you to our mailing list for those
10 documents. And you may also receive copies of
11 significant correspondence that goes in and out of the
12 NRC or out of the NRC related to the development of
13 this environmental review.

14 May I have the next slide.

15 This slide just specifically identifies me
16 as your primary point of contact with the NRC for the
17 preparation of the environmental impact statement.
18 And it also identifies where documents related to our
19 review may be found in the local area.

20 I visited these libraries, spoke with the
21 staff there and they've agreed to make space available
22 on their shelf to make Exelon's application available
23 for public review in addition to our correspondence
24 and, as I mentioned before, that'll include the
25 environmental impact statements when they get
26 published.

1 Documents can also be reviewed at our web
2 site, and if people are having some difficulty getting
3 through if they just don't have a certain amount of
4 keyboard moxie with the computer or something just
5 isn't working right, give me a call at the telephone
6 number that you see on the slide and you and I will
7 sit there and we'll go through it keystroke-by-
8 keystroke until we get it right and your interests are
9 adequately addressed.

10 May I have the next slide.

11 Now in addition to this meeting, there are
12 other ways that you get your comments into our
13 environmental review process. You can provide written
14 comments to me at the address on the slide to the
15 Chief of our Rules and Directives Branch and that will
16 guarantee that your comments get into our public
17 record.

18 Now you can also make comments in person.
19 I understand that here is, you know, it's a
20 substantial difference between this location and my
21 office but if you have a representative in the D.C.
22 area and you want them to represent some interest they
23 can certainly call me and somebody from my office will
24 schedule a time to meet them at our office in
25 Rockville. And this was actually a practical means of
26 communicating for some of the plants that were closer

1 into the D.C. area. Calvert Cliffs, North Anna and
2 that sort of thing.

3 But it is something that's open to you and
4 I wanted to make sure that you were aware of it. And
5 I've also established a specific email address at the
6 NRC for the one and only purpose of receiving your
7 comments on the development of our draft environmental
8 impact statement and what you think the scope of our
9 review should be. And that email address is the last
10 line on the slide.

11 And once again, if you're just having
12 trouble getting through to that email address give me
13 a call and we'll go through it.

14 May I have the next slide.

15 This concludes my remarks. Are there any,
16 go ahead Chip.

17 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Duke. And I think
18 that's the first time I heard the phrase keyboard
19 moxey so it was good.

20 Any questions on the environmental review
21 for Duke or on the safety review for T.J.? Any
22 questions at all out here?

23 Okay. Let's go and hear from you. We
24 have a number of people who wanted to make some
25 comments. And what I'm going to do is start with some
26 local officials and then I'm going to ask the company

1 to give us their vision on license renewal and then
2 we'll go out to the others from the community who have
3 signed up. And I'd like to ask Mr. Jim Bohnsack who
4 is the, Hi, Jim, the Chair of the Rock Island County
5 Board.

6 Do you want to go ahead up there?

7 MR. BOHNSACK: Thank you for letting me
8 speak. One of the reasons that he had me charged to
9 come up and speak was that about four months ago
10 Exelon did come to our county board meeting and asked
11 for this renewal of license, assured us that they are
12 good neighbors and that they also do pay their taxes
13 and they would like to have another 20 years which we
14 did.

15 A month later we ended up, they came and
16 protested their taxes that they don't want to pay any.
17 And so we then end up going to the full board and
18 asking them to rescind their license which we did.

19 Our concern is that they pay their fair
20 taxes and I know this is talking about environmental
21 but also had calls from different public and private
22 sectors in the last week saying Exelon or Mid America
23 has called them asking them as a public relations and
24 I think that's, that's not the fair gimmick or the
25 thing that you want to hear today.

1 But I assure you that I want to tell you
2 that the county is, is very upset with a very good
3 company as far as generating electricity that doesn't
4 want to pay their taxes.

5 I've got a book here that's this thick
6 that in one line if I just may read that talks about
7 their taxes. It pretty much says that on the basis of
8 these measures we estimate the market value of the
9 real estate at the Quad Cities nuclear power station
10 at January 1st, 2001 to be zero. No taxes.

11 In their tax appeal they pretty much show
12 that they want nothing, it's over 700 million dollars
13 and they're saying they don't want to pay any, any
14 property taxes. We think that's terrible. We are
15 trying to negotiate with them now to have some kind of
16 equitable property tax.

17 But saying that, if they don't get the
18 taxes as far as environmental we do have an ESNA, a
19 safety net that we require that every two years we do
20 a complete mock situation if there was something as a,
21 as a nuclear that would happen, and myself as Rock
22 Island County Chairman, is responsible for running
23 that meeting and the state police have had full
24 authority and I'm telling you that takes a lot of
25 money and a lot of property tax monies.

1 So I'm just coming to, to you and telling
2 you that I wish you would not extend their license
3 until they get this, while I think it's important that
4 they face up, pay taxes like everybody else. We all
5 have to and we all want to and if they pay that we
6 have no problem with them. They are a good company.
7 They employ good people. And so I want to make sure
8 you understand that they're worthy of, of running a
9 good facility but they also need to be paying their
10 fair share.

11 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you very much
12 Chairman Bohnsack and I guess it might be useful to
13 just clarify for everybody and John maybe you can
14 answer this as the, is taxes one of the types of
15 socioeconomic issues that is usually evaluated in the
16 environmental impact statement?

