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4 MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE
 5 LONG ISLAND OFFSHORE WIND PARK PROJECT
 6 PUBLIC EIS SCOPING MEETING

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8 -----X

9 July 11, 2006
 10 7:00 p.m.
 11 Massapequa High School
 12 4925 Merrick Road
 13 Massapequa, New York

12

13 MINUTES OF MEETING

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16 PANEL MEMBERS:

- 17 DOUG SLITOR
- 18 MAUREEN BORNHOLDT
- 19 TIM REDDING
- 20 THOMAS W. BJERSTEDT, Ph.D.
- 21 GLENN B. HOLCOMB

22

23 Debra Stevens
 24 Court Reporter

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2 MR. SLITOR: Please, folks,
3 take your seats. Also please
4 remember to sign in if you want to
5 speak. If you haven't signed in up
6 front at the front desk, will you
7 please sign in.

8 Thank you very much for coming
9 tonight. This is the Long Island
10 Offshore Wind Park proposal; it is
11 the scoping meeting for this. I
12 would like to thank you all for
13 coming. We have a pretty good
14 turnout tonight; we have a number of
15 speakers that have signed up.

16 I would like to go through a
17 few things to get this meeting
18 started. First off, my name is Doug
19 Slitor; I am the project manager for
20 the Minerals Management Service. We
21 are the agency that oversees this
22 project. We are the federal
23 regulators who oversee this project.

24 We have a panel up here
25 tonight; Maureen Bornholdt, Tim

1 3
2 Redding also from the Minerals
3 Management Service, Dr. Tom

4 Bjerstedt. We have a court reporter
5 to take the testimony of everybody
6 that comes to the microphone. Our
7 facilitator tonight is Glenn Holcomb
8 from U.S. Geological Survey.

9 First off, I would like to
10 reiterate what the purpose of this
11 meeting is. This meeting is to hear
12 you folks, and it is for the purpose
13 of defining the scope of the
14 Environmental Impact Statement. We
15 are here to listen to you; what your
16 concerns are; what you believe the
17 issues are.

18 This is part of the process
19 that we refer to as NEPA, which is
20 the acronym for the National
21 Environmental Policy Act.

22 The format of the meeting
23 tonight is I will give a brief
24 presentation on who we are, so you
25 understand how we came to be in

1 4
2 charge of this particular proposal.
3 The elected officials of your
4 communities are given the privilege
5 of speaking first, and then the

6 general public follows on a
7 first-come-first-serve basis.

8 I want to reiterate this is
9 not an interactive dialogue. It is
10 not an opportunity for an interactive
11 dialogue with the MMS officials here.
12 We are here in a listening capacity.
13 If you have questions about the
14 timing or the process itself we can
15 certainly answer those, but we don't
16 have the answers as far as the
17 proposal is concerned. It is a
18 proposal and that is why we are here
19 tonight. It is the beginning stages
20 of this.

21 First off, the Department of
22 Interior. We are within the
23 Department of Interior, the Minerals
24 Management Service. And I know many
25 of you don't know who we are. We are

1 5
2 concerned primarily with offshore oil
3 and gas leasing and this is
4 predominantly in the Gulf of Mexico.
5 We also have facilities in California
6 and one in Alaska, but the Atlantic
7 coast does not have any. However, it

8 is an organization that has been
9 around for a good long while.

10 As you can see from the slide
11 we have 8,500 leases; 47 million
12 acres are leased; there are 4,000
13 facilities in the Gulf of Mexico, oil
14 and gas producing facilities; also
15 42,000 people offshore. So we have
16 been working in this capacity for
17 approximately 50 years. Although our
18 agency is relatively young, it was
19 formed from the Bureau of Land
20 Management and U.S. Geological
21 Survey.

22 First off, I would like to
23 acknowledge the work of the Army
24 Corps of Engineers, who did a fine
25 job in really filling the void.

1 6
2 Proposals started to be talked about,
3 they actually came in and the Army
4 Corps of Engineers stepped up and
5 filled the void in the legislation by
6 starting to process within the
7 guidelines of their statutory
8 authority, the Cape Wind in
9 Massachusetts and down here, the Long

10 Island proposals.

11 MMS came to this by Congress

12 recognizing the fact that the

13 Minerals Management Service has the

14 expertise in terms of multiple use

15 planning. We have been doing this

16 for offshore oil and gas. We have a

17 broad authority already in place, the

18 OCS Lands Act, which is kind of a

19 cradle to grave approach to access of

20 offshore lands all the way through

21 the construction, the production and

22 finally the decommission. So we have

23 the technical and other biological

24 resources to address these issues.

25 The Energy Policy Act, which

1 7

2 was passed August 8, 2005, gave the

3 department the authority to do this;

4 it was handed to us. And with that

5 there were a few things that we

6 needed to do. We need to figure out

7 a means to access, and we are in the

8 throws of doing this type of

9 activity. We will also be addressing

10 the entire life cycle of projects and

11 determining what is a fair return to

12 the nation.

13 The second bullet speaks to
14 the applicants that were already in
15 process when this began. And what it
16 acknowledges is that since they had
17 submitted applications to a federal
18 agency, that they don't have to
19 resubmit their information; but that
20 does not mean that they don't have to
21 submit additional information.

22 Our scope of authority is
23 quite broad and we require additional
24 information. We have already
25 required additional information of

1 8

2 the applicant. They have submitted
3 it and they will have more to submit
4 in the future. It is just the nature
5 of what we have.

6 The structure for all of this
7 again is the National Environmental
8 Policy Act. It provides a structure
9 for us to assess proposals from
10 entities, government entities, that
11 want to put facilities on the Outer
12 Continental Shelf, the Outer
13 Continental Shelf being three miles

14 and beyond of the Atlantic coast.

15 There are also a host of other
16 laws that the applicants have to
17 subscribe to, including our OCS Lands
18 Act, there is Clean Air, Clean Water
19 and Endangered Species; there are a
20 number of laws that have their
21 fingers in this type of thing. So
22 there are quite a few regulations
23 that are already in place to address
24 many, many of the issues that may
25 come up during this process.

1 9

2 Just a slide here to show you
3 what is involved in an EIS. If you
4 are unfamiliar with them --I know
5 many of you are -- I will give you a
6 second just to read those.

7 We are here today because of
8 scoping, though. Your comments today
9 will help us define the issues that
10 will be covered and help us define
11 the scope and the extent of the EIS.
12 We ask for input from the states,
13 federal agencies, local governments,
14 tribes, industry, public interest
15 groups and the public.

18 involved, spaced anywhere from a
19 third to a half mile apart.

20 The tower height is
21 approximately 260 feet. The rotor
22 diameters are 364 feet, revolving at
23 five to 13 revolutions per minute.
24 It produces a power in the eight to
25 60 miles-per-hour range. The

1 11

2 monopiles will be sunk approximately
3 180 feet into the sea bed. There
4 will be 34.5 kilovolt cables that
5 connect the turbines to the
6 substation, and from there the 138
7 kilovolt cable will come ashore to
8 the existing Sterling substation in
9 West Amityville.

10 This next slide shows the
11 proposed project map. All of you are
12 familiar with this, I am sure. It is
13 an array; it is not a linear,
14 picket-fence approach to the
15 configuration. You can see some, at
16 least I hope you can see the mileage
17 indicators from the wind park to
18 shore, the red line being the main
19 cable that goes to shore.

22 issues that have been identified are
23 on this map. We have artificial
24 reefs, numerous fishing areas, fish
25 trap areas, shipping traffic lanes,

1 13

2 military warning areas, cable areas,
3 ocean dump sites, and pipeline areas.
4 There is a lot going on out there.

5 Here are some pictures from a
6 wind park construction from Europe.
7 It gives you a feel for at least the
8 process that would be involved. It
9 requires an onshore staging area.

10 The project is comprised of
11 steel jackets that are pile driven
12 into the sediment. There is also an
13 anchor foundation jacket. This is
14 quite similar to many of the
15 structures that we deal with in the
16 oil and gas world. It is installed
17 using a jacked-up rig with a crane.

18 In the middle bottom picture
19 they are mounting the hub of the
20 turbine or the nacelle on top, and
21 then the blades are finally attached.

22 The electrical cables, two of
23 them, a smaller diameter one being

24 the one that connects the turbines to
25 the substation that is offshore.

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2 They are gathered there at that
3 substation. And then the larger one
4 will take the 138 kilovolts and
5 transport it to the Sterling
6 substation.

7 This is the EIS schedule. The
8 scoping will conclude on August 21st.
9 The Draft EIS should come out in
10 April 2007. The comment period on
11 that will be approximately 60 days.
12 We will public a Final EIS in
13 February 2008, and a month later
14 there should be a record of decision
15 regarding this proposal.

16 There is public input such as
17 this throughout. There is a variety
18 of means for public to engage in this
19 process. We also will be working
20 with other federal agencies and state
21 agency representatives, many of which
22 are here tonight. There will be a
23 number that are in the cooperating
24 agency status. We intend to have one
25 EIS that addresses all of our needs.

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We have overlapping authorities so we will be working closely together.

Again, just to remind you, these are the things that we are looking for; data on resources, potential impacts, possible mitigation and alternatives.

I would like to thank you all for coming. We are going to receive verbal testimony now. Again, the best and most efficient way is to use the Internet, but now it is going to be time to hear from you folks. I would like to turn this over to Glenn Holcomb, the facilitator for this evening.

MR. HOLCOMB: Hi. My name is Glen Holcomb. It is my first time in Massapequa and I really enjoyed getting out and looking around. I would like to go over some of the ground rules for the meeting.

You must be registered at the front desk and have a card with a

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2 number on it if you wish to speak. I
3 will call you down by number and I
4 will call two numbers at a time; one
5 will be to speak and the other will
6 be basically on standby. You will be
7 cued to speak right afterward because
8 we have a very short time frame and
9 we are trying to fit a lot of people
10 in here.

11 Again, speaking time is three
12 minutes unless we end up having a
13 little over a hundred speakers. We
14 may tweak that a little bit. We
15 learned last night it was a little
16 tough to fit everybody in. We had
17 119 people registered to speak last
18 night and it was a little tough
19 getting everybody in. We may tweak
20 it a little bit, but right now we
21 will go for three minutes.

22 When it is your turn to speak,
23 I will call your number, I will ask
24 you to face the panel and come down
25 to one of the two microphones here at

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2 the end of the aisle and speak into

3 those. Please state your name and
4 your affiliation, if you are
5 affiliated with anybody, for the
6 reporter who is trying to capture
7 everything.

8 I will flash these slides when
9 it is your turn to speak. Basically,
10 to green to go. When two minutes
11 have passed, I will give you a
12 one-minute yield. At the end of your
13 three minutes, you will have a stop.

14 One person will be allowed to
15 speak at a time. All speakers will
16 speak in the order in which they
17 registered, so you have the number
18 and we will go by the number. Please
19 be respectful of the persons
20 speaking. There is a lot of passion
21 around this project and everyone
22 deserves to be heard in a fair
23 manner.

24 Any questions about the
25 process?

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2 Well, let's begin. We will
3 start with elected officials, but
4 first I would like to -- I have a

5 couple of acknowledgements here.
6 They have chosen not to speak, but
7 they want to acknowledge they are
8 here and listening, Steven Labriola,
9 Town Clerk and Theresa Spinoza,
10 Trustee.

11 First up, I would like to ask
12 Congressman Peter King to come up and
13 speak, please.

14 SPEAKER: I represent Peter
15 King. He is in Washington fulfilling
16 his job obligations there. He asked
17 me to read this letter to you. This
18 letter was sent to the Secretary of
19 the Interior today.

20 "I appreciate the Department
21 of Minerals Management Services
22 holding this evening's meeting and
23 receiving public input on this
24 project. Based upon my own
25 conversations with concerned

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2 citizens, I would ask the following
3 questions be addressed:

4 "Why is Long Island off-shore
5 wind park going forward prior to the
6 adoption of guidelines?

7 "Secondly, what will be the
8 health and environmental impact of
9 transmission cables traveling through
10 residential neighborhoods and
11 recreation areas?

12 "Thirdly, and probably most
13 important, considering that Britain's
14 Ministry of Defense has reported that
15 wind farms interfere with British
16 radar systems, what will be the radar
17 impact of the Long Island off-shore
18 wind park on such airports as JFK,
19 MacArthur and Gabreski, which are in
20 proximity to the proposed site?"

21 I await your comments and if
22 you have any questions, please call
23 his office.

24 MR. HOLCOMB: I would like to
25 ask Supervisor Venditto to come and

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2 speak next. I understand he has a
3 meeting to go to, so I would ask him
4 to speak next.

5 SUPERVISOR VENDITTO: I am
6 John Venditto, Town Supervisor.
7 Shame on you if you don't know who
8 your Town Supervisor is.

9 To preface my comments, the
10 Town of Oyster Bay is a member of the
11 Clean Energy Task Force. I believe
12 we are the first town in the region
13 to adopt a clean energy policy
14 pursuant to the Clean Energy Task
15 Force. We are committed to reduce
16 dependency on fossil fuels and I say
17 that because that is our intention in
18 the Town of Oyster Bay.

19 But having said that, it is
20 still all a question of balance. We
21 have a housing crisis in the Town of
22 Oyster Bay. To solve the housing
23 crisis, we wouldn't allow a hundred
24 units to the acre. And to solve our
25 energy needs, we are not going to do

1 21
2 so at the expense of our environment
3 or our quality of life.

4 The problem with the subject
5 proposal, as I see it to date, is
6 that it raises many, many more
7 questions than it provides answers.
8 We are talking about 40 turbines, 400
9 feet high, potential navigation
10 problems, aviation problems, that

11 delivery cable. Some conversation,
12 some dialogue indicating that only
13 10- to 50,000 customers out of 1
14 million are actually going to benefit
15 from this. And there is even some
16 talk that the technology we are
17 seeing here tonight may be obsolete
18 in very, very short order.

19 As I understand the process,
20 the federal government is
21 presently -- presently working on a
22 GEIS for national guidelines. The
23 Town of Oyster Bay would strongly
24 urge that this proposal either be
25 withdrawn without prejudice or at a

1 22

2 minimum -- at a minimum, held in
3 abeyance until we can have those
4 guidelines in place. I think common
5 sense dictates that.

6 Ladies and gentlemen, it was
7 only a few short years ago that we or
8 our parents or our grandparents, we
9 thought it was okay to dump toxic
10 waste into the ground and bury it.
11 And the reason we thought it was okay
12 was because we didn't know better.

13 We didn't have the ability, the
14 capacity to understand the import of
15 what we are doing. Well, today we
16 have that capacity, and we should use
17 it. We should not be in a position
18 where our children and our
19 grandchildren 50 years from now or
20 maybe even 20 years from now are
21 looking back and saying "How the heck
22 did those windmills get there?"

23 Speaking on behalf of the Town
24 of Oyster Bay and the town
25 government, all of my colleagues on

1 23
2 the town board who are scattered to
3 the winds tonight because it is a
4 very busy night, we really do feel
5 strongly the application should be
6 withdrawn without prejudice or at a
7 minimum at least held in abeyance.

8 I will close on this note. If
9 the federal government is serious
10 about creating guidelines, meaningful
11 guidelines, then one of those
12 guidelines should be to allow the
13 people who know the lay of the land
14 the best, to allow the people who are

15 the most directly impacted by this
16 application to have some input.

17 Let's have the federal
18 government provide for guidelines
19 which give each and every one of us
20 in this room not only meaningful
21 input but some local control over our
22 own environment here in the Town of
23 Oyster Bay and on Long Island.

24 Thank you for your time.

25 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you. I

1 24

2 would like to invite County
3 Legislator Peter Schmitt to come and
4 speak, please.

5 MR. SCHMITT: Thank you very
6 much. I just want to read into the
7 record a letter that has been sent to
8 Secretary Dirk Kempthorne by myself
9 this afternoon relative to this
10 project and I want to echo the
11 comments of both Congressman King and
12 Supervisor Venditto. I think we are
13 all, as local officials, on very much
14 the same page. "Dear
15 Secretary Kempthorne: I write to you
16 concerning the proposal of Long

17 Island off-shore wind park which is
18 the subject of a public scoping
19 meeting conducted by your
20 department's Minerals Management
21 Service.

22 "I ask that the following
23 questions be addressed before any
24 decision is made by your department
25 on the project.

1 25

2 "1. Given the relative small
3 amount of electric to be generated,
4 why is it so urgent that this project
5 proceed prior to the development of
6 evaluation guidelines? Do not the
7 residents of Nassau and Suffolk
8 Counties have the right to have any
9 project of this type conform to or
10 exceed the minimum safety and
11 environmental standards that are
12 developed for the rest of America?

13 "2. In light of the fact that
14 Florida Power and Light has never
15 built a facility of this type off
16 shore, special attention should be
17 focused on the construction cost
18 projections and who is responsible

19 for cost overruns. Many of us
20 remember LIPA's predecessor, LILCO,
21 and their billion-dollar cost
22 overruns at Shoreham, which we are
23 still paying for.

24 "Long Island Power Authority
25 and Florida Power and Light have

1 26
2 located the project just far enough
3 away to ensure there is no state,
4 county or town review. I believe
5 that is unfortunate. And while it
6 may only be coincidental, it raises
7 doubts as to the integrity of the
8 entire proposal. It is never good
9 when the people and their elected
10 representatives who they can hold
11 accountable, are removed from the
12 decision-making process.

13 "I urge your due diligence on
14 the above questions and thank you for
15 your efforts."

16 MR. HOLCOMB: I would like to
17 invite County Legislator Dave
18 Denenberg to come up and speak,
19 please.

20 MR. DENENBERG: Thank you. As

21 county legislator, my district covers
22 Freeport, Merrick, Bellmore, Wantagh,
23 right up to the Seaford border. In
24 this process -- and I am also an
25 attorney who has practiced

1 27

2 substantially in the environmental
3 field.

4 This is an Environmental
5 Impact Statement. What we are
6 looking here in the public process
7 that will continue after this, after
8 draft statements, is for questions to
9 be asked, questions to be answered
10 and issues to come up and, hopefully,
11 resolution of the issues.