17 MR. TAPPERT: Yeah. The, when we talk
18 about environmental we're talking about the entire
19 human environment and that also includes socio
20 economic impacts in addition to like aquatic and
21 terrestrial creatures. So we do look at taxes. From
22 the environmental impact statement we do an assessment
23 of the impact in the community.

24 However, it's important to note that the
25 NRC as a regulatory body, you know, we regulate them
26 from the safety standpoint and we really have no

1 jurisdiction over their tax base or anything like
2 that.

3 So it's, it's appropriate for scoping and
4 of course we have it on the transcript so we
5 appreciate your comment.

6 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much John.
7 Chief, is it Geerts?

8 CHIEF GEERTS: Yes.

9 MR. CAMERON: Can you come up and talk to
10 us? Chief Geerts is the Chief of the Albany Fire
11 Protection District. And you can, I should have
12 clarified this to Chairman Bohnsack, you can come up
13 to the podium and face out if you want.

14 CHIEF GEERTS: Well, that's fine.

15 MR. CAMERON: Oh, good.

16 CHIEF GEERTS: I'd like to thank you for
17 this opportunity to speak. As stated I'm Chief Geerts
18 from the Albany Fire Protection District. Our
19 district borders, is in the 10-mile EP zone affecting
20 Quad Cities Station and, due to mutual aid effects
21 that are in place in the state of Illinois in the
22 event of an accident or for whatever unforeseen reason
23 that offsite emergency response agencies are called,
24 we are automatically dispatched with Cordova to
25 respond to the site or anything that affects the site.

1 So with that in mind on behalf of the
2 Albany Fire Protection District we support the license
3 renewal process for several reasons.

4 One, in working with station personnel-
5 both senior management, mid-management and plant
6 workers themselves - we've adopted many of their human
7 performance standards that they have in place to
8 improve the safety of running the plant. So in our
9 business, in the fire business, we've adopted like the
10 STAR process, stop, think, act and review in our
11 processes that we do when we're out performing tasks
12 in an emergency situation.

13 Also one of the greatest things that we've
14 probably adopted is their five key questions. What
15 are the defenses in place, likely situations, critical
16 steps in the safety concerns we've even adopted those
17 strictly from Exelon providing those, those human
18 performance things that they say has improved the
19 safety and a teamwork culture at the plant.

20 So in turn we've used that in the fire
21 service as well. Along with the emergency planning or
22 emergency preparedness their evacuation plans are very
23 concise and provide explicit detail in how you should
24 go about doing it in the event of a nuclear accident
25 or disaster. And we in turn have used those events

1 for our own plan in the event of a terror attack,
2 severe weather or a hazmat type incident.

3 So we're very grateful to Exelon for
4 providing that information to help us improve our own
5 plan. And they've allowed us the use of their burn
6 tower where we can go in a controlled atmosphere and
7 provide quality training for our new firefighters as
8 well as seasoned veteran firefighters.

9 And of course we could not go without
10 saying that it does provide an economic stability in
11 this area. There are many people that work at the
12 plant that are involved in associations like this.
13 We're a part paid type service that provides fire and
14 EMS type service along with hazmat and rescue and a
15 lot of the employees that work at Exelon are involved
16 in organizations such as ours. In fact we have
17 several that are on our department that work at Exelon
18 that provide a good base knowledge of training and are
19 committed to the community. So it is an economic
20 source that we don't want to lose.

21 So we are very supportive of the
22 relicensing process. We'd like to see it go through
23 and we want to see the plant be there for another 20
24 years. Thank you.

25 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you very much,
26 Chief Geerts.

1 We're going to go now to officials from
2 Exelon to tell us a little bit about their rationale
3 behind the license renewal application. And first Mr.
4 Tim Tulon who is the site vice president for the Quad
5 Cities Nuclear Power Station. Tim

6 MR. TULON: Very good, Chip, thank you very
7 much and good afternoon.

8 As Chip said my name is Tim Tulon. I am
9 the Site Vice President of the Quad Cities Station and
10 I am accountable for its operation.

11 The first thing I would like to do is to
12 thank the NRC, you know, for a consideration of our
13 license application. And I also want to thank them
14 for the opportunity to hold this public meeting
15 because I think it's very important that the public
16 has the opportunity to comment.

17 In the late 1990s, I had the very same job
18 at the Braidwood Station as the Site Vice President
19 which is south of Joliet. And so I used to have to
20 come to Quad Cities to do control and observations and
21 to do, you know, different type of meetings. And
22 every time I would leave the plant, I would ask myself
23 is this going to be the last time that I'm going to
24 come back to Quad Cities. Because I'll tell you what
25 is I didn't think the plant was going to make it in
26 that day and age, you know.

1 So here we are today, you know, the
2 performance of the plant has improved significantly
3 over that, over that period of time and we are
4 submitting an application to extend the license.

5 I am truly pleased and truly excited, you
6 know, number one for the employees at Quad Cities
7 Station to have this opportunity for a continued
8 employment and number two for the community to have
9 this continuation for, for cheap and reliable power to
10 come in.

11 So let me explain to you a little bit
12 about, about what this means. Both of the units are
13 rated at 912 megawatts of electric, you know, to put
14 that in more easy to understand terms that means that
15 both units have the power to power 1.7 million homes.
16 You know, think about that. 1.7 million homes. It is
17 a powerful and significant source of electricity.

18 One, one advantage I think that is
19 frequently overlooked within nuclear power is the
20 issue of stable fuel prices. I want you to think
21 about this is that both units at Quad Cities Station
22 can run at a 100-percent power for two years without
23 refueling. And so what that means is that the plant
24 is not subject to short term supply disruptions. It
25 is not subject to the wild price links that we've seen
26 on the mercantile exchange here recently in the price

1 of crude oil and also natural gas. I think that's a
2 very, very important advantage in going forward.

3 We also have 700 families that are
4 dependent on the plant to make a living. 307 of them
5 are members of the International Brotherhood of
6 Electrical Workers, Local 15 and I got to tell you
7 these are good jobs. These are high paying jobs
8 within the local community and the company has
9 excellent benefits. So our payroll is 57 million
10 dollars, 57 million dollars worth of payroll which
11 directly helps the local community.

12 When I first came to the plant a couple
13 years ago I had one of the local pastors from one of
14 the small towns seek me out and he told me, Tim, he
15 says, you have got to do a good job in running this
16 plant because this plant needs to stay open. He says,
17 I have many of my church members that work at this,
18 that work at this plant.

19 And so having Quad Cities Station
20 operating for an extended period of time is important
21 for that reason as well as, as well as many others.

22 You know, the plant has always had a very
23 firm commitment in using qualified skilled trade
24 labor, union labor to maintain the plant during,
25 during refuelings. In the year 2002, we had two
26 refueling outages. Each one of those outages employed

1 approximately 1200 union craftsmen. We worked
2 directly through the Tri-Cities Buildings and
3 Constructions Trade Council right here. Right here in
4 the Quad Cities to obtain that labor and so last year
5 that resulted in 30 million dollars, a 30 million
6 dollar payroll to these local craftsmen.

7 And we intend to continue that commitment
8 to use local trade labor. Additionally, we have about
9 120 full-time contractors on site and we do about two
10 million dollars worth of business each year with local
11 companies.

12 So I would offer to you that, Number one,
13 is we are a very significant source of employment for
14 the local area and Number two, we are a positive
15 economic force.

16 I'm going to have to talk about property
17 taxes. You know, over the past five years we have
18 paid about 17 and half million dollars in property
19 taxes for about three and half million dollars per
20 year. The thing that complicates this substantially
21 is that the laws in the state of Illinois changed in
22 1997 with regards to how a nuclear plant is to be
23 assessed. And so we are currently in disagreement
24 with the county on the matter.

25 And I'll tell you what, it's a very
26 difficult issue for both sides of the table. It

1 really is. And irregardless of any extreme positions
2 that were taken in the appeal process at PECO and
3 Chairman Bohnsack I want to just tell you flat out is
4 that we intend to pay property taxes. We intend to be
5 a good neighbor. We will continue to work with
6 yourself and the board to bring this thing to, to a
7 reconcilable conclusion.

8 Also I want to mention that our employees
9 are generous and involved in many local activities.
10 Last year they donated approximately \$150,000 to the
11 United Way campaign in the Quad Cities. They raised
12 235 units of blood in various blood drives. You will
13 find our employees involved in youth sports, you will
14 find them involved in scouting. You will find them
15 involved in junior achievement and much, much more.

16 Regarding the environment which is really
17 what we're talking about here at this meeting. I
18 think many people probably do not realize that we are
19 the only private sector facility to operate a fish
20 hatchery on the Mississippi River.

21 And ever since 1984 we have put four
22 million fish right here locally in Mississippi pools
23 13 and 14. And so our annual goal for fish production
24 is 5,000 yearling hybrid striped bass, for those of
25 you that are sports people, you know what I'm talking
26 about. And 175,000 walleye fingerlings. And I'll

1 tell you, this is a significant recreational benefit
2 for the local community.

3 During the preparation of the license
4 extension paperwork a comparison was done to say okay,
5 if you take the generation of Quad Cities and you
6 don't use the nuclear option and you use a coal
7 burning type of option what would that result in.

8 The result would be 6,000 tons of sulphur
9 dioxide emission to the environment. 1700 tons of
10 both nitric oxides and also carbon monoxides. So it's
11 a very significant benefit I think that nuclear has is
12 the avoidance of this greenhouse issue. And I, I dare
13 say that this issue will rise in importance to this
14 nation as we go forward in the future.

15 A word about post 11, 9/11 security. You
16 know, we have spent over a million dollars on
17 strengthening security at the Quad Cities Station and
18 we periodically monitor and adjust that program.

19 I will tell you that domestic nuclear
20 facilities are the best protected facilities, civilian
21 facilities period. Just, just period. This issue is
22 important to you as it is to us. And we will continue
23 with very strong support for the security program.

24 Again, Chip, I want to thank the NRC for
25 consideration of the, of our license extension and
26 this chance to comment. I'd just like to close my

1 remarks by just saying is that this management team
2 that runs the Quad Cities Station is committed, is
3 absolutely committed to the safe and reliable
4 operation.

5 I appreciate the opportunity to comment.
6 Thank you, sir.

7 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Tim. And we're
8 going to next go to Mr. Fred Polaski, who is the
9 manager of license renewal for Exelon who's going to
10 give us some, a few more words on the environmental
11 aspect.