12 Anyone here who speaks -- and
13 there will be cheers and there will
14 be jeers -- are taking part in a
15 process and should be complimented.
16 You shouldn't have to look at an
17 e-mail this morning if you are
18 against it and be called a suntanned
19 NIMBY.

20 I apologize. I am up here
21 with a suntan. I did go to the beach
22 this past weekend. I am proud of it,

23 proud of being a Long Islander and
24 proud that we have the best -- the
25 best beaches in the world.

1 28

2 I am also proud that I am part
3 of this process and that the elected
4 officials that spoke before me and
5 that each and every one of you in
6 this room are part of the process.
7 As chairman of the Planning
8 Development Environment committee,
9 over the last six-plus years we
10 created an open space policy in
11 Nassau County, joined the Clean
12 Energy Task Force. We put in a bill
13 which I sponsored that said Nassau
14 County, by the end of this decade,
15 will use 25 percent renewable energy.
16 So we are all committed to renewable
17 energy.

18 If you are for this process --
19 I am sorry. If you are for this
20 project or if you are against this
21 project, that alone on one project
22 doesn't make you pro-environment or
23 anti-environment. Anyone who says
24 they are against this project, you

25 are against this project; You are not

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2 against the environment. If you are
3 for this project, you are for this
4 project; You are not necessarily for
5 the environment.

6 Do we need renewable energy?

7 No one here would say that we don't.

8 And if LIPA has a true renewable
9 energy policy, it will call for so
10 much more than just one wind energy
11 project. It will call for solar, it
12 will call for other alternative and
13 renewable energy sources and KeySpan
14 or National Grid, if they take over,
15 will call for repowering the
16 antiquated power plants that every
17 environmentalist knows should be
18 repowered.

19 If we want to talk about
20 cleaner and more efficient energy, we
21 need to talk about an entire program
22 that has everything that I just said
23 and no one aspect of that program,
24 and being against one aspect of that
25 program doesn't mean you are against

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renewable energy or against the

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environment.

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This is an Environmental

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Impact Statement and study. So we

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have to weigh the costs versus the

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benefits. First let's look at open

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space. We are looking at a

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\$50 million bond in Nassau County,

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the majority of it -- and I agree

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wholeheartedly-- will go to keep open

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space, whether it is on the north

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shore or south shore, pristine. And

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if it is on the north shore, we get

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the benefits on the south shore in

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keeping open space pristine.

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We are looking at taking

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private property with public funds,

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and everyone on the south shore voted

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in favor, as well as the north shore,

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because we know that it is a good use

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of public funds; 77 percent of the

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people favor it. But isn't the ocean

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open space? Is water not open space?

25

So we have to look at the cost of

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giving up open space for a project

3 and what are the benefits of the
4 project.

5 Renewable energy for how many?
6 How much energy will be supplied?
7 Are we risking all future renewable
8 energy projects because the cost of
9 construction versus the benefit in
10 terms of production for just a small
11 percentage of all homes in Nassau and
12 Suffolk County, are we risking future
13 projects because this will cost too
14 much for too small of a benefit?

15 And why is it located on the
16 public beaches, where the most people
17 will have an adverse environmental
18 impact?

19 Let me tell you something.
20 Esthetics and keeping our beaches
21 pristine and our ocean and coastline
22 pristine is not in my backyard alone.
23 Anyone who is for preserving open
24 space has to know that the first
25 order of business in preserving open

1 32

2 space is don't develop what is
3 undeveloped. But it is a cost
4 benefit analysis. If the cost and if

5 the risk to open space is worth the
6 renewable energy and we are getting
7 enough renewable energy from it, so
8 be it. The process should show that
9 out.

10 But anyone who questions it is
11 not against the environment and
12 anyone who questions it should also
13 question, again, why the public
14 beach? The answer which I have been
15 told is because of ocean depth. So
16 let's look at what the latest
17 technology is. Is it true that the
18 ocean depth is only good outside of
19 Robert Moses and Jones Beach, Gilgo,
20 where the most millions of people get
21 to enjoy the ocean? Was it really
22 that different to go to the east end
23 or someplace else? If the answer is
24 it really wasn't, that is something
25 else in the Environmental Impact

1 33
2 Study. If this is the only place it
3 could be, that would be something
4 else, too. But there are emerging
5 technologies that have to be looked
6 at.

9 that we need to raise and look at and
10 you need to consider in all that cost
11 benefit analysis which I spoke of and
12 you need to find the answers. I
13 would like to find them, too, but you
14 need to find the answers.

15 Finally, really the process
16 does need to be looked at because are
17 we jumping the gun? If you say not,
18 you should know why you are saying
19 not. But the guidelines are coming.
20 We are ahead of it and there is talk
21 of fast-tracking. Why?

22 Thank you very much and thank
23 everyone for being here.

24 MR. HOLCOMB: At this time I
25 would like to open it up for public

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2 comment starting with number 1 coming
3 down to speak first and number 2,
4 please come down to either stand
5 behind or to the other microphone to
6 be on standby.

7 Face the panel and state your
8 name and affiliation.

9 MS. FITENI. My name is Beth
10 Fiteni and I am the issues program

11 director of the Neighborhood Network.

12 We support the process of
13 siting a wind park off-shore Long
14 Island. We advocate for clean energy
15 and do public education on the
16 impact of global warming on Long
17 Island such as sea level rise and
18 increase in intense hurricanes and
19 storms which will affect south shore
20 beaches.

21 We would like to see the
22 forthcoming EIS quantify the benefits
23 of the wind project in addition to
24 reviewing negative impacts. For
25 example, can we quantify the number

1 36

2 of human illnesses that will be
3 averted by the use of wind to create
4 electricity? If this wind park can
5 potentially save 13 million barrels
6 of oil and hundreds of tons of NOX
7 emissions, what does that mean in
8 terms of reduced asthma attack risk
9 and trips to doctors saved? Can we
10 quantify how much global warming is
11 averted?

12 Also, the EIS should clearly

13 include a thorough evaluation of
14 impact on fish, migrating birds and
15 migrating whales sighted off Long
16 Island. While we look at these
17 impacts, the EIS should also consider
18 the benefits of reduced air pollution
19 on wild life. Researchers believe,
20 in addition to other factors, warmer
21 waters in Long Island Sound possibly
22 contributed to the lobster die-off of
23 1999. Also, oceans are becoming
24 acidic due to excess carbon
25 absorption. In Oregon and California

1 37

2 tens of thousands of sea birds
3 recently washed up dead on beaches of
4 starvation because unusual weather
5 patterns attributed to climate change
6 disrupted the network of marine life
7 crucial to the sea birds' diet.

8 A study in Journal of
9 Conservation Biology this April said
10 global warming will become the top
11 cause of extinction for thousands of
12 species in coming decades and ranks
13 among the most serious threats to the
14 planet's bio diversity.

17 the very high cost of continued
18 fossil fuel use on public health, the
19 environment and our national security
20 and, I would add, my cousin, who is
21 in Iraq, relative to the use of a
22 fuel free wind park. If anybody is
23 not clear on some of the details of
24 the project, I encourage everyone to
25 see Windpark4longisland.org.

1 39

2 Thank you.

3 MR. HOLCOMB: I would invite
4 speakers 2 and 3 to come down.

5 MR. RANGHELLI: Good evening,
6 I am Ralph Ranghelli, business agent
7 of IBEW, Local 1049. I represent
8 2,600 men and women engaged in the
9 delivery of gas and electric energy
10 in the power generation industry. I
11 want to thank the staff conducting
12 this hearing affording me the
13 opportunity to comment on the record
14 and such an important mission.

15 I have been a resident of Long
16 Island, lived on the south shore 55
17 years, raised three children,
18 certainly have enjoyed our wonderful

19 beaches and our waters that surround
20 this great place to live. I have
21 also had 40 years experience in the
22 electric generating industry and
23 believe me, folks, I have seen the
24 evolution from creating power
25 generation using coal as a fuel

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2 source to low sulphur coal, migrating
3 to oil, low sulphur oil, a failed
4 attempt at nuclear, and now we are
5 using gas primarily to generate
6 electricity.

7 We are at a crossroads in our
8 history. We must lessen our
9 dependence on foreign oil for many
10 reasons, security of our nation being
11 foremost. But we can always find
12 reasons, it seems, why this isn't the
13 right time, the right place or the
14 right project to take that bold step
15 and start this new initiative.

16 I understand and I appreciate
17 the concerns about our beaches, the
18 esthetics, the marine life and all
19 the other important factors that must
20 be considered and go through a

21 process, a due process of evaluation.
22 But I urge everyone not to rush to
23 judgment. Please keep an open mind.
24 We need to have renewable
25 energy as part of a diversification

1 41
2 of our ability to generate power.
3 Fossil fuel alone is not the answer
4 anymore. We need to have wind power,
5 solar power and whatever other
6 technologies may come forward to
7 complement and enhance the use of
8 nuclear and fossil fuels. We do not
9 have nuclear on Long Island and that
10 may or may not be a good thing. But
11 we have to recognize that we can't
12 continue our dependence on the fossil
13 fuels and particularly the continuing
14 use of natural gas. So I urge
15 everyone, once again, please keep an
16 open mind. Allow this process to go
17 forward. It is the first step in a
18 very long journey and at the end we
19 may be pleasantly surprised with the
20 outcome.

21 Thank you for your time.

22 MR. HOLCOMB: I would like to

23 invite number 3 to speak and 4 to
24 stand by.

25 MR. DAVITIAN: I am Harry

1 42

2 Davitian, speaking tonight on behalf
3 of the Long Island Association,
4 chairman of the Energy/Environment
5 Committee of the LIA.

6 Today Long Island is heavily
7 dependent on petroleum and natural
8 gas for all aspects of energy use,
9 including electric power generation.
10 We need to find use of generating
11 electric using these fuels more
12 efficient as well as to diversify the
13 energy resources on which we depend.
14 We also need to find ways to reduce
15 air emissions associated with power
16 generation by replacing old power
17 generating facilities with new, clean
18 plants and make greater use of
19 renewable resources.

20 In these regards, our choices
21 here on the Island are very limited.
22 With respect to renewable resources
23 specifically, off-shore wind power is
24 by far the most economical and

25 practical choice available to Long

1 43

2 Island.

3 In the 2002 to 2004 time
4 frame, LIPA developed an energy plan
5 and implemented the first stage of
6 that plan. This first stage was a
7 balanced approach to addressing Long
8 Island's power needs. It included,
9 one, a large, clean, efficient
10 on-island combined cycle generating
11 facility. Two, two smaller combined
12 cycle generating facilities which
13 could be brought on line relatively
14 quickly and today already operating.
15 Three, a major new transition
16 interconnection to New Jersey
17 currently under construction. Four,
18 a variety of energy conservation
19 programs to be conducted through
20 several engineering firms. And five,
21 finally, the off-shore wind project
22 which is the subject of these
23 hearings.

24 LIPA used competitive bid
25 processes to select the best project

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2 proposals in each category. LIPA has
3 proceeded with caution in
4 conceptualization of the off-shore
5 wind project. Over the past five
6 years, LIPA funded a number of
7 studies looking at different issues
8 associated with wind power
9 generation. Location, size and
10 design of the current project
11 reflects the results of those
12 studies.

13 LIA long supported
14 diversification of the energy
15 resources here on Long Island and use
16 of cost-effective renewable energy as
17 an important element of achieving
18 that goal. For this reason we
19 support, one, LIPA's balanced
20 multifaceted first stage
21 implementation of the energy plan;
22 Two, LIPA's use of the RFP process to
23 select best projects in each
24 category; and, three, the inclusion
25 of this specific off-shore wind

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2 project as part of that energy plan.

3 We are pleased this project is
4 now at the stage where an EIS is
5 being prepared. We anticipate this
6 review will be thorough and hope it
7 will expeditiously set the stage for
8 this project to move forward.

9 Thank you for the opportunity
10 to speak.

11 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you. I
12 would like to invite number 4 to
13 speak and number 5 to be on standby.

14 MR. LEWIS: Good evening. My
15 name is Neal Lewis, executive
16 director of Neighborhood Network.

17 It has now been four years
18 since LIPA first agreed to conduct a
19 preliminary study of the potential
20 for wind projects in response to
21 requests from environmentalists. A
22 great deal happened in the four
23 years, but as stated, this hearing is
24 just the beginning of the formal EI
25 review.

1 46

2 Environmental activists across
3 the country are sounding an alarm

4 bell about the crisis we are
5 witnessing of global warming directly
6 caused by the burning of fossil
7 fuels. That is why environmentalists
8 support clean, renewable sources of
9 energy like wind power. If the
10 project ever gets approved and built,
11 it will immediately offset electric
12 generation from power plants that
13 burn fossil fuels and, therefore,
14 reduce smoke stack emissions. Carbon
15 dioxide emissions which are
16 accelerating global warming will be
17 reduced by some 235,000 tons of CO2
18 each year, which is significant.
19 It's equivalent to avoiding some
20 500,000 car miles every year or
21 equivalent to protecting 177,000
22 acres of pine forests to pull carbon
23 dioxide from the air.

24 The climate crisis that global
25 warming is causing is bringing about

1 47

2 sea level rise and increased storm
3 severity and frequency. This climate
4 crisis presents a fundamental
5 question to a civilized society of

8 little hard for some of us to
9 believe, claims that there will be
10 rattling windows and humming walls as
11 a result of the turbines; that we
12 will hear the noise. Well, will we
13 hear it? The EIS really needs to
14 answer these questions that will
15 affect our family pets, according to
16 a most recent mailing that came out
17 days ago.

18 There is a claim the cables
19 will cause disease. This would be
20 very serious not just for this
21 project, but for the thousands of
22 miles of cables that already exist
23 all across Long Island. So, it would
24 be a great service to the people of
25 Long Island if MMS could tell us what

1 49

2 the science is on this issue.

3 Esthetics is said to be an
4 issue of taste. Back in the late
5 1900s, the Eiffel Tower was called a
6 giant ungainly skeleton. I would
7 just say, esthetics is not just a
8 question of taste. I encourage them
9 to address it in this report.

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Thank you.

MR. HOLCOMB: Number 5 and
number 6 on standby, please.

MR. SIBECK: Good evening. My
name is David Sibeck, here as a
resident of Long Island.

I reject the unnecessary
industrialization of Long Island's
coastline. I reject the arrogant
desecration of the open spaces and
the woods and the fields and the
wildlife habitat, but it seems that
many of us have embraced the
catastrophic overdevelopment of Long
Island. Not enough of us have
protested the mindless taking over of

50

our home.

The ill-conceived development
of endless vulgar strip malls and
tens of thousands of acres of parking
lots. Gratuitous development has us
staring at the trillions of tons of
steel, concrete and asphalt
strangling our communities and
polluting our views.

We have not actively objected

12 to the endless roads and highways
13 that tear scars across our landscape.

14 I am not aware of any
15 condemnations of the network of huge
16 bridges that connect us to Robert
17 Moses, Jones Beach, Bronx, Manhattan,
18 Staten Island. I am not aware of
19 condemnation of the tens of thousands
20 of miles of transmission lines with
21 their towers that energize our homes
22 and businesses with our precious
23 electricity.

24 We have already submitted to
25 the industrialization of Long Island.

1 51

2 But we have a choice because every
3 time we drive our four-ton toxic
4 vehicles across the giant Robert
5 Moses Causeway, we submit to it.
6 Every time we use 4,000 watts of
7 electricity an hour to cool our homes
8 when it is only 70 degrees and 50,000
9 watts to dry clothes instead of
10 hanging them, we submit to it.

11 We submit to the compromises
12 of the modern world that we believe
13 are reasonable so I believe that it

14 is reasonable that I submit to this
15 wind park. It will offset the
16 murderous discharge of 235,000 tons
17 of carbon dioxide every year. It
18 will power 44,000 homes, perhaps
19 88,000 and even 100,000 homes when we
20 learn to take human bites. Rising
21 less than an inch from the horizon
22 and only visible half the days of the
23 year, it is reasonable.

24 It is clear there are many
25 good people who don't appreciate the

1 52
2 magnitude of the situation, the
3 extraordinary urgency. We need to
4 understand we are facing an
5 apocalyptic and terrifying
6 transformation. Our wind park will
7 set an example for the rest of the
8 world and will make Long Island a
9 center of a new sustainable economy.
10 It is time for the old, tired,
11 destructive ideas to step aside and
12 make room for the new, the essential
13 and the principled.

14 Thank you.

15 MR. HOLCOMB: I would invite

16 number 6 to speak and 7 to stand by.

17 MR. SCHARY: My name is
18 Richard Schary and I am proud to
19 stand as an open space advocate with
20 both Legislators Schmitt and
21 Denenberg and I would also like to
22 say I live ten miles from Jones
23 Beach. It is not in my backyard. I
24 have ten simple questions I would
25 like MMS to answer.

1 53

2 Question 1. Is there a hidden
3 conflict of interest that the former
4 chairman of LIPA is now on the board
5 of directors of FPL and has received
6 at least 1,000 shares of FPL stock
7 worth over \$40,000 free? I ask MMS
8 to please follow the money.

9 Will MMS examine the
10 probability that the contract
11 specifications for this off-shore
12 wind factory were deliberately
13 outlined in advance to fit FPL so
14 they could submit the winning bid
15 without there being any true
16 competitive bidding? Please, MMS, I
17 urge you, follow the money.

20 encourage consumers to use even more
21 energy since we'll now have more
22 power available? Remember, wind
23 parks don't conserve anything by
24 themselves. So, we are asking all
25 true environmentalists to follow the

1 55

2 money.

3 8. What are the chances, on
4 the windy, cool days when LIPA is
5 obligated to purchase FPL's output
6 but we don't need to power, that our
7 precious wind energy will be routed
8 through the grid to New York City?
9 Remember FPL, follow the money.

10 Why, as an alternative, can't
11 LIPA give free every ratepayer 6
12 compact fluorescent light bulbs at a
13 wholesale cost of 10 bucks? This
14 would give us an immediate 140
15 megawatt reduction in power right now
16 and save \$400 million that this wind
17 factory will cost. We all have to do
18 what? Follow the money.