12 MR. POLASKI: Good afternoon. As Chip
13 said, my name is Fred Polaski. I'm Exelon's Corporate
14 Manager for License Renewal. I'm responsible for the
15 license renewal application that we prepared and
16 submitted for Dresden and Quad Cities, and also for
17 the work we'd done previously on our Peach Bottom
18 Plant in Pennsylvania.

19 I'm been working in this industry for 30
20 years. About 20 of it at Peach Bottom. I hold a
21 senior reactor operator's license for 13 years and for
22 about the last seven years I'm been working in the
23 area of license renewal both in the industry and with
24 Exelon's license renewal applications.

25 Tim talked about the reasons why and the
26 good aspects of renewing a license for Quad Cities.

1 I'd like to talk some about Exelon's process for
2 preparing the license renewal application and a large
3 amount of effort and work that went into preparing
4 this application.

5 In 2000 ComEd, and this is before ComEd
6 and PECO Energy from Pennsylvania merged to form
7 Exelon, decided to pursue license renewal for both the
8 Dresden and the Quad Cities stations. We're here
9 today to talk about Quad Cities but we prepared a
10 joint application on the safety side for Dresden and
11 Quad Cities and separate environmental reports for
12 Dresden and Quad Cities.

13 The preparation of those reports began in
14 August of 2000 and were submitted in January of this
15 year. The applications were sitting out on the table
16 where you came in and the technical application is a
17 book about that thick, close to a 1000 pages, the
18 environmental report reach about that thick. That
19 represents a summary of the work that we did.

20 I've taken a look at the volume of
21 information that supports that and it's probably at
22 least a 100 times line-wise the size of what you
23 actually see in that application. It was a very
24 complete, thorough review of the information that
25 needed to be looked at.

1 Exelon invested over 40 man years of
2 engineering work into preparing those documents. I'd
3 like to tell you the cost but unfortunately I can't
4 because it's a confidential contractual obligation,
5 but we spent a lot of money on it and we got a very
6 good quality product.

7 On the safety review side and I know
8 that's not the primary topic of today's meeting but I
9 wanted to talk to you a little bit about what we did
10 and the reason for that.

11 We performed a review of all of the safety
12 equipment in the plant that needs to be reviewed for
13 the purposes of the NRC for renewing a license. And
14 the purpose of that review was to determine if the
15 necessary maintenance is being performed on the
16 equipment to make sure the equipment will operate when
17 it's needed in an emergency situations.

18 Originally when Quad Cities was built all
19 of the equipment was new, it was thoroughly tested to
20 make sure it would perform. Everybody knows that as
21 you operate equipment over time whether it's a nuclear
22 power plant, a chemical plant, whether it's the fire
23 equipment that the local fire company uses, whether
24 it's your automobile, whatever, that equipment is
25 going to age with time as it's used. Doesn't mean it
26 won't work when it's needed, but it will age.

1 Our job was to make sure that the
2 operators, the maintenance technicians at the plant
3 were doing the maintenance that they need to do on
4 that equipment to make sure it's kept in good
5 condition. We did that review and like I said we
6 spent over 40 man years doing that, and our conclusion
7 was that the equipment is being maintained properly
8 and aging is being managed properly so the equipment
9 will operate properly when it's needed to.

10 An analogy on an automobile. You buy a
11 new car, it's brand new, it works fine. If you don't
12 do any maintenance on it it's not going to last real
13 long. So you did normal routine things on it. You
14 change the oil periodically, you get it tuned up, you
15 make sure you keep it washed during the winter when
16 there's a lot of salt on the road you keep the salt
17 worn off. Why not, it'll rust out from underneath,
18 you don't change the oil the engine will lock up
19 eventually on you and you'll have to put a lot of
20 money into it. If you don't take care of the brakes
21 when you need them sometimes they won't work.

22 We took a look from the same kind of
23 thing. The equipment that's in the plant that needs
24 to operate routinely needs to be operating safety
25 functions is it being maintained properly and the
26 conclusion we reached was yes, it is.

1 When the environmental review we took a
2 look at all the aspects of the impact of the plant on
3 the environment. It was mentioned earlier and John
4 Tappert mentioned it, it's not just the impact on the
5 terrestrial and the river and those kind of things
6 it's the impact on all the people that live in the
7 area. And we concluded that all of the, the items
8 that have identified by the NRC when we reviewed those
9 for impact on the environment that the impact on the
10 environment is small.

11 If you read the report, the word small is
12 used a lot. I'll tell you that's sort of a regulatory
13 term and when I first got into this and starting
14 dealing with the environmental people understand what
15 that meant and what it really means for me when you
16 look at it is that if this plant continues to operate
17 beyond 40 years, the impact on the environment and
18 everything we do in this world whether it's running a
19 nuclear power plant, whether it's driving an
20 automobile, whether it's building a new facility is
21 going to have some impact on the environment.

22 But the impact on the environment for
23 conditional, or 20 years of additional operation won't
24 be any more significant than what's going on today.
25 And so that plant is operating today, things will not
26 change when we get to 40 years.

1 It was mentioned earlier 40 years is, is
2 sort of an artificial lifetime of a plant and nothing
3 changes miraculously when you get to 40. Things will
4 continue as they are today.

5 Part of the review was what if we don't
6 operate that nuclear power plant. What are the
7 alternatives? And we looked at other ways of
8 generating nuclear power and determined that any
9 alternative means of generating electricity that 1800
10 megawatts would have more of an impact on the
11 environment than if we continued to operate Quad
12 Cities for an additional 20 years.

13 And so we concluded that the best thing to
14 do from an environmental view point is to continue to
15 operate Quad Cities. The conclusion we reached and
16 this is the overall Exelon team, and my own conclusion
17 personally, is that I believe the Quad Cities is a
18 safely operated plant; it can operate safely for an
19 additional 20 years and it will provide 1800 megawatts
20 of clean, reliable environmentally friendly economic
21 electricity that benefits not only this community but
22 the state of Illinois and our country. Thank you.

23 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you very much,
24 Fred. Our next speaker is Mr. Rob Lamb and then we're
25 going to go to Mr. Stuart Whitt.

1 MR. LAMB: Good afternoon. I'm Rob Lamb,
2 Vice President of the Quad Cities Development Group.
3 We're the organization that serves as the economic
4 umbrella for the greater Quad Cities area covering
5 Rock Island, Henry counties in Illinois and Scott
6 County in Iowa.

7 We support the license renewal application
8 for the Quad Cities Nuclear Generating Station. The
9 station is a vital part of the economy of the Quad
10 Cities and has a broad impact on the economy in three
11 areas.

12 The first benefit is electricity. For
13 three decades the plant has supplied the competitively
14 priced, reliable and environmentally friendly source
15 of power for our area. This has been a tremendous
16 marketing advantage for the Quad Cities area. To
17 continue marketing the Quad Cities to manufacturers
18 and other businesses we need the plant to remain an
19 integral part of what our community has to offer.

20 The second is in terms of jobs. The
21 station employs about 700 local citizens and provides
22 good income to many area families. The annual payroll
23 from the station puts about 50 million dollars into
24 the greater Quad Cities community. Those payroll
25 dollars buy goods and services from our businesses

1 which further strengthens our economy in the overall
2 area.

3 Finally, the station pays about three and
4 a half million dollars in taxes annually. These taxes
5 support our schools and our community infrastructure
6 making the greater Quad Cities more attractive to
7 companies looking to expand in this area and making
8 the Quad Cities a better place for our residents and
9 corporate citizens as well.

10 Relicensing of this plant is important to
11 our families, our corporate citizens, our schools and
12 our governments. As long as this facility continues
13 to be a strong economic asset in the area providing
14 cost competitive reliable energy, significant payroll
15 dollars, and critically needed property taxes the Quad
16 Cities Development Group recommends you approve the
17 relicensing request. Thank you.

18 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much, Mr.
19 Lamb. Mr. Whitt.

20 MR. WHITT: My name is Stuart Whitt and I'm
21 a principal of Whitt Law which is a firm of attorneys
22 in Aurora, Illinois. I represent the County Board of
23 Rock Island County, the Board of Trustees of Blackhawk
24 College Illinois Community College District No. 503,
25 and the Board of Education of Erie Community Unit
26 School District No. 1 in litigation currently pending

1 before the State of Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board
2 with regard to the ad velorum real property taxes to
3 be paid by the station, by the owners of the Quad
4 Cities Nuclear Power Station.

5 Construction permits for both the Quad
6 Cities Units 1 & 2 were issued by the NRC in February
7 of 1967. Unit 1 went into operation, commercial
8 operation on February 13th, 1973 and Unit 2 on March
9 10th, 1973. Since that time the Quad Cities Nuclear
10 Power Station has had a significant positive impact
11 upon the area's economic vitality. The county, the
12 college and the school district all recognize and
13 appreciate the positive benefits the station has
14 brought to the area.

15 Since its initial construction the Quad
16 Cities Nuclear Power Station has also been a dominant
17 tax payer in the community. In tax year 2001 the
18 station accounted for four percent of the tax revenue
19 of the county. 2.6 percent of the property tax
20 revenue of the college. 54.2 percent of the tax
21 revenue of the school district. That same year the
22 station accounted for 74.4 percent of the tax revenue
23 to the local fire protection district. 75.6 percent
24 of the tax revenue to the library district and 77.2
25 percent of the tax revenue to the township among other
26 taxing bodies.

1 While the Quad Cities Nuclear Power
2 Station has been the dominant taxpayer in this
3 community, the amount of taxes paid here is just a
4 fraction of those paid by Exelon for its other nuclear
5 assets throughout Illinois.

6 At the Byron Nuclear Power Station taxes
7 are in excess of 25 million dollars representing
8 \$11,515 of megawatt capacity. At Clinton, which is a
9 one unit station, the taxes exceed 9.5 million dollars
10 representing \$10,062 of megawatt capacity. At
11 Braidwood Units 1 & 2 the tax bill exceeds 20 million
12 dollars representing \$9,263 per megawatt. LaSalle,
13 \$7,181 per megawatt, Dresden 2 & 3 a tax bill of
14 nearly nine million dollars or \$5,627 per megawatt of
15 capacity.

16 At the same year Quad Cities Nuclear Power
17 Station paid taxes of \$3,451,554 or \$2,187 per
18 megawatt of capacity. The lowest in the state. Now
19 with the recent uprating that Mr. Tulon referenced
20 when he was up here, that per megawatt tax bill has
21 now been reduced to \$1,892 for each megawatt of
22 capacity prior to uprating the property taxes at Quad
23 Cities represented only 19 percent of those at Bryon.
24 For each megawatt of capacity, remarkably for each
25 megawatt of capacity the Quad Cities represented only

1 39 percent of the megawatt tax at Dresden which is in
2 essence a twin to the Quad Cities.