19 Finally, number 10, our final
20 question. I am very serious about
21 this. Did we ratepayers in any way

22 pay for all those T-shirts being
23 given out outside? They wouldn't
24 even give me and my wife one.

25 Thank you. Follow the money.

1 56

2 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you. Next
3 speaker, please?

4 MR. CARRA: My name is Robert
5 Carra, one of the directors of Save
6 Jones Beach Ad Hoc Committee. Last
7 night I raised six questions
8 regarding risk assessment and
9 homeland security regarding this
10 project. I think it was addressed by
11 a couple of our elected officials as
12 well.

13 Stripping everything away and
14 getting to the bare bones of what we
15 are discussing here is
16 industrialization of a portion of our
17 ocean that has never seen anything
18 like this before. At stake are
19 numerous avian and marine species and
20 the habitat they need that helps make
21 up our ecology and economic what it
22 is today.

23 When President Bush signed the

24 Energy Policy Act into law in August
25 2005, he allowed a chain reaction to

1 57
2 happen. The first was that you, MMS,
3 were mandated to regulate all
4 off-shore energy projects but you
5 were not given the proper funds to
6 properly carry out this charge.

7 The second was Congress's
8 compromise of the National
9 Environment Policy Act, NEPA, for the
10 purpose of Long Island off-shore wind
11 plant and Cape Wind, agreeing to the
12 language that set the stage for the
13 fast-tracking of this process.

14 On the heels of that, we learn
15 that the former Secretary of the
16 Interior, Gail Norton, declared
17 Section 388 of that law meant that
18 this project was to be fast-tracked
19 before rules, regulations, guidelines
20 for such projects were in place.
21 This action is one that I have
22 formerly protested in the past and do
23 so again here tonight. I do so
24 because, in a nut, these combined
25 actions take away the level playing

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field that NEPA offers the American people and casts a very dark shadow over the whole undertaking.

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Regardless of that, you, MMS, are still charged to assess the direct secondary and cumulative impacts of all recent past, present, future and foreseeable actions that this proposal will have on the human environment, including a full array of alternatives.

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In a way, I feel sorry for all of you at MMS that have been put in this difficult position. But regardless of that, you are civil servants who have an obligation to act on behalf of the entire American public and not a few well-heeled developers running a smoke and mirrors game under the guise of green energy.

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I trust you will make certain that every question and concern of merit will be fully answered to

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2 everyone's satisfaction. Anything
3 short of that will be unacceptable.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. HOLCOMB: Commenter number
6 8 and number 9 on standby, please.

7 MS. GORDON: Good evening. My
8 name is Carol Gordon, vice president
9 of the Breezy Point Civic
10 Association. I am speaking on behalf
11 of the Breezy Point Civic
12 Association.

13 I have two statements. The
14 first statement is, the underground
15 cable being proposed for LIPA
16 off-shore wind park is most troubling
17 to us. The information provided to
18 our area residents, especially those
19 of Clock's Boulevard, was quite
20 vague.

21 These cables will be less than
22 60 feet from our homes and they would
23 transmit energy 24 hours a day, 7
24 days a week. Not only is this
25 proposed cable going to run through

1 60
2 Clocks Boulevard, but it is also
3 running right down under the new Town

4 of Oyster Bay Field of Dreams, where
5 children from Massapequa and
6 neighboring towns play lacrosse,
7 soccer, football and basketball.

8 The issue of EMF produced by
9 these kinds of cables is still in
10 debate in the scientific community.
11 We feel where there is smoke, there
12 is fire. It is our understanding
13 that LIPA is required to propose four
14 alternative routes for these cables.
15 We would like to see these
16 alternatives. One alternative that
17 was proposed, they could not do it
18 because the hot spots melted the
19 other cables under the ground.

20 Additionally, we would like an
21 examination of racial, ethnic and
22 social economic mix of communities
23 where these alternative routes are
24 located. The Breezy Point Clocks
25 Boulevard area is racially diverse

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2 and we hope this will not play a part
3 in the decision to run the cables up
4 Clocks Boulevard.

5 Thank you.

6 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you. I
7 would invite speaker 9 to speak and
8 10 to be on standby, please.

9 MR. HOWELL: I am Michael
10 Howell, construction worker and
11 former state employee, a plumber. I
12 have been on most of the Island's
13 beautiful beaches and have worked on
14 them. Let me tell you something. I
15 listened for three hours at the
16 meeting at Babylon and heard some of
17 the alternative energy advocates bash
18 each other when the enemy is not each
19 other but fossil fuels creating
20 global warming.

21 Wind power is a natural
22 resource like solar and water.
23 America needs all three to be energy
24 independent. Stop bickering and work
25 together; otherwise, we will still be

1 62
2 slaves to the OPEC nations, in effect
3 their attack dogs. When faced with
4 alternatives such as wind, does
5 America crawl back into his shell
6 like snails?

7 Europeans love their windmills

8 because they work. You have never
9 learned this because you are afraid
10 to leave the country and find out for
11 yourselves. Global warming is a
12 reality.

13 Brazil is the ethanol capital
14 of the world. Iceland is hydrogen
15 and geothermal capitals. Both are
16 looking for energy independence.
17 Where is America?

18 Oil off-shore drilling
19 companies looking at the Atlantic
20 coast. Have you ever been to Texas?
21 Try swimming in Galveston Bay. The
22 oil film on your skin as you exit
23 will hopefully convince you not to
24 let them build it here.

25 Why wind? Why not? It's been

1 63

2 around for centuries. Germany,
3 Denmark, countless other countries
4 are building them, spending millions.
5 If windmills are so bad in Europe,
6 why are they building more? Think
7 about it. Why is there 29 new
8 projects in Germany alone? Unlike
9 Chernobyl, nuclear, Valdez Oil,

10 Edison, New Jersey gas and countless
11 of dead in coal mines? Wind power
12 doesn't have any side effects.

13 Like I said at other meetings,
14 families spends thousands of dollars
15 saving and creating a future for
16 their children with education,
17 clothes, roofs over their head, all
18 for their future; but global warming
19 never enters the picture, saying
20 "What do I care? I will be dead by
21 then." Wind, like other clean
22 environmental energies, can make a
23 future for your kids and their future
24 kids so they can look back and say,
25 yes, they cared about our future.

1 64

2 Talk about the windy day? What a
3 waste of possible free energy.

4 But you need to start the ball
5 rolling. Wind power, if it is so bad
6 for Europe, why are they building
7 more? Ask yourself that question.

8 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you.

9 Number 10?

10 MS. ESPOSITO: Good evening.

11 My name is Adriene Esposito,

12 executive director of Citizens
13 Campaign for the Environment. CCE is
14 a state-wide environmental public
15 health protection organizational. We
16 worked 22 years protecting our bays,
17 estuaries, our beaches, our drinking
18 water quality and, yes, Legislator
19 Denenberg, open space and land
20 preservation here on Long Island and
21 across the state. It is with that
22 vantage point we offer the following
23 comments to be discussed in the
24 scoping document.

25 First, we would like the

1 65
2 scoping document to discuss the
3 realities of global climate change
4 and what that means for us here on
5 Long Island. Global climate change
6 is real. The science is in. The
7 jury is done with the verdict. We
8 have a serious crisis in front of us,
9 not tomorrow, not the next day, but
10 it exists today.

11 We have sea level rise. We
12 have degradation of wetlands because
13 of sea level rise. Those are

14 supposed to be the vegetation
15 protecting the main land from
16 flooding. We have increased
17 acidification of our oceans because
18 of deposition of carbon from
19 production of burning fossil fuels.
20 We have intensification of
21 hurricanes. We have major insurance
22 companies leaving Long Island because
23 they don't want to foot the bill when
24 a hurricane hits us. We cannot hide
25 ourselves in the sand and worry about

1 66

2 the view when the view of Long Island
3 is in jeopardy. We cannot do this
4 anymore.

5 We understand protecting our
6 oceans. We want and we need and we
7 are committed to protecting our
8 oceans, and that is why we support
9 siting wind farms with a rigorous
10 environmental review.

11 So we ask the following
12 components in addition to the many
13 others mentioned last night -- and I
14 am not going to be redundant but some
15 weren't mentioned we would like the

16 scoping process to consider.
17 The first one is, how does
18 keeping our energy dollars here at
19 home in America impact America's
20 economy? As you know, burning fossil
21 fuels, the vast majority are imported
22 from overseas. That means our energy
23 dollars are exported overseas, many
24 times to countries that hate us. How
25 does that benefit us, to keep them at

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2 home?

3 People raised concerns about
4 Denmark saying Denmark has 19 percent
5 of their electricity produced from
6 wind farms and that hasn't stopped
7 any fossil fuel plants from being
8 closed. Wrong. What we really need
9 to look at is how many fossil fuel
10 plants were not built. We need a
11 discussion of how many won't be built
12 as wind energy advances.

13 Last, people raised concern
14 about property values. There are
15 existing studies here in United
16 States, here in New York State, most
17 recently by Bard College, which looks

18 at property values around the family
19 farm in Madison County. They found
20 no impact to property values and in
21 some cases an increase in the retail
22 value of the home because of the
23 clean energy technology.

24 Thank you very much.

25 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 11,

1 68

2 please, and 12 to be on standby.

3 MR. JACOBS: Good evening. My
4 name is Kasey Jacobs and I also
5 represent Citizens Campaign for the
6 Environment. For the past 20 years,
7 CCE has been a leader in protecting
8 New York State oceans, bays and
9 estuaries. The EIS needs to include
10 a study on the impact of turbine
11 noise in relation to watercraft, such
12 as boats, barges, water skis and
13 other recreational and commercial
14 uses on the ecosystems.

15 The EIS also needs to evaluate
16 potential for formation of artificial
17 reefs. Foundations of off-shore wind
18 turbines can function as an
19 artificial community providing hard

20 bottom on underlying sandy bottom.
21 The EIS should evaluate the impact of
22 wind turbines can have on fisheries.
23 Cod fish and flat fish are attracted
24 to underwater structures and may
25 become a new resource for fisherman.

1 69

2 EIS needs to include a
3 comparative analysis of pollution
4 from turbines relating to fossil fuel
5 plants at equal capacity. MMS should
6 study the estimated placement over
7 the course of 20 years of 9,780 tons
8 of nitrogen oxide and 4,420 tons of
9 sulphur dioxide and the effects on
10 ocean warming and climate change.

11 Studies are currently seeing a
12 trend of decreasing cold water fish
13 populations and increasing warm water
14 fish populations in Long Island
15 oceans and estuaries ecosystem. The
16 continuation of this could have
17 negative impact on lobster and cold
18 water fin fish, such as winter
19 flounder.

20 The EIS should also look at
21 the potential for increased tourism

22 in the area. In Denmark, the leading
23 country in the world in utilizing and
24 exporting wind generation technology,
25 studies indicate they experience a 25

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2 percent increase in tourism generated
3 by the wind turbines. Popular
4 beachside vacation spots experienced
5 no losses in rental revenues and
6 business continued to thrive.

7 We, as Long Islanders, take
8 great pride in our coast lines and
9 this off-shore wind park, the first
10 in the nation, will help protect our
11 island culture. The benefits such as
12 the ones already spoken of will
13 ensure our quality of life here. We
14 enjoy our beaches and want to leave
15 them in good condition for future
16 generations. However, if we don't
17 take action now past human error will
18 steal them from tomorrow's children.
19 We need to learn from the past and
20 take steps in the right direction
21 such as the off-shore wind park.

22 MMS needs to conduct a
23 rigorous review of all environmental

24 factors associated with this project,
25 such as noise, artificial reef

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2 formation, tourism, ocean warming and
3 fishing.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. HOLCOMB: I would invite
6 number 12 to speak, please, and 13 to
7 be on standby.

8 MR. D'AMATO: Good evening.
9 My name is Wally D'Amato, president
10 of the Nassau Civic Association of
11 Massapequa, representing
12 approximately 1,600 families. I am
13 here in an effort to acquire answers
14 to questions that LIPA and Florida
15 Power and Light have been unable to
16 answer. Let's examine the numbers
17 and estimates. This is the essential
18 problem.

19 When proposed in 2001 FPL
20 estimated the project at 180 million.
21 By 2004, it reached 300 million,
22 increasing \$120 million. The
23 projected cost of 2006 was unable to
24 be pinpointed by either company. If
25 we accept FPL's initial estimate and

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prorate inflation, the cost would be closer to 380 million, perhaps \$420 million by 2007. And now with an operation date of 2009, we are looking at the figure of over \$500 million, but these figures do not include any of LIPA's financial responsibilities, for example, installing the interconnecting power cable and power purchase agreement rate for the next 15 or 20 years, or the decommissioning of the facility.

Mr. Kessel states Florida Power and Light will build it for us and gives the impression this project is intended to be built at no cost to LIPA ratepayers. Shouldn't we assume a Florida based company will invest hundreds of millions of dollars on Long Island, develop, and not anticipate recovering their investment, gaining a profit or collecting interest?

The cost and impact it will

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2 have not just on the Massapequa
3 residents, but to all of Long Island
4 residents, will be enormous. I
5 believe both companies have an
6 obligation to the Long Island
7 ratepayers to indulge every and all
8 of the real numbers pertaining to
9 this project before it proceeds any
10 further.

11 LIPA services 1.1 million
12 customers. With this project,
13 assuming Long Island sustains 36
14 miles-per-hour winds, at peak energy
15 it will serve only 44,000 of the
16 total LIPA ratepayers. This false
17 impression is offensive. Allegedly
18 Long Island off-shore winds sustain
19 only 18 miles an hour. This
20 undisciplined development could
21 potentially become a billion dollar
22 project and turn into the 21st
23 century version of Shoreham.
24 Conservatively speaking, it could
25 raise ratepayers' current bills up

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2 \$75 a month.

3 Citing a study found in May
4 26th Wall Street Journal conducted by
5 William Koch, whose qualifications
6 are president and founder of the
7 Oxbow Corp, a Ph.D. in chemical
8 engineering and was the winner of the
9 1992 America's Cup. Needless to say,
10 he knows a little bit about wind.

11 In a similar off-shore project
12 scheduled to be built off Nantucket
13 Sound four years ago, Mr. Koch stated
14 all together taxpayers would
15 subsidize Cape Wind to the tune of 72
16 million a year passed on to the
17 consumer in higher electricity rates.
18 If it happened, Cape Cod residents'
19 electricity bills would go up \$440 a
20 year. Continuing, when you do the
21 math, it is clear that every other
22 form of power generation would be
23 cheaper to build, produce more
24 electricity at a consistent rate and
25 save consumers more money. I think

1 75

2 the numbers are important. Everyone
3 in the auditorium should pause and
4 ask themselves.

5 In conclusion, does this
6 project have my best interest in
7 mind? Is LIPA and FPL looking out
8 for me and the community? Can you
9 place trust in a project where
10 margins of error vary by \$120
11 million?

12 Thank you very much for your
13 time.

14 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 13,
15 please?

16 MS. TRUJILLO: I am June
17 Trujillo. For those of you who were
18 at West Babylon High School last
19 night, I am not on anyone's payroll,
20 not from California pretending to
21 know what is viable for a place where
22 I do not live.

23 I am a Long Islander. Fifth
24 generation. Being a law-abiding
25 taxpaying citizen with a multitude of

1 76

2 concerns and wanting answers to
3 assure us we do not have another
4 Shoreham. Senator Owen Johnson, Town
5 Supervisor Steve Bellone, Mayor of
6 Amityville and our elected officials

7 have voiced their monumental problems
8 with this project, so we best take
9 heed.

10 After listening to Senator
11 Owen Johnson speak with all the facts
12 of the windmills, I say to myself why
13 are we here? If it doesn't work
14 abroad and they are not sure exactly
15 how much it will cost -- it started
16 out at 100 million, went up to 400
17 million, plus the 40 million for the
18 cable. The fact that they don't even
19 know the benefits will ever be
20 achieved is of concern.

21 Look at Denmark as an example,
22 Germany or UK. The percentage of
23 what they do get from their windmills
24 is low. It didn't work there, so why
25 would it work here? The turbines

1 77
2 consume energy whether they are
3 producing or not.

4 I could go on and on, but that
5 is the problem. Too many unanswered
6 questions. We all know this is going
7 to cost every taxpayer but even
8 scarier, what is it going to do to

9 environment, the valuable marine
10 resources? What happens if the motor
11 oil from the turbines leaks? Too
12 many costs, too many risks.

13 I have to help support my
14 parents because of outrageous taxes
15 and utility bills. They love living
16 here and I would break their heart if
17 they had to move, so, of course, I
18 want a solution, but this is not it.
19 It was almost laughable last night
20 when Dr. Kessel reprimanded the
21 audience and spouted out about
22 respect. Respect is a two-way
23 street. Unfortunately, Dick Kessel
24 reminds me of a snake oil salesman.

25 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 14 next,

1 78

2 please?

3 MR. GRIFFIN: My name is Bob
4 Griffin, resident of Massapequa over
5 ten years. I have no affiliation
6 other than I am a homeowner and small
7 business owner.

8 I have heard a lot of good
9 comments tonight and I hope that the
10 environmental assessment takes into

11 account the routing of the high
12 voltage cable through residential
13 neighborhoods. I believe it has
14 shifted over time and, for example,
15 the proposed route along Clocks
16 Boulevard, I don't know how many
17 realize, goes 25 feet from a day care
18 center which is open during the day.
19 These are issues that should be
20 discussed.

21 I would also like Long Island
22 scientists to be involved in the
23 science aspects of the high voltage
24 cables and I would like to see
25 someone from Stony Brook or high

1 79

2 energy physics department at
3 Brookhaven Labs on the committee
4 reviewing the data. I am not happy
5 with just the pure federal rubber
6 stamp of anything that goes through
7 in this process.

8 I am looking forward to a good
9 overall review of the science of this
10 project and also I would like to have
11 the committee review the siting
12 issues and esthetics that have been

13 brought up. Does it have to be sited
14 where it is? Does it have to be
15 visible from land? After all, this
16 is a relatively old proposal at this
17 point. It was started in 1999.
18 There is new technology. Our
19 legislators brought up the issue
20 whether it has to be 70 feet or can
21 it be more than 70 feet, and I think
22 it is time to revisit the whole
23 technology of this wind farm.
24 Having said all that, I do
25 have an open mind about the project.

1 80

2 I do have concerns. I hope that the
3 MMS will address them scientifically
4 and accurately so that everyone in
5 the community can understand what the
6 issues are. I look forward to your
7 recommendations. Thank you.

8 MR. HOLCOMB: I would like to
9 invite speaker 15 to speak and number
10 16 to stand by.

11 CAPT. TOMASONE: Good evening.
12 My name is Captain Joseph Tomasone,
13 affiliated with Save Jones Beach Ad
14 Hoc Committee. On page C of the

15 hypothetical OCS wind park
16 application, items 5, 7, 8, 9, 12,
17 13, 14, 15, 17, 18 and 19 are without
18 explanation. We would like to know
19 why.

20 Further, does the Coast Guard
21 have any concerns about commercial
22 traffic, meaning large ships very
23 near the wind generator site and
24 having mechanical failures and
25 possibly running into any one or more

1 81

2 of the windmills?

3 Does the Coast Guard have any
4 concerns with search and rescue at
5 the wind generator site? Air search
6 and rescue is totally out of the
7 question. Surface operations might
8 be difficult at best. Will there be
9 a security zone around the wind
10 generator site? What security will
11 there be against terrorist attacks on
12 the wind generator facility? How
13 will the wind generators be protected
14 against lightning strikes? Just July
15 2nd and 4th in the area of the site,
16 there were two lightning storms.

17 Will private and commercial
18 fisherman be excluded from the wind
19 generator site? How will maintenance
20 and repairs be done during periods of
21 bad weather and large seas? How will
22 LIPA/FPL keep the general public from
23 entering or climbing on any of the
24 wind generators or platforms either
25 causing injury, vandalism or possibly

1 82

2 death to an individual?

3 In and near the site, are
4 submarine cables, explosives and the
5 outflow pipe for southwest sewer
6 district? How will these be
7 affected? Here comes another
8 Shoreham.

9 Thank you.

10 MR. HOLCOMB: Number 16,
11 please, and 17 on stand by.

12 MR. HERSH: Hi. I am Charles
13 Hersh, I am a retired electrical
14 engineer. I live in Amityville, New
15 York.

16 When I say I agree with
17 everything Adriene Esposito says
18 about global warming, the problem

19 with the wind farm, it is a piece of
20 junk and you can't solve global
21 warming with a piece of junk.

22 The problem with wind farms is
23 they are highly dependent upon the
24 wind speed and it is proportionate to
25 the wind speed. Even a ten percent

1 83

2 drop in wind speed will halve your
3 power. As a matter of fact, if your
4 wind speed is halved, you get
5 one-eighth the power, not one-half.
6 One-eighth. So, say at 20 miles per
7 hour you get a power of 140
8 megawatts. At 16 miles an hour you
9 only get 71.7 megawatts. At 10 miles
10 per hour, you get 12 and a half
11 percent, or 17 and a half megawatts.
12 That, to me, is a piece of junk.

13 It will ruin the beaches.
14 We'll erect these 40 Statute of
15 Liberty statues and it is not going
16 to do much. I know what should be
17 done. I wrote to Richard Kessel.
18 You need to do repowering. You need
19 to improve these old power plants.
20 What you have to do is take your

21 major steam turbines and include gas
22 turbines and combine the two. You
23 could then increase the efficiency
24 from 35 percent to 60 percent, nearly
25 double the output, and you could

1 84

2 actually decrease fuel use by 40
3 percent and carbon dioxide drops by
4 80 percent.

5 The wind farm, that is just an
6 excuse for him not to do what he is
7 supposed to do. I have to criticize
8 all the wind farm proponents. They
9 are really charlatans. You notice
10 the first thing they say. "The wind
11 is steady." It is not steady. If it
12 was, this thing would work. It is
13 not.

14 The other thing is, it is the
15 environmentalists. They are going
16 down a blind alley. Sure, there is a
17 global warming problem. But your
18 first objective should be asking how
19 can I reduce my fossil fuels and
20 carbon dioxide production, not how to
21 best use renewable energy. That is
22 why they got a suboptimal solution.

23 You got to look at the problem first,
24 not hit renewable energy first.

25 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you.

1 85

2 Speaker 17 is invited to speak.

3 MR. ARNOLD: My name is Walter
4 Arnold, director of Save Jones Beach.
5 I want to thank you people for
6 conducting this hearing.

7 At last evening's meeting,
8 Mr. Gordon Rakey, a leader of the
9 Long Island off-shore wind
10 initiative, made the statement that
11 he has been working on this issue
12 since 1999 and that he hardly thought
13 of this process as being
14 fast-tracked.

15 With all due respect to
16 Mr. Rakey and the others who share
17 that view, the reality is that this
18 government review of the project is
19 being fast-tracked due to lobbying
20 efforts from former Senator Alfonse
21 D'Amato, who was hired by FPL.

22 With that come dangers. When
23 you expedite a process like the
24 National Environmental Policy Act,

25 things inevitably get overlooked or

1 86

2 missed or never addressed. This
3 happens especially when you do it
4 without any rules, regulations or
5 guidelines for such undertakings.

6 How do you approve an
7 application before you know how you
8 are going to regulate it? Whether it
9 is this industrial proposal or a
10 floating liquid natural gas plant, it
11 is important that we all argue for a
12 level playing field. For critical
13 answers, we need to properly assess
14 the merits of a private developer's
15 request to use our public lands and
16 resources for their venture. Take,
17 for an example, this unanswered
18 question that was asked of
19 Mr. Richard Kessel of LIPA at a
20 budget hearing on November 29, 2005.

21 We asked, please provide
22 details as to how LIPA arrived at the
23 following conclusions in the Long
24 Island off-shore wind power plant
25 project update 2005. This was all

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paid for by LIPA ratepayers, also.

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13 and a half -- it stated, 13 and a

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half million barrels of oil saved

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over a 20-year period at a cost of

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\$60 per barrel, a savings of \$810

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million in fuel savings. Reduction

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from existing generating sources

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accounting for 235 tons of carbon

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dioxide, 489 tons of sulphur dioxide

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and 221 tons of nitrogen oxide.

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These results, to our knowledge, have

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never been accomplished anywhere in

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world for 40 turbines.

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This example is but one of a

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multitude of questions that still

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remain unanswered and it is only

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through the National Environment

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Policy Act that we can hope to get a

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straight answer. This is why this

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process is so important. Anything

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short of this will not be tolerated

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and will be challenged.

24

Thank you.

25

MR. HOLCOMB: I would invite

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speaker number 18 to speak.

7 by, please.

8 MR. HEALEY: Hello. My name
9 is Philip Healey, representing the
10 Bellmore Civic Association, 1,100
11 homes in the area. I am here to
12 speak to you as a concerned resident
13 of the area, not someone on the
14 payroll of LIPA, FPL or someone who
15 has financial interest in the
16 fruition of this project.

17 I say this because I think it
18 is important that the MMS require
19 full disclosure for those who speak
20 in front of you. It is my opinion
21 many people in favor of this project
22 who presented tonight and last night
23 are direct employees or one or both
24 of these companies.

25 I am asking to invoke the

1 91

2 no-action alternative. This project
3 is ill-conceived and ill-advised. It
4 is time to stop it now.

5 There are no practical
6 benefits at this time to warrant
7 permitting of this project. The peak
8 performance wind turbines will only

9 produce less than 1 percent of the
10 energy needed for the Island. It is
11 a miniscule gain that can never
12 compensate for the marring of our
13 ocean landscape of our communities.

14 By his own admission on News
15 12, a leading consultant for the
16 project admitted there is a better
17 way for proceeding with the wind
18 project siting.

19 MMS must evaluate the sponsors
20 of the project. LIPA is too
21 inexperienced to handle the project.
22 Recently the public was able to
23 review a LIPA application submitted
24 to MMS. The application wasn't
25 complete. It is insulting to realize

1 92
2 LIPA thinks we are so gullible to
3 accept an application that is
4 incomplete because LIPA refuses to
5 answer the hard-line questions about
6 economics, environmental and
7 esthetics. A few months ago, when we
8 asked a LIPA official why they are
9 proceeding with the project, the
10 answer we got is "Because we can. We

11 are a public authority."

12 LIPA seems easily tricked by
13 larger entities. Case in point: In
14 January, LIPA renegotiated the energy
15 contract of KeySpan. LIPA thought it
16 was a great deal. Soon afterward,
17 KeySpan was sold, along with the
18 contract that it had with LIPA, to
19 National Grid, a foreign company.
20 How can we be sure the same won't
21 happen with the wind turbines and the
22 FPL contract?

23 LIPA has already too many
24 outstanding economic matters on their
25 plate. In the last year, LIPA

1 93
2 grappled with the decisions of
3 privatizing, residential rebates,
4 purchasing two additional power
5 plants, retooling of existing
6 facilities. The public was promised
7 answers to these issues before the
8 end of 2006. There is already too
9 much outstanding debt and contract on
10 obligations to proceed with a further
11 project to burden the ratepayers of
12 Long Island.

15 ratepayers are opposed to the wind
16 farm here tonight?

17 How many people are in favor
18 of the wind farm, please?

19 I would like MMS to clearly
20 recognize the fact that the majority
21 of people present here tonight are
22 opposed to this project.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 21,
25 please, and 22 on standby.

1 95

2 MR. VANDERBERG: I am Tom
3 Vanderberg, resident of Amityville,
4 New York and member of the Save Jones
5 Beach Ad Hoc Committee.

6 I would like to address the
7 scoping of one component of the
8 project, specifically the shore-based
9 facilities and operations. These
10 might include staging areas,
11 building, storage facilities,
12 vehicles, aircraft, watercraft, et
13 cetera, that may have significant
14 impacts depending on their location
15 and the extent of the planned
16 activities that would take place

21 we don't know if we are talking about
22 a few boat slips or a major
23 industrial facility?

24 It is hard to see how the
25 impact of this and the other blank

1 98

2 areas of the application can be
3 determined in a fast track context.
4 Does fast-tracking mean an applicant
5 is given a pass in the areas or
6 critical components are given short
7 shrift?

8 I really don't see how the
9 application can be deemed complete
10 enough, sufficiently descriptive
11 enough to allow scoping to begin at
12 this time. But I sympathize with the
13 dedicated professionals at MMS
14 that are tasked with this and have to
15 balance the political pressure to
16 push this project through on one hand
17 and the training and desire to follow
18 the spirit as well as the letter of
19 NEPA on the other. Personally, I
20 don't think that balancing act can be
21 attained, but I applaud you for
22 trying.

23 MR. HOLCOMB: Next, please.

24 MR. SLAVIN: I am Gary Slavin.

25 When I heard about the project, I

1 99

2 wanted to know the real facts, not
3 anything else. I went to the
4 American Wind Energy Association and
5 discovered they rated the top 20
6 states, New York is 62 -- rather,
7 number 15. They rated them based on
8 energy potential. New York is rated
9 62. There are five other states with
10 over a thousand rating. That is a
11 thousand of energy potential and
12 billions of kilowatt hours.

13 I also did some other research
14 to find out really how bad, what is
15 the things going to happen, what can
16 happen with these things? Mass
17 megawatts wind power company, a
18 company that produces these turbines,
19 rated all the turbines. Basically in
20 a nutshell it is a big problem.
21 Repair, maintenance is a big, big
22 problem. One of the biggest problems
23 is they're down a long time, they're
24 are not producing any energy.

1 100
2 found that this company that produced
3 these turbines states, the petroleum
4 cost per kilowatt hour were 5 cents.
5 Then I saw, well, wind was 4 and a
6 half cents. Well, there is a .5-cent
7 savings there. However, there is an
8 asterisk there. Only if the average
9 miles wind speed was 15. We don't
10 have that here. As the people
11 already pointed out, 15 miles an hour
12 doesn't happen that often on the bay,
13 on the ocean.

14 So I don't know how this
15 project can go forward when we are
16 all talking about savings. There is
17 no savings. This is the second
18 Shoreham that we will be hit with and
19 we need to evaluate every cost item
20 that is going to go into this.

21 I was also looking at your
22 pictures back there of the ocean
23 where this was going to go and I saw
24 the words "sand burrows." I asked a
25 bunch of people here who have lived

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on Long Island all their lives. Not one of them could define for me what a sand burrow is. However, one oldtimer looked at the picture and told me, "That is not a sand burrow. That is an another word for jetty."

Gentlemen, I would ask you very honestly to do one thing. And that is, go back to these guys and stop putting this program piecemeal together because no one is going to benefit from it. All these sand burrows? What is next? We need to ask them to stop the baloney, come out, put their cards on the table and tell us actually what it is going to cost to run this and where the savings is because I don't think there is any.

Thank you.

MR. HOLCOMB: I would invite speaker 23 to come up and speak and 24 on standby.

MR. CORRADINO: Thank you. I

2 am Chris Corradino, Wantagh resident.
3 I believe if you put this issue in a
4 credit card commercial, it would go
5 something like this. Forty wind
6 turbines off the coast of Long
7 Island? Approximately \$400 million.
8 Clean, renewable energy for America,
9 our children and our grandchildren?
10 Priceless.

11 Thank you.

12 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 24? 25
13 on standby.

14 MS. SACKMAN: Good evening,
15 ladies and gentlemen. My name is
16 Susan Sackman and I am currently an
17 undergraduate student at Stony Brook
18 University studying marine vertebrate
19 biology.

20 I am in favor of all sorts of
21 renewable energy resources and I
22 would like to think of this project
23 as the first step towards a greener
24 and greater Long Island. Please
25 don't let it stop here. We need many

1 103

2 sources of renewable energy on Long
3 Island to further prevent

4 environmental damage and global
5 warming, which is a major crisis that
6 my generation as well as yours is
7 faced with today.

8 Supervisor Venditto mentioned
9 our children and whether or not they
10 are going to have the opportunity to
11 voice their opinion on these wind
12 farms. I wonder if they are even
13 going to be around to voice their
14 opinion on these wind farms if global
15 warming is not stopped.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 25 and
18 26 on standby.

19 MR. PAPA: Jim Papa. I have
20 spoken before and I will speak about
21 something different. Some of you may
22 recognize my name. I wrote the
23 editorial in Newsday last July
24 calling people's attention to this
25 project and asked them not to

1 104

2 sacrifice their parks to it. But I
3 will ask you to consider a couple of
4 other things besides that.

5 First, I want you to consider

6 when you look at the cost of this
7 thing, I want you to consider the
8 health costs that will arise from a
9 local population that will lose an
10 area that they have known to be a
11 certain way for decades and that has
12 been important to their psychic and
13 spiritual health. What will be the
14 health cost when they go down and
15 find it suddenly and irrevocably
16 industrialized? What is the health
17 cost added to those people?

18 I hear a lot about the cost of
19 energy skyrocketing. Energy is going
20 up but has always been around. You
21 know what the greatest cost in
22 America is? Health care. Health
23 care costs rise according to stress,
24 okay? We live in a population of 10
25 million people in Brooklyn, Queens,

1 105

2 Nassau and Suffolk. We have very
3 little places where you can turn away
4 from commerce, industry, noise,
5 pollution. I hear a lot about fear
6 of pollution and global warming and I
7 am an environmentalist, but there is

10 the corporations. We could insulate
11 our houses, we could transfer this
12 money to find a way to put individual
13 little windmills on top of houses
14 that would run not the whole house,
15 but 1 or 2 percent, power a TV, power
16 a toaster, power a microwave.

17 You know what? That doesn't
18 get us off LIPA's grid or FPL's grid
19 and their stockholders don't make any
20 money. So when you consider the cost
21 and you look at the science, I want
22 you to remember that science is
23 neutral. That that science and those
24 determinations are going to be
25 arising out of a culture and a market

1 107

2 and a economic system that is
3 structured to keep us on the grid
4 whether it is OPEC or whether it is
5 FPL. When we are told we must give
6 up our beaches and our parks,
7 remember it is for somebody's profit
8 and not necessarily for our own good.

9 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 26,
10 please? Scott Brown?

11 Speaker 27, please? And 28 on

12 standby?

13 MR. BROOKS: Good evening. My
14 name is John Brooks, resident of
15 Garden City but also a member of the
16 Save Jones Beach Ad Hoc Committee.

17 I would like to introduce for
18 your consideration a couple of
19 concepts provided by the United
20 States Fish and Wildlife Service,
21 who, like you, are under the
22 Department of Interior. They were
23 submitted to the Army Corps of
24 Engineers in August of 2005 in
25 response to the Corps's suggestions

1 108
2 on this project. One of them
3 concerns the underground cabling
4 which they recommended be co-cabled
5 up the Wantagh Parkway to the
6 Sterling substation. They said it
7 was a great idea, but LIPA dismissed
8 it because of its cost and distance,
9 not having any kind of consideration
10 of the environmental problems that is
11 going to occur running it
12 approximately ten or fifteen miles
13 under the south shore estuaries and

14 wetlands.

15 They also commented that the
16 current project involves the
17 construction of 40 turbines.
18 However, additional turbines may be
19 installed by LIPA and any other
20 developers. LIPA's five-year energy
21 plan identifies wind power as the
22 major future electricity provider but
23 on-shore sites are limited. They
24 stated, consequently, turning to the
25 sea is Long Island's only option if

1 109

2 it wants to make wind power a
3 meaningful part of its energy mix.

4 The Fish and Wildlife Service
5 said they understand that limited
6 information may be available. LIPA
7 should attempt to evaluate the
8 cumulative impact of this project
9 along with similar projects being
10 proposed along the south shore of
11 Long Island. Consideration should be
12 given to emerging technology, such as
13 turbine foundation design, which
14 would enable these structures to be
15 placed in deeper waters. Today, on

16 the website for the Massachusetts
17 Institute of Technology, the
18 technology review, they are referring
19 to the Cape Wind project but it also
20 refers to the LIPA project. "Some
21 energy conscious Massapequa residents
22 oppose a plan to put dozens of
23 electricity generating wind turbines
24 on towers about 8 kilometers off the
25 southern cost of Cape Cod, saying

1 110

2 that they would be an eyesore. But
3 huge turbines in development at
4 General Electric could make battles
5 with coastal residents a thing of the
6 past. Researchers say that turbines
7 could be placed on floating platforms
8 far at sea and invisible from a
9 shoreline."