3 Prior to filing their application for a
4 20-year license extension, the owners filed an
5 assessment appeal to the State of Illinois Property
6 Tax Appeal Board. In that appeal they claimed that
7 the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station has no value
8 whatsoever for ad valorem property taxes. They're
9 asking to be relieved of any obligation to pay
10 property taxes in this community effectively rendering
11 the property exempt from taxation.

12 This notwithstanding the fact that the
13 station has an established record of performance well
14 in excess of 85 percent of capacity and Mr. Tulon
15 indicated a fact that the station can run now that it
16 has been refueled in 2002 that each unit can run two
17 years without stopping.

18 And I appreciate the fact that Mr. Tulon
19 indicated that the position before the property tax
20 appeal board is unreasonable. The county, the college
21 and the school district all recognized the importance
22 of the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station to the local
23 community and the benefits associated with the 20 year
24 extension of its operating base.

25 However, reduction of the station's
26 taxable value as requested by the owners will have a

1 devastating impact upon the local taxing districts
2 responsible for those social services which are vital
3 to the community.

4 The county will lose over \$400,000 and the
5 college will lose over a quarter of a million
6 resulting in substantial layoffs and the corresponding
7 reduction of social services. The school district
8 will lose more than two million dollars or nearly 29
9 percent of its entire budgeted revenues.

10 This loss will not be made up by the state
11 and it cannot be made up by the local community. With
12 this loss it will be impossible for the district to
13 maintain a quality educational program for its
14 students. This impact will be felt by the other
15 taxing bodies as well.

16 The environmental report filed by Exelon
17 generation company includes Section 2.8 at page F.2-18
18 regarding property taxes. The county, the college and
19 the school district all request that the Nuclear
20 Regulatory Commission solicit and accept statements
21 from the local taxing bodies for inclusion in the
22 supplemental environmental impact statement and
23 further ask that Edison drop its appeal. Thank you.

24 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much, Mr.
25 Whitt. We're going to go next to Chris Silbert and
26 then to Larry Topper. It's Chris Sibert? Cerbert?

1 Anyone close to the name Chris Silbert? Okay. I'm
2 sorry, but I know it's, it's you.

3 MS. FILBERT: It's me. Thank you. Really
4 good news, my comments are one page long and they're
5 in 14 pica so this isn't going to take too long.

6 My name is Chris Filbert. And I'm here
7 today to speak in dual capacity. My first capacity is
8 of a neighbor to the Quad Cities Nuclear Generating
9 Station. My husband and I bought a house in 1973 on
10 River Road North. And people would say I can't
11 believe you're moving in next to a nuclear plant. I
12 can honestly say that I had never at one time been
13 threatened because of it.

14 We take, I feel that the nuclear
15 generating plant is a concerned neighbor. They take
16 pride in their facility and the grounds which surround
17 them. They work very hard on keeping the appearance
18 up. They have provided quality jobs to many residents
19 of Cordova Township and funds to the area school
20 district.

21 My children went to Erie School District
22 and for the 12 years of their formal education they
23 were called the powerhouse kids lending to the fact
24 that their influence of the power facility is a great
25 influence to the area. They are a quiet neighbor and
26 a caring neighbor.

1 September 11th did change the sleepy
2 little town as well as the rest of the nation but
3 Exelon stepped to the plate and secured a plant in the
4 outgoing areas.

5 As a neighbor, I appreciated the
6 neighborhood meetings that they held which kept the
7 area informed, knowing and non fearful. For those
8 things I thank the Quad Cities Generating Station for
9 their concerns and caring.

10 Secondly, I speak as the Road Commissioner
11 for Cordova Township. The biggest boost to the road
12 and bridge district is the tax share supported by
13 Exelon. Without that tax base our district would be
14 in serious and desperate trouble. Approximately 70
15 percent of the monies collected in taxes are Exelon's
16 share. This tax base helps keep our roads in tip top
17 condition. It helps purchase equipment and pays for
18 salary of four employees. It also helps support the
19 Cordova Township Civic Center Park.

20 Recently I asked Exelon for some help in
21 clearing some trees that were blocking the sight line
22 of an intersection and what did they do, they did it
23 no problem. Then I asked if they'd help with another
24 intersection that had a safety issue. What did they
25 do, they got it done no problem. When they were asked
26 to donate land for the great river bike path that goes

1 through Cordova Township no problem, it was donated
2 and the bike path was completed through our township.

3 It's this kind of mutual caring for both,
4 by both the township and the industries that make
5 everyone's job less of a worry. I do appreciate
6 Exelon's professionalism and competence and whenever
7 I approach them for a problem solving issue.

8 Is Exelon a good neighbor? You bet. Is
9 Exelon good for Cordova Township? With no doubt. I
10 would like to thank the NRC for allowing me the time
11 to speak today's forum and extend my support for the
12 licensing of the Quad Cities Nuclear Station. Thank
13 you.

14 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much for your
15 comments. Excuse me for mangling your last name. All
16 right. Mr. Toppert.