10 Meanwhile, a group of MIT
11 researchers led by Paul Scavalunos, a
12 professor of mechanical engineering
13 and naval architecture, have
14 demonstrated feasibility of placing
15 such turbines atop large floating
16 cylinders ballasted with concrete and
17 anchored to the sea floor with

18 cables. With this design, wind farms
19 could be located in water ranging
20 from 30 meters to 300 meters or 30
21 miles far out into the continental
22 shelf where they not only would be
23 invisible from shore, but also would
24 be susceptible to catch more wind.

25 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you. Your

1 111

2 time is up. I would like to invite
3 speaker 27 to speak and 28 on
4 standby, please? Number 27? 28?
5 John Ruff?

6 I am sorry. Speaker 28,
7 please, and 29 on standby?

8 MS. HAMILTON: My name is
9 Angelique Hamilton, resident of Long
10 Beach. I am just a regular human
11 being. I am not a politician, not a
12 scientist and I am not an engineer.
13 I am not any of those things. I do
14 think I am a little bit of an
15 environmentalist. I like to think
16 that and I don't have all the facts
17 and figures in yet, so it is from
18 that part I will speak.

19 I do want to take notice that

20 the emblem. I believe on the emblem
21 is stewardship. I think that is very
22 important and key elements to
23 remember. People with passion speak
24 softly.

25 All I know is the U.S.

1 112
2 contributes to more global warming
3 than all the other countries
4 combined. We can no longer afford
5 the price of slavery to foreign
6 suppliers. We can no longer afford
7 to be in denial of a very serious and
8 real crisis. We can no longer trust
9 the old ways. Our planet is speaking
10 volumes to us as witnessed by all the
11 natural disasters that have happened,
12 are happening and expected to happen
13 if we don't find alternatives
14 resources.

15 Are we, as a nation, going to
16 continue to accept the unacceptable?
17 Polar bears are drowning in holes,
18 north and south. You ask what do I
19 care about the polar bears? Well,
20 species, as we know, are leaving the
21 planet by volumes and that is just

22 one of our greatest natural --
23 glaciers are melting at alarming
24 rates, which means there will be
25 drought conditions around the world.

1 113

2 Tree cutting contributes to all this
3 stuff.

4 I applaud Kelly Lester from
5 Long Beach, who spoke at the meeting
6 last night. Her concerns are real.
7 The polar icecaps are melting. I
8 again talk about your logo and
9 stewardship. Stewardship means we
10 borrow the earth from our children.
11 It is our job to take care of it.
12 We, as a nation, speak of freedom.
13 We as a species will be held
14 accountable.

15 Our awakening is now. Drop
16 the illusions and denial. We are
17 part of the solution. Schopenhauer
18 wrote, "Every truth passes through
19 three stages before it is recognized.
20 First it is ridiculed, second it is
21 oppressed, and third it is regarded
22 as self-evident."

23 This is clearly a

24 controversial issue and all the facts
25 are not in. However, I am open to

1 114

2 this project and urge everyone to
3 have an open mind and be part of the
4 solution, not the problem.

5 Thank you.

6 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you.

7 Speaker 29, please, and 30 to be on
8 standby.

9 MS. LESTER: I am Kelly
10 Lester. I am 14, from Long Beach. I
11 am not employed by LIPA or FPL. I
12 was at the meeting yesterday and had
13 the opportunity to see many elected
14 officials speak and many members of
15 the public. Basically a lot of
16 people were saying, why not wait for
17 an alternate source? Time and time
18 again people mentioned this, but I
19 have heard one or two people actually
20 mention an alternate source, one that
21 is viable nonetheless.

22 Right now, FPL Energy and
23 LIPA, they have an alternate source
24 to burning fossil fuels. It actually
25 needs to be taken and taken now. It

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is scary that in my generation the

3

world will be a mess because of

4

global warming, but it is the truth.

5

It is an inconvenient truth, yes, but

6

it is a truth.

7

For my generation's sake,

8

please, don't be selfish. Many

9

people came up and said, "Why in my

10

backyard? Why do it here? Why not

11

do it off the shores, whatever? Why

12

not be proud of the fact that we are

13

actually doing something to change

14

the world? Why not?

15

Don't get me wrong. I love

16

Jones Beach. I spent my first day

17

there when I was a week old. I am a

18

summer baby. I have gone there three

19

times a week ever since I was born.

20

I love the beach. Yes, you'd see 40

21

wind turbines, but is that really the

22

biggest price to pay to be able to

23

see the fact that you are making a

24

difference? To be able to like bring

25

my children onto the beach when I get

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116

2 older and I would much rather see the
3 wind turbines and say, "You know
4 what? Look. We are doing something
5 to change the world. We did
6 something to change the world. My
7 generation stepped up." Or would we
8 rather not even have the beach to
9 look at?

10 Would we want to say, "Hey,
11 look that's ocean. That is where the
12 beach used to be."

13 Many people have also come up
14 here and said, "Let's wait and see."
15 I am sorry. We don't have that much
16 more time to wait. It is scary, I
17 know. I was talking to my
18 eight-year-old brother about it, and
19 he said, "Kelly, this is scary; why
20 are you telling me this?" But it is
21 a truth and needs to be realized.
22 Honestly, we don't have that much
23 time to wait.

24 Please, for my generation, for
25 your children and grandchildren, can

1 117
2 you please step up and make a
3 difference?

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Thank you.

MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 30,
please?

MR. McGLOIN: I am Patrick
McGloin, chair of the Sierra Club
Long Island Group. Our executive
committee recently adopted a
resolution expressing our support for
the Long Island wind park.

We believe it is vital for the
MMS, guardian of the
outer-continental shelf, to require
Florida Power and Light to undertake
a comprehensive study of avian
migration patterns both within the
wind park area and a surrounding
five-mile buffer zone.

Furthermore, as lead agency,
the MMS should solicit and respect
the findings of all interested
government agencies, including but
not limited to the U.S. Coast Guard

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as to site safety for fishing and
pleasure craft as well as U.S. Fish
and Wildlife Service, Army Corps of
Engineers, New York State DEC with

6 regards to the laying of the power
7 transfer cable from the LCS
8 substation through Gilgo Beach
9 Barrier Island and across the Great
10 South Bay to the mainland substation.

11 We also request that a full
12 financial viability study, which
13 includes construction, operational
14 and decommissioning cost be required
15 before any permits are issued.

16 In closing, while we believe
17 in clean, renewable wind power, we
18 cannot afford another Shoreham.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 31 and
21 32 on standby.

22 MS. D'AMICO: My name is
23 Christine D'Amico and I was raised in
24 Port Washington. Right now I am
25 living in Roslyn. All my life I went

1 119

2 to Bar Beach. If any of you have
3 been to Bar Beach, the corner of Bar
4 Beach is this big, ugly electrical
5 plant. As I was growing up, I had to
6 swim by that electrical plant and it
7 was disgusting. As a matter of fact,

8 today, as I was driving by, I saw it
9 spewing all that disgusting stuff out
10 into our atmosphere again.

11 I remember as a child I didn't
12 want to swim in that water. And I
13 remember as a young teenager, like
14 this young girl, swimming in that
15 water and seeing disgusting stuff in
16 the water.

17 Our shore lines are polluted
18 and if we don't do something about
19 it, if we don't take a stand, who
20 will? I want to know, who will? Who
21 will take a stand in the United
22 States? The children are crying out
23 for help. You have children. I have
24 no children, but many of you have
25 children. Many of you are going

1 120

2 to -- your children are going to grow
3 and you want them to live in a
4 beautiful atmosphere. It is not
5 going to happen if America and
6 Americans don't take a stand against
7 global warming.

8 I am for this project and I am
9 for anything that will stop the

12 just showed a profit of \$9 billion,
13 put on the AC, left all the lights on
14 in their office buildings and homes
15 and came here to complain about
16 clean, nonpolluting energy?

17 Americans represent 5 percent
18 of the world's population but use 25
19 percent of the world's energy. Fact.
20 We need to cut the carbs. I am not
21 talking about the size of you know
22 what. I am talking about CO2
23 emissions. How many people here,
24 show of hands, did some homework and
25 saw Al Gore's movie "Inconvenient

1 122

2 Truth"?

3 It is not enough.

4 Or saw the award winning movie
5 about peak oil, "The End of
6 Suburbia." I am not talking about
7 reading a book. Simply watching a
8 movie. The Newsday poll today said
9 72 percent of Long Islanders favor
10 the wind park. Go on the internet.
11 Check out factcheck.org about global
12 warming. The science academies of
13 eleven leading industrial nations

16 MR. DiBENEDETTO: Thank you.
17 Unless we are in the twilight zone, I
18 think we all agree we need and want
19 clean energy. I don't think we are
20 in the twilight zone or in the
21 matrix, but you never know because
22 what I am seeing is that although we
23 all agree, we all disagree about the
24 potential cost of these things on our
25 society, on our environment, on our

1 124

2 economy.

3 I, like many of you, grew up
4 during the 1970's gas crisis. At
5 that time, our nation's resolve
6 appeared to be strong as we saw
7 American car companies become the
8 victims of the public's desire for
9 gas guzzlers, as well as victims of
10 their own short-sightedness.

11 Japanese car companies stepped
12 in and they decimated the United
13 States car industry. At the time, I
14 thought, now America has learned its
15 lesson and will certainly apply our
16 know-how to become energy efficiency
17 leaders. Unfortunately, that didn't

20 healthy foods into the school lunch
21 program. I see a lot of resistance
22 to bringing healthy options into the
23 schools, yet if you can bring in a
24 new ice cream bar or ice cream cone
25 or different types of meat on the

1 126

2 menu or junk foods and no one even
3 notices that is happening.

4 It is amazing that even though
5 we know disease is preventable --
6 heart disease, stroke, cancer,
7 diabetes, osteoporosis --
8 preventable, we have fights from
9 parents who, because they don't
10 understand they are preventable,
11 fight healthy foods in schools.

12 Now we have wind energy that
13 can rescue us from the energy crisis,
14 wind energy together with the other
15 alternative forms, including the
16 light bulbs and efficiency, all these
17 things we know work for us. We
18 shouldn't be disagreeing. We should
19 be figuring out how to make wind work
20 on Long Island.

21 Just like we know kids need

22 healthy foods, we know Long Island
23 needs healthy energy.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 34,

1 127

2 please.

3 MS. HELM: I am Jessica Helm.

4 Thank you for coming and for staying

5 this long and longer. I am

6 conservation chair of Long Island

7 Sierra Club.

8 Sierra Club believes the

9 energy needs of Long Island will be

10 best served by development of

11 renewable sources such as wind. We

12 feel the Long Island off-shore wind

13 initiative could serve as a model for

14 our nation and set the stage of a new

15 era of clean, sustainable energy and

16 help move our nation away from

17 dependence on foreign oil.

18 The location for the wind park

19 was chosen because it has average

20 wind speeds of 18 miles per hour and

21 is reported by FPL not to be in a

22 known migratory bird flyway zone.

23 However, we still have unresolved

24 concerns concerning the impact of
25 this specific site on migratory

1 128

2 resident bird populations. If
3 subsequent studies indicate a high
4 possibility of major impact on birds
5 and other wildlife populations we
6 recommend seeking an alternative site
7 off Long Island.

8 We urge that the proposed area
9 be thoroughly and continuously
10 monitored for bird activity before
11 construction. Project placement and
12 arrangement of turbines should use
13 the studies to mitigate impact on
14 avian activity. Further, we urge
15 that turbine design minimize avian
16 mortality, including lowest possible
17 intensity warning lights on the
18 structures.

19 Independent monitoring should
20 be used and should continue to
21 document and study the effects
22 post-construction. These ongoing
23 studies should be designed with the
24 goal of further minimizing the
25 environmental impact of the wind farm

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using the practical knowledge gained by observation. We look forward to seeing the necessary avian studies and recommendations included in the EIS and to a wind park which will successfully address these important wildlife issues.

There has been talk tonight about conservation rather than wind power. To that I say, let's get serious about conservation and maybe we won't need the next one.

Thank you.

MR. HOLCOMB: Number 35?

MR. RAVENER: Good evening.

My name is Kyle Ravener. On behalf of Friends of the Bay, I thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Long Island wind park development.

Friends of the Bay's mission is to preserve, protect and restore the ecological integrity and productivity of the Oyster Bay-Cold

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Spring Harbor estuary and surrounding

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watershed. It is not often we get

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involved in regional issues, but when

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we do it is for good reason.

6

As an organization primarily

7

focused on water quality, we

8

recognize the importance of renewable

9

energy. Cleaner power translates to

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cleaner water and cleaner air, which

11

obviously benefits all life on earth.

12

And there are a number of clean

13

energy options and it is important

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that we take all those options into

15

consideration. Together they will

16

make a difference.

17

My wife and I recently put

18

solar panels on our home and thank

19

LIPA for the program they offer that

20

allowed us to do that.

21

Friends of the Bay believes

22

the Long Island off-shore wind park

23

has great potential. While there are

24

some energy projects that shouldn't

25

be allowed out of the starting gate,

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we have hope for the proposed wind

3 park. Of course, we expect the
4 project to be subjected to a rigorous
5 environmental review. Nothing less
6 will be acceptable. The review
7 process set up for this project can
8 be helpful in setting the bar high
9 when it comes to screening future
10 wind power projects whether they are
11 proposed on the east coast or
12 elsewhere.

13 More specifically, great care
14 must be taken to differentiate
15 off-shore wind power projects from
16 off-shore gas and oil drilling and
17 transmission projects. Obviously,
18 both need to be subjected to a
19 rigorous environmental review, but
20 the environment benefits wind power
21 offers in comparison to fossil fuel
22 should guard against off-shore wind
23 power projects opening the door for
24 off-shore oil and gas projects.

25 Some have raised this concern,

1 132

2 and it is a valid one. It is crucial
3 that MMS and other agencies take this
4 into consideration given the greater

5 potential adverse impacts associated
6 with off-shore oil and gas projects.

7 Further, the review process
8 must evaluate and compare the
9 potential impacts of this project
10 versus the long-term benefits of the
11 off-shore wind park. Both help to
12 make the scoping process more
13 complete.

14 We are aware of the concerns
15 raised by Audubon New York and others
16 and we wholeheartedly urge MMS to
17 thoroughly evaluate the project with
18 respect to risk to bird populations.
19 As I understand, there is an
20 important migratory pattern along the
21 south shore of Long Island, including
22 Fire Island and nearby barrier
23 islands.

24 If this project, once
25 operational, were found to have

1 133

2 serious adverse impacts for bird
3 populations, it would be a major
4 setback for off-shore wind power in
5 this country and not only disastrous
6 from the perspective of protecting

7 and restoring the health of our
8 local, state, and national
9 environment, given what is at stake,
10 it should go without saying that any
11 adverse potential impact, not just
12 that on bird populations, should be
13 carefully studied and mitigated.

14 My statement continues, but I
15 will stop and submit the rest in a
16 written statement.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. HOLCOMB: Next speaker,
19 36, please, and 37 on standby.

20 MR. BARRACCA: My name is Tom
21 Barracca, resident of East Meadow and
22 frequent visitor to Jones Beach and
23 occasional fisherman off Gilgo Beach.
24 I am an engineer.

25 Many years ago, in 1998, I was

1 134

2 a consultant to LIPA. I am no longer
3 in that role anymore for the last few
4 years, but LIPA should be commended.

5 They did tremendous due diligence
6 before they formed this project.

7 Many of you spoke of the Cape Wind
8 project. The people that started

9 that went a different route. They
10 put a dot on the map and worked from
11 that perspective. LIPA did many
12 years of fact-finding. I was
13 personally involved in many on-land
14 siting projects. Long Island does
15 not have the real estate to support
16 wind power, as said before by LIPA.
17 And they have done tremendous due
18 diligence over the last five years.

19 I am totally convinced as an
20 engineer that this is the right
21 project for Long Island. I am also
22 convinced as a father and Long Island
23 resident for 17 years, this is the
24 right project for Long Island. I
25 will give a couple facts that have

1 135
2 been skewed a little here. When you
3 have a power project, you have
4 tremendous capital cost whether a
5 fossil fuel power plant or wind
6 project. It just goes with the
7 territory. Hundreds of millions of
8 dollars is the price tag. What you
9 don't have with a renewable energy
10 project is fuel cost.

17 Shoreham nuclear plant were wrong and
18 again they are wrong on this turbine
19 wind project.

20 Thank you.

21 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 38,
22 please?

23 MS. SOLOMON: Good evening. I
24 am Nancy Solomon, executive director
25 of Long Island Traditions and former

1 139

2 chair of Sierra Club's Coastal
3 Waterways Commission.

4 Much has been said over the
5 past several months over the proposed
6 wind farm by LIPA. Major issues
7 regarding the structures are its
8 potential impact on energy demands in
9 the region. However, a few observers
10 and those proposing the farm have
11 discussed and examined how it will
12 affect maritime industries in the
13 proposed location and its
14 environmental impacts on migratory
15 birds and wild fowl and the area's
16 fisheries.

17 I am here to provide
18 perspective on how the proposal can

19 affect maritime culture here on Long
20 Island from an occupational
21 perspective and recreational
22 perspective as well as the natural
23 environmental. I have been
24 documenting these subjects through
25 field work and interview since 1987

1 140

2 and have worked with throughout the
3 south shore region, both
4 independently and with a partner
5 relation with the South Shore Estuary
6 Reserve Council.

7 There are significant numbers
8 of commercial fisherman who work in
9 the proposed area harvesting food,
10 flounder, ocean surf clams, to name a
11 few, a tradition many learned within
12 their families, some of whom you will
13 hear from later. They include Doxsee
14 Sea Clam of Point Lookout, the
15 Marinaccio families of Freeport and
16 dozens of others.