17 MR. TOPPERT: Good afternoon. My name is
18 Larry Toppert and I'd like to thank the NRC for the
19 opportunity to be part of the licensing process. I'm
20 a life long resident of the upper county, graduated
21 from Riverdale schools, went to Western Illinois
22 University. I'm a certified hazardous materials
23 technician as well as an instructor in the program.
24 I've been published in a hazardous waste magazine and
25 have a patten on a separate of issues for waste
26 reduction.

1 From 1986 through 1998 I lived in a family
2 farm two miles from the Exelon plant. It was there
3 that my wife and I, Deb, raised two daughters, a
4 couple of dogs, a million cats, a couple of raccoons,
5 possums and even an occasional skunk.

6 Well, back in 1983 Deb and I started
7 Toppert Jetting Service an environmental management
8 company. And it's through this environmental
9 management company that I've had contact with Exelon.
10 We've worked not only for Exelon but for Federal,
11 State and county and municipal governments. We've
12 also worked for fortune 100 companies, fortune 500
13 companies and even those companies that are a little
14 bit less fortunate in the Quad Cities.

15 I bring a unique perspective to the
16 licensing process, in that I've been a neighbor close
17 at hand to the plant, and I've been a contractor in
18 the plant. And for the last 14 years I've worked in
19 areas in the plant that include chemistry, rad
20 protection, engineering, security, wastewater
21 treatment as well as with other contractors in the
22 plant.

23 I've worked on some 14 different projects
24 that, and I've been involved in everything from sewer
25 cleaning to underground storage tank removal to
26 special waste handling in the plant. And the elements

1 of these projects were always the same. They revolved
2 around safety, security and environmental sensitivity.
3 Coordinating these elements with a contractor and the
4 various departments in the plant is no easy task. And
5 I'm here to say to you that Exelon excels at managing
6 the safety, security and the environment of the plant.

7 It is an extraordinary, it is the
8 extraordinary professionalism and the training of
9 those people within the departments that has enabled
10 the projects that I've been involved in to be
11 successfully completed.

12 And even over this 14-year period of time,
13 I've had the opportunity because of advancements and
14 retirements within the plant to work with other
15 individuals on similar projects and the, even though
16 the management changed, the professional and the
17 training was always a continuation of what we had
18 originally started.

19 In all my years as a contractor I've not
20 seen any decrease in the pursuit of the best in
21 safety, security and the environment.

22 And from this position of being a close
23 neighbor and a contractor I say that it's Exelon's
24 continued dedication to the safety that has earned
25 them the right to remain a significant part of our
26 community for years to come. And I would urge the NRC

1 to renew the license for the Quad Cities Nuclear
2 Generating Station. Thank you.

3 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
4 Toppert. Next we're going to go to Mr. Don Swensson
5 and then Patrick O'Connor and then Katharine Sutt.

6 MR. SWENSSON: Thank you very much. I'm
7 here this afternoon to talk to you about the fishery
8 that has been maintained and created by the power
9 plant.

10 The power plant raises walleyes every
11 year. I've helped collect walleyes for the, bringing
12 of those fish and helped at various times both the
13 State of Illinois and with the power plant people.

14 The State of Illinois has a real plus
15 factor when you're talking about Pool 14 and Pool 13
16 on the river. Last week there was a 14 pound, two
17 ounce walleye taken out of Pool 14. That might be one
18 of the ones released by the nuke plant, I don't know.
19 People say well, it wasn't, it wasn't one of those
20 fish. You can't really tell the way they're branded.
21 It's impossible to tell by the looks of the fish
22 whether or not it was one of those fish or not.

23 After the fish, if you would skin the
24 fish, yes, you could probably tell by looking at the
25 inside, from the inside the skin you could see the
26 brand marks that are put on those fish.

1 But it is with a great deal of
2 appreciation from the fishermen in this area to what
3 is happening in the river. That section of the river,
4 Pool 14 is probably the most outstanding walleye
5 fishery and people talk about going north to fish for
6 walleyes, Pool 14 is probably one of the better
7 walleye fisheries in, on the Mississippi River.

8 And the hybrid striped bass don't seem to
9 want to stay in Pool 13 or 14, they end up heading
10 south. I've caught a few of them. I've never caught
11 a lot of them but they do head south and I go all the
12 way to Arkansas to try to catch them. Not those fish
13 but fish from similar to what we have in the
14 Mississippi River.

15 But the actions of the nuclear plant in
16 maintaining a walleye fishery and a hybrid striped
17 bass fishery is an outstanding achievement, for the
18 sportsmen in this particular area. And my hat's off
19 to Larry Lajune and his people on the work that they
20 do to maintain that fishery and to improve that
21 fishery. As far as I'm concerned Pool 14 and Pool 13
22 are the finest two pools for walleyes in the country.
23 Thank you.

24 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Mr. Swensson. Mr.
25 O'Connor.

1 MR. O'CONNOR: Good afternoon. My name is
2 Patrick O'Connor. I'm a resident of the State of
3 Illinois.

4 I'm here today to represent the joint
5 venture of Newberg-Perinni/Stone and Webster. Our
6 firm performs maintenance and modification work at all
7 ten of Exelon's nuclear facilities here in Illinois,
8 Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

9 We advocate the license extension of Quad
10 Cities station and we encourage others to do the same.
11 Here are some facts.

12 Last year our firm worked more than
13 750,000 person-hours at the Quad Cities Station.
14 That's the equivalent of 375 full-time employees
15 working at the site throughout the year. Our
16 employees earned more than \$30 million dollars much of
17 which was returned to the local economy.