17 The harvest areas are
18 precisely the in same location of the
19 proposed wind farm. These are not
20 big factory trawlers, but small

21 dragger boats with one to two crew
22 members who take trips only to the
23 targeted area. To those who say,
24 "There is a whole ocean out there,"
25 we say by placing the proposed area

1 141

2 off shore will drive the final nail
3 into the coffin that is the current
4 state of affairs in commercial
5 fishing on small family fishing
6 boats.

7 In addition to this concern,
8 there could be major impacts to the
9 wild water fowl population who
10 migrate in the proposed area during
11 fall, winter and spring. U.S. Fish
12 and Wildlife expressed serious
13 reservations to the proposed project
14 saying there could have been
15 alternative sites and different
16 foundations used that would have
17 minimal impacts, but were rejected
18 because of the cost that would be
19 involved.

20 The recreational fishing
21 industry could also suffer severe
22 setbacks as local residents look for

23 fish in area bays only to learn fluke
24 and other species are also changing
25 habitat.

1 142

2 We hope the MMS will require
3 LIPA and FPL to conduct thorough
4 analysis of the potential
5 environmental impacts on the wind
6 farm. In this manner we hope an
7 effective solution can be found that
8 promotes desperately needed energy
9 conservation while preserving Long
10 Island's maritime occupations and
11 ecology.

12 Finally, the press should be
13 aware there has been a major rift in
14 the Sierra Club. Laurie Farber, long
15 time conservation chair, resigned
16 last week over this very issue.

17 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you.

18 MS. ZUCH: I am Corretta Zuch,
19 resident of Town of Oyster Bay. I
20 thank you for this opportunity to let
21 everyone speak. I don't wish to be
22 redundant. Most of the major points
23 has been expressed already.

24 I do have a problem. I feel

25 this is a politically motivated

1 143
2 boondoggle to make a few people
3 millions and a few million Long
4 Islanders miserable. I heard
5 somebody say how Europe thought this
6 was the best thing since sliced
7 bread, but according to reports that
8 are available right on the internet,
9 the concept has proved less than
10 great and several of the governments
11 have stopped subsidizing it. I
12 understand Denmark has canceled an
13 off-shore windmill project scheduled
14 for the future.

15 Please, let's find out why.
16 Why they are not subsidizing and why
17 did they cancel this project?

18 We have to stop shooting
19 ourselves in the foot. Take a look
20 at the whole picture and learn from
21 the mistakes that have been already
22 made in haste. The economics just
23 don't make sense. If the same
24 effort, money and publicity was put
25 into education on conservation, there

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is no end to what energy could be

3

saved.

4

One other point I want to

5

throw out there is the question that

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was posed by Congressman Peter King,

7

who is the head of Homeland Security,

8

as everybody knows. He mentioned

9

about the radar and it having a

10

problem, you know, altering the

11

radar. So I started to think about a

12

tradition we have here on Long

13

Island, Memorial Day. Thousands of

14

people come to watch our U.S. Air

15

Force Blue Angels do their thing on

16

Memorial Day. I don't think that is

17

going to be possible with the

18

windmills out there, with the radar

19

problem, because they can't go out

20

there and risk their lives doing

21

something like that.

22

The Blue Angels put on a great

23

show and I realize this is just

24

recreational, but it is very

25

inspirational.

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The other thing is, it is

3 times like this I wish I was an
4 engineer with educational knowledge
5 instead of common sense. I think
6 viva renewable energy, but maybe some
7 day when the technology has been
8 perfected, this will be an acceptable
9 form of energy. For now I firmly
10 believe it should be tabled for
11 further research. Let's not overlook
12 the obvious.

13 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 40,
14 please, and 41 on standby.

15 MR. TURNER: Good evening. My
16 name is John Turner and I have been a
17 resident of the Village of Massapequa
18 Park for the past 24 years. Along
19 with my family, a regular visitor to
20 Tobay, which is one of the most
21 beautiful town park facilities on
22 Long Island.

23 I am here to express our very
24 strong support for the off-shore wind
25 proposal. I look forward to the day

1 146

2 we look out from our blanket to see
3 these 40 turbines because, to me,
4 they will symbolize a proven, safe

5 and clean technology. They will
6 symbolize to me human intelligence
7 and foresight and humans actually
8 living, for a change, in harmony with
9 the environment.

10 I want to give you a little
11 background. I also have the
12 privilege of actually serving as
13 Director of the Division of
14 Environmental Protection for Town of
15 Brookhaven, so every day I am
16 involved in review of EIS at the
17 state level, SEQRA, not NEPA. But I
18 deal with looking at pros and cons of
19 projects, how you might mitigate
20 impacts and looking at possible
21 alternatives to those projects.

22 I have reviewed the
23 information relative to this project
24 in great detail over the past couple
25 months and I have to tell you I have

1 147

2 reached the conclusion it is an
3 absolute no-brainer that this is a
4 project that really merits and
5 deserves all Long Islander's support.

6 I will point out one point of

7 information I have heard several
8 other speakers make with respect to
9 impacts upon something. The south
10 shore of Long Island is absolutely a
11 migratory flyway for birds, most
12 notably various sea birds, sea ducks,
13 birds of prey in the fall.

14 I read the report prepared
15 that assessed the impacts of the
16 proposal several months ago and I
17 think that they very significantly
18 addressed all concerns. So I think
19 that one can reasonably conclude that
20 there are not going to be any
21 significant avian impacts from the
22 facility, but I would implore you to
23 have that be a key part of your
24 biological assessment in your EIS.

25 Thank you.

1 148

2 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 41
3 please.

4 MR. WERTZ: My name is Charlie
5 Wertz, chairman of the West End
6 Fisherman Association.

7 Since day one this project has
8 been suspect to me. One only has to

9 ask himself why, in mid-stream, did
10 they change the lead agency from the
11 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to the
12 Minerals Management Service, which I
13 never heard of before this? In my 50
14 years of working on the Atlantic
15 Ocean, when we have problems and
16 issues, we dealt with the Army Corps
17 of Engineers, which has a New York
18 office and was always very receptive
19 to our problems. I wonder if the
20 Minerals Management Office, if they
21 have one in New York. I think they
22 have one in Utah. I am not sure
23 there is one in New York. This
24 really raises my eyebrow about this
25 project.

1 149

2 I have a statement I gave to
3 the Army Corps of Engineers and since
4 they are not the lead agency, I guess
5 I better read my comments.

6 I am a commercial fisherman
7 and fished for over 50 years in the
8 Atlantic Ocean at the site of the
9 proposed wind farm. I am
10 hard-pressed to find a worse spot for

11 this project. Here is a short list
12 of some of my reasons for objecting
13 to the site:

14 It is less than two miles from
15 the shore of the Nantucket to Ambrose
16 traffic lines, the center of the most
17 productive fishing area off the south
18 shore of Long Island. It is the
19 center of the historic lanes used for
20 coastal traffic. Example, tug boats,
21 oil barges, gas barges, small cruise
22 ships, gambling boats and fishing
23 vessels. These vessels must use this
24 area to avoid the large vessels in
25 the Nantucket to Ambrose traffic

1 150

2 lanes.

3 After one of the informational
4 hearings they had here, the very next
5 night I went out fishing and it was
6 6/23/05 at 4 a.m. in the morning.
7 Right in the center of this area I
8 observed a cruise ship, a tug boat
9 pushing a fuel barge, a surf clam
10 dredge boat and two trawlers working
11 in this area in a one hour period.

12 It is also directly south of

13 the Tobay bird sanctuary. There is a
14 wind farm in West Virginia which is
15 killing a large number of bats. They
16 can't seem to mitigate that. I
17 actually believe these birds from the
18 sanctuary are going to be flying into
19 these windmills. Over the years when
20 it gets foggy, the small birds roost
21 on my boat when they get
22 disorientated or chased by seagulls.
23 Seagulls are a big predator of the
24 song birds. So these birds are going
25 to be seeking sanctuary on these wind

1 151

2 turbines and probably be chopped to
3 pieces.
4 The site is also located
5 between Jones Beach and Fire Island,
6 the two busiest inlets on Long
7 Island. For the small amount of
8 energy it will produce, 20 percent of
9 year-round capacity according to
10 their own engineers. So this small
11 amount doesn't warrant degradating
12 such a massive piece of the Atlantic
13 Ocean.

14 If my math is correct and the

15 engineers were quoted in Newsday at
16 20 percent based on a year-round
17 basis when the doldrums are there and
18 this and that. So if my math is
19 correct, that is only 28 percent.

20 One other thing. While at
21 this moment they say they won't
22 exclude us, the Coast Guard and
23 windmill people, when the collisions
24 start, which is well documented,
25 collisions with all the oil rigs in

1 152

2 Gulf of Mexico, once we start having
3 collisions, they are going to push us
4 out of there.

5 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you.

6 Speaker 32?

7 MR. LOMBARDI: Good evening.
8 I am Paul Lombardi. I live at Gilgo
9 Beach. I will have the closest home,
10 3.7 miles away from the proposed
11 site. I guess I will soon have a \$1
12 million home with a \$50 view. My
13 only consolation is that one lady
14 informed me that tourism at the
15 beaches will increase because of the
16 windmills. Perhaps I can run a tour

17 of my home to recoup the loss in
18 value.

19 Keep an open mind, we were
20 asked by proponents of the wind farm.
21 Now I am asking LIPA and FPL keep an
22 open mind as the discussions go
23 forward. We are told that the
24 technology to go into deeper waters
25 has not been developed yet. Florida

1 153

2 Power and Light is proposing, as we
3 were told, a monopile system whereby
4 the wind power is driven into the
5 ocean floor. Two other methodologies
6 of technology are platforms with
7 mooring anchors and platforms with
8 tripods. The latter two methods
9 would allow the wind farms to be
10 built in deeper waters.

11 Tonight's moderator stated
12 that total overall height will be
13 approximately 450 feet. The 40
14 towers would then be visible 20 miles
15 away, with it being visible from the
16 mainland from Blue Point to Long
17 Beach. Now, with using more current
18 technology or platforms with tripods,

19 the towers can be placed off shore at
20 a distance of 24 miles. At that
21 distance, no one can see them. The
22 depth of water 24 miles off shore of
23 Long Island is approximately 100 to
24 120 feet deep. It is feasible to
25 place them at that depth. The only

1 154

2 reason it may not be feasible is it
3 may not be economically feasible.

4 Also for consideration, there
5 are three wind farms currently in
6 central and western New York. Sounds
7 as though it would be cheaper for all
8 of us to continue that trend.

9 Finally, our elected officials
10 told us Florida Power and Light's
11 proposed site is far enough off shore
12 that they don't need county, town or
13 state approval. Guess what, Florida
14 Power and Light? You will need the
15 above three to bring the power to
16 shore.

17 I could, perhaps, be a
18 proponent but provided it is built 24
19 miles off shore, past the horizon,
20 out of view of many individuals

21 concerned.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 43,
24 please, and 44 on standby.

25 MR. SHALVOY: My name is Rick

1 155

2 Shalvoy, founder and director of the
3 Road for a Cure Cancer Research
4 Foundation.

5 I was born 54 years ago, about
6 12 miles from here, in Rockville
7 Centre, and lived in a variety of
8 south shore communities in both
9 Nassau and Suffolk Counties. In
10 1969, I went to work for the New York
11 State Department of Parks as an ocean
12 lifeguard and worked over the past 37
13 years at various facilities -- Jones
14 Beach, Robert Moses State Park,
15 currently stationed at Field 3 at
16 Robert Moses.

17 Ten years ago, I began the
18 cancer research fund-raising event
19 called Row For A Cure, which involves
20 rowing, in a 19-foot ocean lifeboat,
21 a 340-mile course around the outer
22 shoreline of Long Island. I am

25 don't we build it in front of Steven

1 157

2 Spielberg's home?

3 And then a gentleman from Long
4 Beach came up to the microphone last
5 night a little before midnight and
6 said, "Listen. I am from Long Beach.
7 I don't know what all the bickering
8 is about. Why don't you move the
9 whole project west in front of us,
10 and we will take all the energy and
11 take Long Beach off the grid." And
12 there was more clapping. Folks, you
13 can't have it both ways. You can't
14 say build it someplace but you can't
15 build it in front of me. It is
16 either a good project or it's not a
17 good project.

18 I believe it is a good project
19 and of all of the arguments I have
20 heard against it, I only give
21 credence to one, and that one
22 argument against it is, why are we
23 going through all of this only to
24 give us a 3 percent benefit in terms
25 of total energy demand on Long

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Island?

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I think that totally, totally misses the point. If you look at the bigger picture, it is not about wind, solar or any one particular alternative form of energy.

Hydrogen, I believe, is going to ultimately be the answer to crush the fossil fuel burning situation. And if, instead of pumping the 140 megawatts into the grid and letting 44,000 homes spurt it away, if we create a hydrogen fuel manufacturing facility next to the Bergen Point sewage treatment facility and take this wind energy, which is clean energy, and use it to manufacture hydrogen fuel, we will drive petroleum into the ground forever .

MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you.

Speaker 44, please, and 45 on standby?

MR. HALL: May I? I don't have a number.

1

159

2 MR. HOLCOMB: All right.

3 MR. HALL: I apologize for
4 coming late.

5 MR. HOLCOMB: Your name,
6 please?

7 MR. HALL: Francis Hall. I
8 have a couple questions. One is for
9 the audience. Has anybody researched
10 what happened at Cape Cod where they
11 tried to put in windmills? I know
12 they raised quite a bit of a fuss
13 about it and I didn't see anything
14 more in the newspaper. But they were
15 afraid that it was going to deter the
16 beauty of Cape Cod. That is for the
17 audience to research.

18 As to the podium and the
19 people on the platform, where does
20 the Department of Interior come in on
21 this project? Do I get an answer or
22 is it just something I can just ask
23 and it goes to the wind?

24 MR. HOLCOMB: This is a
25 listening session, sir.

1 160

2 Excuse me?

3 MR. HALL: I don't see where

4 the federal government is going to
5 impose taxes for a given area other
6 than the whole nation. I don't know
7 what their purpose is.

8 Secondly, how much of a
9 century are we going to need to pay
10 off the \$500 million debt? These are
11 serious questions and I don't get any
12 reaction from any of the people up
13 there. Are you props, or are you
14 people? That is my question. Maybe
15 I am stepping out of line. If so, I
16 apologize.

17 MR. SLITOR: Sir, we
18 appreciate your coming here, but we
19 established how this meeting will go.
20 We are here to listen to questions,
21 not to answer questions today.

22 MR. HALL: If you are
23 residents, are you willing to pay
24 your fair share of that \$500 million?
25 I think it is a big chunk. That is

1 161

2 my feeling.

3 MR. HOLCOMB: Do we have
4 speaker 46?

5 MS. BROWNER: My name is Olga

6 Browner. I am an educator, retired.
7 I have spent more than half of my 82
8 years out here on the Island.

9 I am appalled that you are
10 talking about making this beautiful
11 Jones Beach area into an industrial
12 site. My biggest objection is the
13 cost of what this project is going to
14 be. We have gotten fairytales about
15 clean energy up to here and we don't
16 have a price tag on it.

17 We have spent 40 years
18 amortizing Shoreham. We have
19 amortized 2 billion of that debt of
20 6 billion originally. We have 4
21 billion more to go. I don't think I
22 will be living long enough to pay off
23 the rest of it to help Kessel.

24 Let's at least be honest about
25 environmental and health concerns. I

1 162

2 am an educator, I am a nutritionist,
3 and I think we are polluting both our
4 environment and the chain of food
5 that we eat.

6 Thank you for the opportunity
7 for putting my two cents worth in.

8 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you.

9 Speaker 47, please?

10 MS. KROL: I am Mary Anne
11 Krol, resident of Clocks Boulevard.

12 I want to thank Olga for
13 bringing up health concerns. I want
14 to speak with a bigger voice for all
15 the small voices on Clocks Boulevard.
16 That is an issue you haven't heard
17 alot about this evening.

18 Clocks Boulevard, you know, is
19 in Massapequa, not in West
20 Amityville, which is on all of your
21 charts and in all of the ads. I have
22 only seen it list as Massapequa once.
23 That is a due diligence issue.

24 I do hold a juris doctoral
25 degree and I write on a lot of very

1 163
2 complex medical issues. I am in most
3 of the medical and legal libraries in
4 the United States and Europe. My
5 concern is the electromagnetic fields
6 and the cable going underneath Clocks
7 Boulevard. This cable is going to be
8 located 60 feet from most homes on
9 that boulevard. I am very happy that

10 someone from one of my civic
11 associations stood up to speak about
12 this, but it was only spoken about
13 once.

14 These cables are going to
15 transmit energy 24 hours a day every
16 day, and the thought that LIPA feels
17 entitled to have an experiment in
18 wind energy, fine. But you don't
19 have to bring human guinea pigs into
20 the equation. We are going to be
21 subjected to this 24 hours a day,
22 seven days a week.

23 As far as the running of the
24 cable, I would like to put something
25 on the record from the United States

1 164
2 Department of the Interior. This is
3 a quote. "Another option reviewed by
4 LIPA would involve installation of
5 the transmission cable along the
6 Wantagh Causeway, taking a land route
7 to the Sterling substation. While
8 this route was determined to be
9 feasible, it was dismissed due to
10 cost and distance. The route is
11 approximately --" it says about 4

12 miles longer -- "and would cost more,
13 but may have significantly lessened
14 impacts because much of the route
15 would be within existing roads and
16 utility rights of way."

17 That is not taking into
18 consideration human lives that are
19 going to have this in a residential
20 area.

21 Another thing. I got to speak
22 to Bob Link, who is the permit
23 compliance officer for Winergy Power.
24 He had a quote from one of the
25 transcripts in Melville, your meeting

1 165
2 in Melville. This says the fact is
3 that people that live around
4 traditional power plants die at 58
5 years old. I spoke with him. He was
6 talking about particulate matter in
7 the air. I am talking about
8 electromagnetic fields. It is not
9 just one thing all those people are
10 dying of. You have to consider there
11 are EMF's that may be involved.