18 Apart from the hundreds of our employees
19 who work in this area many of our, we also brought in
20 many travelers. Those travelers stayed in the local
21 hotels, they bought meals from your restaurants, they
22 patronized your gas stations and they prayed in your
23 churches.

24 During the refueling outages, skilled
25 union workers from throughout the United States joined
26 hands with the local workforce to provide maintenance

1 on important nuclear equipment and components.
2 Pipefitters upgrade mechanical systems, electricians
3 install new circuitry to improve the station's ability
4 to monitor its equipment, carpenters erect hundreds of
5 scaffolds. All the employees, whether or Exelon or
6 contractor, work together to ensure that all the
7 needed work is performed safely and with the highest
8 quality.

9 To give you an idea of the geographical
10 reach that this plant has across the United States, in
11 the last outage in the fall, we attracted workers from
12 42 different states. The majority of the workforce is
13 from this area, but because of the talent pool that we
14 need and the criteria that we have to have to attract
15 the best workforce, we reach across the nation.

16 Our workforce is comprised of skilled
17 union building trades people. Those that Tim referred
18 to earlier. Pipefitters, boilermakes, carpenters,
19 electricians, laborers, insulators, teamsters,
20 operating engineers all working together with Exelon's
21 workforce. These local unions help maintain the
22 station so that it can continue to deliver electricity
23 to our homes and businesses safely and economically.

24 I can tell you from working there that
25 Quad Cities Station is safe, orderly and operated by
26 a team of trained nuclear professionals. The safety

1 of the community, employees, and plant systems is at
2 the forefront of every activity performed at that
3 site. The men and women of Quad Cities Station live
4 in your community and work hard as a team to maintain
5 the highest standards of radiological safety,
6 equipment reliability, and operational excellence.
7 Their efforts have ensured that the lights will stay
8 on no matter what.

9 In the last three years, Exelon has
10 invested heavily in equipment improvements at Quad
11 Cities Station to ensure that it will perform even
12 better in the years to come. That investment has
13 resulted in additional jobs for our employees in the
14 short term and will mean plenty of work in the future
15 for refueling outages and to maintain that equipment
16 to a high state of readiness and availability.

17 The joint venture of Newberg-Perinni/Stone
18 and Webster encourages your support for the license
19 extension. We pledge to continue our best efforts to
20 work with your community to make Quad Cities Station
21 the best nuclear station in the world. Thank you very
22 much.

23 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
24 O'Connor. Is there anybody else who wants to say
25 anything? Yes, sir.

1 MR. MALVIK: My name is John Malvik (M-a-l-
2 v-i-k). I didn't register as a speaker here because
3 we had, I'm on the Rock Island County Board. I'm an
4 attorney in Rock Island County and a citizen who lives
5 in Moline. I, I didn't register because Mr. Bohnsack,
6 who I have the privilege of serving with on the county
7 board had, was scheduled to make remarks as was Stuart
8 Whitt the attorney representing us. But I started, I
9 found myself jotting down notes as I heard the
10 different speakers say things. And so I guess my
11 remarks are just my personal reaction to some of the
12 things that I, that I heard.

13 And my remarks have to do with the
14 socioeconomic impact that's been discussed by some of
15 the other people. And I've heard lots of big numbers
16 that have been bandied about by the Exelon spokesmen
17 and this was, these numbers were all the money that
18 Exelon has paid and put into the community.

19 What they didn't say was what they got in
20 return. After all these were not charitable
21 contributions made by Exelon. They were monies paid
22 for goods and services. Exelon received the labor and
23 hard work of the workers that were paid. They
24 received the goods and the services that they paid
25 for.

1 And most importantly by paying out this
2 money, this investment in the community they received
3 the right to conduct a business by which they reaped
4 millions upon millions of dollars in profits.

5 And that's not good enough for Exelon.
6 Exelon doesn't want to pay its fair share of taxes.
7 That's the bottom line. They don't want to pay as
8 much in taxes as they are paying. Well, who does? I'm
9 a county official and I don't want to pay as much in
10 taxes as I pay.

11 This giant and profitable corporation
12 wants to shift its civic duty to pay taxes to the
13 little guy, the working men and women of our
14 community, our senior citizens, those who have to
15 struggle to make ends meet. I find Exelon's conduct
16 both amoral and shameful in this regard. Thank you.

17 MR. CAMERON: Thank you for those remarks.
18 Anybody else that we didn't capture? Any questions
19 that anybody has after you've listened to the
20 presentations? Comments?

21 Okay. I'm going to ask John Tappert to
22 close the meeting, the afternoon session. We will be
23 here tonight at 7:00 o'clock and an open house 6:00
24 o'clock. Of course you're all welcome to come back.
25 And John do you want to close it out for us?

1 MR. TAPPERT: Thanks, Chip. And thank all
2 of you for coming out today and providing input to our
3 scoping process for our report.

4 If you have any additional comments, Duke
5 Wheeler told you lots of ways you can communicate with
6 us and anyone with a name tag is going to be around
7 after the meeting if you'd like to have a discussion
8 with us one-on-one.

9 So again, thanks for coming and we
10 appreciate your participation and have a good day.

11 (Whereupon, the above matter concluded at
12 3:00 p.m.)

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