12 As far as anything else here,
13 you have to take into

14 consideration -- I notice on your
15 website that it says that the comment
16 period is open for these
17 environmental impact statements
18 closed Wednesday, July 5, 2006, and
19 the rest of comments received or
20 postmarked after that will be
21 considered to the extent practicable.

22 I am hoping that is not the
23 case. I am hoping that is not the
24 case with Clocks Boulevard. I am
25 hoping we will receive fair review of

1 166

2 this kind of thing and that this
3 cable should go down the Wantagh
4 Causeway, where it belongs. They
5 also said hot spots in the cable will
6 melt other cables there. I don't
7 think a cable like that belongs in a
8 residential area.

9 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you.
10 Speaker 48, please.

11 MR. SLITOR: Just a point of
12 clarification. The comment period is
13 until August 21st. I think you were
14 looking at a date that referred to
15 the programmatic EIS. There are two

16 efforts going on. So, the comment
17 period with respect to this proposal
18 is open until August 21st.

19 MR. HELLER: My name is Craig
20 Heller and I am the Democratic
21 candidate for Assembly in the 12th
22 Assembly District. As such, I have
23 taken a long hard look at this
24 off-shore wind project and the
25 importance of the comprehensive

1 167

2 environmental review that needs to be
3 done.

4 I remember back in the
5 seventies when I was intrigued by the
6 fact of wind and solar power during
7 the gas crisis. I remember in the
8 seventies fighting against the
9 Shoreham nuclear power plant.

10 We don't want to be stuck with
11 a Shoreham nuclear power plant again.
12 But, on the other hand, we have to
13 look at this in a very careful,
14 specific and solid manner. We have
15 to look at the effect of the cables
16 that are going to be run. We have to
17 look at the effect on the ecosystem.

18 We have to look at the effect on the
19 fish that are out there, on the
20 birds, on the boaters that go out
21 there, on the people that fish out
22 there. The view of our beaches is
23 also an important aspect that must be
24 taken into account.

25 I am not saying wind is a bad

1 168
2 idea. I think wind is a good idea.
3 But we have to look at it carefully,
4 specifically, and not rush the job.
5 Just like we did with nuclear power,
6 we rushed the job. We are now paying
7 for it dearly. And I know that a guy
8 who was a consumer advocate, who is
9 now the LIPA chairman, in those days
10 was fighting hard against rushing
11 things and now, unfortunately, seems
12 to be supporting something in a
13 rushed job.

14 So I am asking this group and
15 this committee to specifically look
16 clearly, look closely, don't make any
17 snap decisions. Make sure there are
18 guidelines to be followed, because
19 all of us on Long Island will suffer

20 the consequences if the study is not
21 done right.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 49,
24 please and 50 on standby.

25 MR. LITWIN: My name is Dave

1 169

2 Litwin from Amityville. I would like
3 to speak on behalf of boat owners
4 from Long Island.

5 Our two main inlets are
6 closing up -- bad enough -- because
7 of erosion. Now these sand tunnels
8 that they are talking about, that is
9 just going to close them up
10 completely. And we don't need our
11 boats destroyed because of people
12 that want to go and play with
13 windmills.

14 And I don't believe that
15 windmills are going to do anything
16 anyway. It is just another reason to
17 get money out of people's pocket.
18 Another big cost for the Long Island
19 people and nothing coming out of it.
20 I think it is a waste of our time.
21 Don't approve of it.

22 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you.

23 Speaker number 50?

24 MR. DOXSEE: I am Bob Doxsee.

25 I am from Point Lookout. My company

1 170

2 operates two surf clam vessels. We
3 harvest surf clams in the proposed
4 area. It is a great harvesting and
5 nursery area for surf clams. Very
6 good squid fishing, ground, fluke and
7 other fin fish.

8 I appreciate what Congressman
9 King said about the regional radars
10 being interrupted by these things.
11 What about boat radars? What about
12 boat GPS systems? I have a lot of
13 concerns. I am just going to focus
14 on a couple of them.

15 Speaking of Congressman King,
16 I was surprised about his comments
17 and some other public officials in
18 frank talk. One thing I am wondering
19 about is, what is the percentage of
20 reduction of the dependence on
21 foreign oil? If it is as significant
22 as I think it is going to be -- 40
23 turbines is not going to be

24 sufficient. What about 400? Maybe
25 4,000 would be better? How many is

1 171

2 enough?

3 The other thing I am concerned
4 about, did anybody talk about it
5 tonight? I have a lot of concern and
6 focus on this, and that is also
7 electromagnetic fields. Well, you
8 all know that the Neptune cable
9 coming from Jersey is DC current,
10 which produces none or very little
11 electromagnetic fields. This project
12 is AC and it produces a great deal of
13 electromagnetic fields.

14 It is known electromagnetic
15 fields disrupt the navigational
16 system of migratory fish and whales.
17 Maybe we are going to have whales
18 beaching all over the place.

19 Also what about the effects of
20 human cells on bathers on Jones
21 Beach? I will confine my remarks to
22 that.

23 Thank you very much.

24 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you. We
25 are about at the halfway mark.

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Speaker 51? We have 101. Thank you

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all for being patient and respectful

4

and courteous.

5

MR. KUSEWICH: William

6

Kusewich, a lifetime resident of Long

7

Island and a 21-year veteran teacher.

8

What I am most concerned about

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are my beautiful young students who

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have donned the Marine, Air Force,

11

Navy and Army uniform. I worry every

12

night that I am going to get a call

13

that one of them is not coming back

14

from Iraq, and we are fighting tooth

15

and nail for the oil interests.

16

I am for anything that reduces

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our use of foreign oil. I think many

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good points have been made about

19

this, but we have an energy problem.

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We are addicted to foreign oil and

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anything that reduces our use of

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foreign oil, I am all for. That is

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all I have to say.

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MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 52,

25

please?

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2 Speaker 53?

3 54?

4 MS. STEBBINS: Good evening.

5 Thank you very much for coming before
6 us and explaining what the situation
7 is as far as your proposal now and
8 giving us all a chance to be heard.

9 Let me introduce myself. My
10 name is Cynthia Stebbins. I have
11 been active in conservation and
12 environmental matters for the past
13 over 30 years. I am telling you this
14 only in order to give you some
15 credentials. I have served on
16 committees, numerous committees and
17 boards of various environmental and
18 conservation and environmental
19 organizations and currently sit on
20 the advisory board of Friends of the
21 Bay. I also serve as vice chairman
22 of an international conservation
23 organization called Wildlife Trust.

24 I am not here tonight
25 representing any organization, but

1 174

2 merely on my own behalf to speak to
3 you about what I passionately

4 believe. I have lived in the Town of
5 Oyster Bay as well for over 30 years
6 and I firmly believe that we have to
7 do something. Some people have said
8 this evening that it is insufficient.
9 Okay. We can't put in 400 turbines
10 at once. We need to address the
11 problem. It is a growing problem and
12 we need to take steps forward. So I
13 am in favor, in general, of the Long
14 Island off-shore wind.

15 That said, I also concur with
16 Representative King's request for
17 answers about the electromagnetic
18 impact of the transmission cable and
19 also about the possible impact on our
20 airports' radar. That should not be
21 compromised.

22 I would like to say that we do
23 need to have rigorous environmental
24 surveys done. I presume you have
25 already done some of them, but it is

1 175

2 most important. However, I don't
3 believe that awaiting environmental
4 guidelines from an administration
5 that has a record of virtually

6 denying proven scientific findings
7 seems to have any point.

8 I accept the fact that we will
9 never have full consensus, but these
10 are important matters. I don't care
11 about Florida Power and Light or any
12 other corporation. I have, however,
13 read that it knows more, has more
14 experience in the matters of wind
15 farms than any other company in the
16 United States. That being said, all
17 I have to tell you is that we need to
18 face facts. We clearly need
19 renewable energy.

20 MR. HOLCOMB: Ma'am?

21 MS. STEBBINS: One more
22 sentence?

23 Since Long Island has such an
24 obvious increased energy need and it
25 is not going to decrease, if you

1 176

2 don't want the much more dangerous
3 LNG facility in the middle of Long
4 Island Sound and you don't want
5 another Shoreham disaster, then you
6 must view the Long Island off-shore
7 wind park as a positive alternative.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 55,
10 please?

11 MR. SERKES: My name is Bruce
12 Serkes. I am a resident of East
13 Meadow half my life, 27 years. I am
14 also a residential real estate agent
15 and I have seen what everybody here
16 has done. I have seen people buy
17 houses, knock them down and make
18 mansions as we say in the industry.

19 When we -- Rick and I are the
20 same age. When we were kids, we had
21 a telephone, a television, and that
22 was it. Now our kids have laptops,
23 we have cell phones, we have fax
24 machines, we have computers, mega
25 TV's, drive SUV's. We don't walk

1 177

2 anywhere, don't ride our bike
3 anywhere. Basically there has to be
4 an end to the waste of oil and fuel
5 consumption in this country. It is
6 not a long Island problem. It a
7 global problem.

8 This year the United States of
9 America will welcome its 300

10 millionth person into the country.
11 China and India are growing at
12 exponential rates in terms of driving
13 cars, automobiles. These cars have
14 to be fueled by fossil fuels. What
15 we need to do is work together as a
16 country to try and curtail the
17 reliance on foreign oil in the
18 Mideast. We also need to understand
19 how to conserve energy, including
20 riding our bikes, walking, putting in
21 fluorescent bulbs, turning light
22 switches off when you leave the room.
23 I tell my children all the time, "The
24 light switch goes on as well as off."
25 The big picture here, we need

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2 to work as a country to try and
3 reduce our dependence on foreign
4 fuels. Obviously, Long Island is
5 just the tip of the iceberg. We can
6 envision these wind tunnels going
7 from Maine to the Keys in Florida as
8 well as from San Diego up into
9 Alaska. As long as we continue to
10 conserve our energy and work together
11 as a country, we will help eliminate

12 the need for foreign fuels and also
13 save the lives of our young men and
14 women that are going to Iraq for
15 fight for the energy for our country.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 56,
18 please and 57 on standby.

19 MR. WHITE: My name is Michael
20 White. I have been a life-long
21 resident of Long Island. Everyone
22 here agrees, as has been said
23 earlier, that we need renewable and
24 green power. No one is going to be
25 disfavoring that path. But we must

1 179

2 question the sense of this project.

3 Once again, LIPA has
4 determined, for reasons only known to
5 it, that we need this project in this
6 place at this time, and they are
7 asking you to justify it. I ask you
8 to remember that we were promised
9 that LIPA would reduce our electric
10 rates. That simply hasn't happened.

11 First we must consider the
12 cost of this project, how much it
13 will cost ratepayers. LIPA takes the

14 position and it says that the cost
15 that it pays for power is a trade
16 secret, that we are not allowed to
17 know how much it pays for power. We
18 only have to pay the bill when they
19 send it to us. I ask you to show us
20 that there are no trade secrets, that
21 the ratepayers will be permitted to
22 know how much this power is going to
23 cost us, how much this project is
24 going to cost.

25 We do know the cost of this

1 180
2 project will be enormous for an
3 extremely small amount of power that
4 we need on Long Island. So,
5 therefore, we must question the cost
6 effectiveness of this project versus
7 repowering the existing dirty monster
8 power plants that we have here on
9 Long Island. To repower those
10 plants, we would have more power, we
11 would have cleaner power.

12 I ask you, why doesn't LIPA
13 just stop polluting the air on Long
14 Island? Why not now? That is what
15 is going to change global warming,

16 not 40 windmills off the south shore
17 of Long Island.

18 What we are talking about here
19 is scoping. You must consider
20 alternatives. If, in fact, there is
21 a determination that wind power is
22 part of the mix or even off-shore
23 wind power is part of the mix, rather
24 than on-shore wind power, then I ask
25 you to determine whether or not there

1 181

2 should have been a generic
3 environmental impact statement to
4 determine where it should be, not
5 where LIPA told you they wanted it.

6 Respecting the site, we must
7 require a full environmental analysis
8 of the loss of the critical marine
9 resources, what these monopoles and
10 cables are going to do to our coastal
11 resources, the effect on fisheries
12 and fisheries' habitats, what
13 commercial and recreation
14 opportunities will be lost and the
15 value of that loss.

16 Simply stated, how is it LIPA
17 and its partner gets to use our

18 ocean? Isn't it like Broadwater
19 trying to use our Long Island Sound?
20 I ask you to consider, it wasn't that
21 long ago that wetlands were
22 considered valueless. They were used
23 to be filled in to build buildings,
24 power plants, petroleum stations.
25 Don't let our coastal oceans go the

1 182

2 way of our wetlands.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 57,
5 please.

6 MR. MARINACCIO: My name is
7 Bill Marinaccio. I have been in the
8 charter fishing boat business for 50
9 years. I am very familiar -- I am
10 from Freeport, very familiar with the
11 area in question. My first question
12 that arose when I learned about this
13 project was that it was going to be
14 sited seven miles out. I immediately
15 went to my navigation charts and
16 found that was in the Nantucket to
17 Ambrose shipping lanes. I don't know
18 how long it took LIPA to figure out
19 that that was a poor place to site

22 of the Magna Carta and I suggest you
23 look into that.

24 Now there have been claims
25 made it is not on the Atlantic

1 184

2 fly-way for migratory birds. Anybody
3 that thinks three and a half miles
4 out in the Atlantic Ocean is not on
5 the Atlantic fly-way has rocks in
6 their head.

7 I propose you set up a
8 compensation fund for any bird that
9 is damaged; and for every bird
10 killed, you should restore an acre of
11 wetlands. You should also have a
12 compensation fund for the fisherman
13 or any navigator or anybody that has
14 a problem with this wind farm that
15 they be compensated. And it should
16 be a fund that they don't have to sue
17 for, that they can apply for because
18 the money is already there for
19 damages or lost business because of
20 this.

21 I say it again. The birds.
22 That is absolutely on the Atlantic
23 fly-way. I will say it over and over

24 again because I have seen thousands
25 of birds in there in September,

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2 October, November. Anybody that
3 thinks that that is not on the
4 fly-way is completely nuts. Thank
5 you.

6 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 58?

7 Speaker 59?

8 MR. BROWN: I am Brian Brown
9 in Lindenhurst. I hold in my hand
10 The Wall Street Journal from January
11 16, 2006. The front cover: "FPL is
12 criticized for their lack of
13 maintaining their infrastructure."
14 You see, they had rotting poles
15 throughout the state and that
16 resulted in no power for three weeks
17 after Hurricane Wilma for their
18 residents.

19 I ask, how will they maintain
20 their windmills? We have to look at
21 the past for an indication. If they
22 disregard customers in their own
23 state, how will they treat New
24 Yorkers?

25 Studies show that 18 miles an

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hour winds are required to produce this energy. This weekend will be 90 degrees. Weather.gov is predicted winds 7 to 12 miles on the ocean. This will not increase Long Island's capacity when we need it the most. In addition, we need to determine how much oil is needed to operate these windmills as it requires a substation in the ocean.

Also, what will happen when this oil leaks? What humans will be affected? What animals will be affected? And who will pay for it?

Lastly, when the wind farm is no longer feasible, who will take down the windmills? There will be a court battle and the rate and taxpayers will ultimately pay the cost.

In conclusion, I would like to share a story with you. I am a young working professional on Long Island for one of their public companies.

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Last week we had a quarter close,

3

often a stressful week. The one

4

thing that kept me going was the

5

thought of the beach on the weekend.

6

On Friday night after work I went

7

down to the beach to surf to relieve

8

stress and clear my mind.

9

The night could not have been

10

more perfect. Anyone at the beach

11

last Friday will tell you there was

12

numerous dolphin off the coast that

13

day. The sun was setting behind me

14

and all my troubles were now gone.

15

However, I had an underlying fear

16

that these perfect nights will be

17

eliminated by the sight of the

18

windmills. I ask, how would you feel

19

if one of the things you cherished

20

the most was compromised?

21

If Long Island will no longer

22

be able to provide a peaceful natural

23

place for me to relax, perhaps it

24

will be time for me to join the other

25

25 percent of my generation and leave

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188

2

Long Island.

5 to get up early in the morning and
6 see a sunrise over the 40 windmills.
7 It just sounds so beautiful. And to
8 be with all the tourists that come
9 from all over the world to save
10 global warming for what is a
11 ridiculous boondoggle.

12 I teach economics. The
13 numbers are just so ridiculous. It
14 just doesn't make any sense to me. I
15 can't really believe I am hearing
16 people saying this is going to solve
17 global warming. Seven miles out to
18 sea is not where the wind is. I can
19 tell you from experience of going to
20 the beach for my whole life that the
21 wind is right where the water meets
22 the sand.

23 Now I see, like Bill said, we
24 are going to put it seven miles, now
25 three miles. When they come to their

1 190

2 senses, they are going to realize,
3 the wind is right on the shore.
4 Let's put it right on the shore. And
5 since 40 will not do much, why don't
6 we build 400 or 4,000? Let's see. I

7 think we are going to need about
8 4 million windmills. You know?
9 Maybe that will help global warming.

10 Why don't we just conserve?

11 Maybe there is \$400 million
12 here. If we gave everybody the
13 money, a homeowner, to put solar
14 panels on their home it would be a
15 lot better and not ruin my view of
16 the beach.

17 I am appalled. I thank you
18 for the opportunity to speak, but
19 please, please, don't destroy my
20 beach.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 61?

23 Speaker 62 and 63 on standby?

24 MR. BERGAGLIO: My name is
25 John Bergaglio, born and raised in

1 191

2 West Amityville, one block from where
3 the power station they want to do is.
4 I live and want to die in West Gilgo,
5 Beach but I am here to talk to you
6 from the Interior Department.

7 You are here to protect us
8 because we vote for the elected

9 officials that keep you in business.
10 And you have to ask LILCO, what is
11 the deal?

12 Now, wind is one thing and the
13 cost. So we know that this project
14 is strictly one-tenth of one percent
15 of what they need. So if they want
16 to do a test, go do it on the east
17 end of Block Island and let all the
18 power go to Block Island. And then
19 when the drippings from the oil fall
20 into the water, let them take it up
21 and then you can fine them, LILCO.
22 But who is going to pay the LILCO
23 bill when you fine them \$10 million
24 from all the oil dripping in the
25 water?

1 192
2 I agree with the man just was
3 before me. Let LILCO take a billion
4 and a half dollars, offer it to all
5 the people on Long Island and say,
6 "Okay. In your backyard, build a
7 solar power." This way you can build
8 the biggest one you want and you are
9 going to get a reduction. This way
10 you can have ten computers going, you

11 can have everything going.

12 You should also know because
13 you went through 10,000 corporations
14 now in the Interior Department and
15 everybody gave you a story like LIPA.
16 So why don't you find out about this
17 wave action program that they have?

18 So all these programs, we are
19 not here to talk to you. You should
20 be explaining to us, "We have done
21 research here, research here,
22 research here, and this is the best
23 for you as voting public."

24 Thank you.

25 MR. HOLCOMB: I would like to

1 193

2 invite speaker 63 to come up?

3 No 63?

4 64?

5 MR. YOUNG: How you doing?
6 Before I want to start, I want to
7 congratulate MMS for this forum and
8 for allowing the people's voices to
9 be heard. I think it is important
10 that no matter what position you take
11 on this issue, that the exercise of
12 democracy is probably one of the most

13 important things that we do in Nassau
14 County. You can go to a lot of other
15 places where you don't get a chance
16 to voice your opinion. Things go on
17 in county government, state
18 government and you sit there and
19 scratch your head. Everybody here,
20 no matter what side of the issue you
21 are on, is doing a great job. Kudos
22 to MMS.

23 I am Bob Young, president of
24 the group called America the
25 Beautiful of Nassau County. I also

1 194

2 sit on the Encroachment Task Force
3 and Task Force of Unprotected
4 Woodlands of Nassau, with Legislator
5 Denenberg and Dave Schary. Coming
6 from the same background of both of
7 them, I don't share their view on the
8 wind park.

9 I wanted to mention what I
10 felt was one of the biggest problems
11 with Nassau County and the situations
12 we have with power. They come from
13 probably two struggles or two
14 whatever you want to call them

15 involving power on Long Island I
16 wanted to address. One was the
17 Freeport power plant. Five years ago
18 a number of residents in Merrick,
19 Bellmore, Freeport, we closed the
20 Freeport power plant and forced them
21 to repower. I heard a lot about
22 repowering tonight.

23 This was an effort that took
24 years. It took a tremendous effort
25 from the newspapers, from the Life

1 195
2 newspapers, the Herald newspapers,
3 and took a march of over 500 people
4 to go in front of the power plant and
5 force -- we had hearings like this as
6 well and people came down and spoke
7 about it. That took so much time, so
8 much effort, so much strength from
9 this community that that was for one
10 power plant.

11 I invite you to look at that
12 when you go down the Meadowbrook
13 Parkway south of Merrick Road and
14 look on the right-hand side, that is
15 what you will see. That is what that
16 community did. That is one power

17 plant that has been repowered at an
18 expense to Freeport residents. And I
19 know many in Freeport whose electric
20 bills went up. I invite everybody to
21 consider what the reality is of the
22 things you are proposing.

23 I also want to address what I
24 consider to be a problem. We heard
25 things about the Neptune project. I

1 196

2 want everyone to be aware that the
3 first person to propose the Neptune
4 project it on Long Island was
5 Legislator Dave Denenberg. And when
6 he proposed that project to the
7 community, immediately he was hit
8 with a wall of resentment from the
9 people that lived over near the
10 parkway there in the Seaford area,
11 talking about all the concerns that
12 we have here.

13 So, all of a sudden that goes
14 away. Lo and behold, you look out
15 and see the Wantagh Parkway -- I will
16 not have enough time. You see the
17 Wantagh Parkway. What happened
18 there? We take the power and bring

21 much.

22 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 64?

23 Number 65?

24 66?

25 MR. MANN: I am Kenny Mann. I

1 198

2 think I am the only person here from
3 the east end of Long Island. Despite
4 my accent, I live in Sag Harbor and
5 lived there 25 years. I originally
6 come from Kenya, born and raised in
7 Nairobi. I lived in Europe 15 years.
8 I have lived all over the world.

9 What I am hearing, with great
10 respect for all the speakers --
11 because it has been quite an
12 educational experience for me and
13 actually has made me change my
14 written speech, so I am speaking from
15 the heart now.

16 With all due respect, we
17 cannot any longer be talking about
18 "my beach, my view, my town, my
19 Oyster Bay, my Long Island." We have
20 to -- we have to see Long Island as
21 part of the global network. And if
22 this wind project is an experiment,

25

I won't make that sacrifice.

1

200

2

My family has lived in Freeport since

3

the 19-teens. I have heard a lot of

4

talk about conservation and I am a

5

believer in conservation, but this is

6

not a conservation move.

7

There is a great tale called

8

The Emperor Has No Clothes. This

9

proposal has no clothes. This

10

proposal is all of 40- to 50,000

11

homes on Long Island? We are

12

spending 400 million, \$500 million on

13

40 to 50,000 homes on Long Island?

14

That is less than 1 percent of the

15

energy needs. That is a joke. That

16

is not a proposal. That is a joke.

17

I also find it very

18

interesting that people are very

19

strong proponents very often -- not

20

all but very often, who are not users

21

of Jones Beach. I don't hear these

22

things being put off to Hampton Bays.

23

Certainly they are not going to be

24

put off Naragansett Sound. They are

25

not going to be put off that area.

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201

2

They are not going to be put off

3

where the beautiful go. No. It is

4

where the peons go. The working

5

class uses Jones Beach. That is our

6

beach.

7

Finally, the last issue is

8

this. That is a public preserve.

9

There are alternatives. Repower some

10

of the plants. An engineer said at

11

the meeting yesterday. Use solar

12

energy. That is far more efficient.

13

But rephrasing the lady who spoke

14

before very eloquently from Bar

15

Beach, don't put those disgusting

16

mills, those factories off of my

17

beach.

18

That is my answer. Don't put

19

them off my beach. Put them on her

20

beach. Put them in Texas. Put them

21

in Texas, but not off Jones Beach.

22

MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you.

23

Speaker 68?

24

MR. HOOPS: My name is Carl

25

Hoops, Massapequa resident my whole

1

202

2

life.

5 wind power, but wind energy. Wind
6 turbines supply energy, not power,
7 because if the wind does not blow, no
8 power is generated. Conventional
9 power plants are still needed on
10 reserve to meet our power needs.

11 How is the wind farm project
12 part of the least cost energy plan
13 mandated by the Public Service
14 Commission? Power and energy should
15 be supplied at the least cost. If
16 the wind farm increases our cost, it
17 is in violation of the Least Cost
18 Energy Plan.

19 LIPA already has an
20 alternative energy purchase program
21 where consumers can, at an additional
22 cost, buy alternate energy. Will
23 this project cost more than the
24 existing alternate energy purchase
25 program? It does not matter where

1 204

2 the alternative energy is generated.
3 It could be generated in upstate New
4 York. It does not matter where it is
5 generated.

6 If the wind farm is on the

7 cutting edge and will reduce the
8 national dependence on oil, how much
9 money is the federal government
10 giving us?

11 On Long Island we are energy
12 pigs. We wouldn't have a problem if
13 people unplugged the second
14 refrigerator in their garage. Okay?
15 We wouldn't have this problem.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 70,
18 please.

19 MR. WEINSTEIN: Good evening.
20 My name is Stu Weinstein, vice
21 president of the North Bellmore Civic
22 Association. I represent a
23 constituency of 26,000 people.

24 I am not going to be
25 redundant, so I am only going to ask

1 205
2 a couple questions. Many points were
3 covered prior. In an article in
4 Newsday a couple of years ago, the
5 original site was slated to be east
6 of Montauk. I was wondering what
7 happened there and why the site was
8 moved to a public beach. We don't

9 feel it is very appropriate and we
10 were looking for documentation as to
11 why the Montauk site was unsuitable.
12 We are vehemently against having a
13 wind farm at a public site.

14 Secondly, when the wind farm
15 expires, who is going to be
16 responsible for the demolition? It
17 is my feeling that FLP is just going
18 to walk away and the New York
19 taxpayers will have to pick up the
20 bill.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you. I
23 would like to invite speaker 71 now.

24 72?

25 73?

1 206

2 MS. PENDZICH: I am Marie
3 Pendzich and I am a homeowner on Long
4 Island. I heard a lot of talk
5 tonight, but I put my money where my
6 mouth is. I have solar on my roof.
7 I put it, installed it on two homes
8 that I lived in, not just one, and
9 never worried about getting my money
10 back, but I did. The first time I

11 sold, I got 20,000 more because I put
12 the solar.

13 As I said, I heard a lot of
14 talk tonight but not much action from
15 these homeowners.

16 I am strongly in favor of the
17 wind project provided that it will
18 pass environmental impact studies, of
19 course, and I am very confident that
20 it will, but also provided that the
21 oil companies that have plans to put
22 oil rigs off shore also submit to
23 serious environmental impact studies
24 and guidelines. Why should wind be
25 the only one to do that?

1 207

2 The way I see it, we really
3 have no choice. When I started as a
4 teacher in 1970, I can remember
5 reading my first article to one of my
6 classes on something that they called
7 the greenhouse effect. For the next
8 36 years, we basically did not do
9 very much but wonder what the
10 greenhouse effect was and if we
11 should take any action.

12 Well, time is running out and

13 we can't wait any longer. There are
14 thousands of scientists out there
15 that confirm that global warming is a
16 very real thing, and I am very upset
17 about that. I have two children and
18 I am concerned about the world that I
19 am leaving them behind.

20 Maybe that is a rare thing. I
21 think a lot of people don't even give
22 a second thought to their children
23 and their grandchildren and what they
24 are dumping on them.

25 Today you can hardly pick up a

1 208
2 publication without seeing an article
3 on global warming, so it isn't that
4 people don't know about it. I have
5 heard a lot of arguments, one of them
6 about the birds that were going to be
7 decapitated and another one that
8 talked about trust money that we
9 should use in case any birds are
10 killed.

11 First of all, the blades do
12 not circulate like a fan, you know.
13 You can't stick your finger in there
14 and get it cut off. They circulate

15 very, very slowly. And if you want
16 to worry about bird kills, maybe you
17 should worry about the cats that are
18 loose out there in the wild.

19 University of Wisconsin did a
20 study and found that between
21 38 million and 219 million birds are
22 killed every year from cats in
23 Wisconsin alone. That is only one
24 state.

25 Skyscrapers. Toronto.

1 209

2 Hundreds of thousands of birds die
3 every year because they fly into
4 buildings. Pesticides kill 70
5 million birds every year. Oil
6 spills, 400 in Prudhoe Bay every year
7 alone. The Exxon Valdez, 250,000 sea
8 birds died from that, and global
9 warming stands to kill millions.

10 MR. HOLCOMB: Are you almost
11 done? Your time is up.

12 MS. PENDZICH: My only concern
13 is that we are going to argue to
14 death this windmill project only to
15 see oil rigs off of Long Island.

16 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 74?

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18
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25

75?

MR. WALLMAN: I am Ray

Wallman, life-long resident of Long
Island and trained as an engineer. I
had various points in mind to make
tonight but I see most everyone is
making their points, the proponents
as well as the opponents and there
are many issues in terms of its

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210

2

safety.

3

But as an engineer, I looked

4

at the project and it raised many

5

issues just as an engineer. First of

6

all, this is polarized: Wind farms,

7

no wind farms. As an engineer I

8

looked and said, it is surrounded by

9

water. You are fighting the sea.

10

The sea is eroding what it is

11

hitting. I ask everyone, "How many

12

times have you been knocked over by

13

the wind? How many times have you

14

been knocked over by a wave?"

15

The water is so much more

16

dense than the air. Now, wind farms

17

may be great if you are up in the

18

mountains where your only choice is

19 wind, but we are surrounded by the
20 ocean. The water is so much denser,
21 you could take those windmills in the
22 air and put them underwater. If you
23 put them underwater, you wouldn't
24 need 15 miles per hour. I did
25 research and found out you needed 4

1 211
2 miles per hour. You wouldn't need
3 60-foot diameters; you would need
4 16-foot diameters. You wouldn't need
5 200-foot poles; you'd need 20-foot
6 poles.

7 After researching some more, I
8 said, who would want to build a wind
9 farm like that when they could build
10 20-foot water turbines? I figured it
11 would take a lot of research to do.
12 It turns out May 30, 2006 in Newsday,
13 they reported on just such a company
14 doing such a thing. In fact, they
15 already have prototypes going into
16 the East River.

17 If you are talking about
18 20-foot towers instead of 200-foot
19 towers, you can put many more in the
20 same space. In the same area you can

21 put the 40 wind towers, you could put
22 400 water turbines.

23 Now, as an engineer, I would
24 challenge you to look at the company
25 doing that work with water turbines

1 212

2 and see the price justification.
3 Otherwise, it would look that you're
4 fighting the sea for something
5 that -- you are fighting energy that
6 is there for the taking.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 76?

9 MR. FORESE: My name is Mike
10 Forese and I support this project
11 upon a full EIS study.

12 I have a degree in electrical
13 engineering, I have worked with a
14 utility and in the telecommunications
15 industry. I have been researching
16 renewable energy several years. I am
17 a resident of Long Beach and live
18 approximately 100 feet from the
19 shoreline with an ocean view. I
20 certainly hope I will have a view of
21 this great symbol of energy
22 independence from my home, and if I

23 don't, I can only hope the waters of
24 Long Beach will be the site of the
25 next wind project after this one.

1 213

2 I want to make one comment
3 about the economics of this. I was
4 looking at -- many people have come
5 up and talked about the \$400 million
6 number, and it does sound like a very
7 big number. But we are dealing with
8 very big numbers when we talk about
9 energy. If you look at the
10 400 million and the 44,000, it works
11 out to be about a thousand dollars
12 per home. And I thought, that is a
13 big number. A thousand dollars per
14 home? Then I thought, over 25 years,
15 that is \$40 per home.

16 I know that my electric bill
17 for my small home has gone up, in one
18 year, \$40 per year. I have
19 absolutely no doubt that over a
20 25-year period, \$40 is not a large
21 amount of money when you look back at
22 the history of the dollar value of a
23 barrel of oil and where that has
24 taken us.

25

We are all complaining about

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214

2

dollars for our energy. We complain

3

about LIPA and their charges. One

4

fact from the American Wind Energy

5

Association is that in 2006 U.S. wind

6

farms will be saving over half a

7

billion cubic feet of natural gas per

8

day. That natural gas is a demand

9

for natural gas and it takes the ease

10

off our demand and will lower the

11

price for our heating needs.

12

Wind energy right now will

13

generate over 17 billion kilowatt

14

hours in the U.S. in 2005, enough

15

electricity to power 1.6 million

16

homes. So when we talk about 44,000

17

being a small number, I don't look at

18

this as a first experiment. I look

19

at it as this is a continuation of

20

something we are doing great for our

21

country.

22

Last thing I want to say is

23

that we must not make the mistake of

24

ignoring less visible consequences

25

just because they may not be felt

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this week, this month or this year.
We must make a responsible choice
with a long-term view and take a
leadership role which others in our
country will follow.

Thank you.

MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you.

Speaker 77?

MR. HAMZA: I am Hassan Hamza,
resident of West Babylon, living on
Long Island over 50 years on and off.

I heard a couple of things
said of danger to birds. I just came
back from Germany. Outside the town
I was staying, there were two wind
turbines. They are wind turbines,
not Cuisinarts. They are not
chopping up birds.

I also heard them say the
turbines at the ocean will be
detrimental to fishing. I used to
work on a shrimp boat out of
Freeport, Texas. The best fishing
spots around there are around the oil

1

2 rigs out there. Once you have some
3 sort of bottom there, the fish will
4 be hanging around it. The only thing
5 these things will be doing is good
6 for Long Island, not anything bad.

7 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 78?

8 MR. RAKOBITSCH: My name is
9 Roy Rakobitsch. I have been a
10 resident of Long Island since I was
11 born 27 years ago.

12 Is there only three people
13 here that employ solar modules on
14 their homes? There should be a lot
15 more than that. The technology has
16 been around a long time. I don't see
17 why more of you aren't doing it. I
18 use it every single day. I have wind
19 turbines at my own home. I use it
20 every single day. I even have an off
21 grid home that uses wind. I see it
22 work every single day for all my
23 needs. There is no reason why the
24 rest of Long Island shouldn't be
25 doing this. They can do nothing but

1 217

2 good.

3 Thanks.

4 MR. HOLCOMB: Thank you 79?
5 80? 81?

6 MR. HAGER: David Hager from
7 East Massapequa. First I want to
8 compliment you on changing your
9 format tonight. It seems to be going
10 a lot quicker than last night. And,
11 again, thank you to the committee for
12 coming and giving us a forum to
13 present our opinions.

14 One of my concerns, and I am
15 taking my personal feelings out of
16 it -- but wind speed. I spent a lot
17 of time over at the beach and I know
18 there is a lot of days over there I
19 am praying for wind for multiple
20 reasons, to cool me down a little bit
21 because I love being there, and bugs.

22 I think it's got to change
23 just the whole make-up of the south
24 shore once these are done. My
25 scientific question is, and hopefully

1 218

2 your report looks into this, once
3 these turbines take this wind coming
4 at it, what is on the other side of
5 that turbine? Now, obviously, these

6 turbines are using that wind, so is
7 there no wind anymore going to be
8 hitting the Long Island shoreline in
9 that span where they sit?

10 It is not a fan. It is not
11 going to be producing wind but taking
12 wind. That is one of my big
13 questions, what will happen to the
14 shoreline once that happens.

15 The next question is, once you
16 put any structure in the water, it is
17 going to change the way the currents,
18 the way the sand, the way everything
19 out there flows. So sand that is now
20 being dumped in one area is going to
21 be dumped in another area and removed
22 from another area. Where we have
23 inlets now -- I don't know how you
24 are going to study this in time to
25 give them, LIPA and Florida, an

1 219
2 answer, but not fill in the canals we
3 have, the channels we have and not
4 open up new ones. Those are my big
5 scientific concerns.

6 The other one is, I boat every
7 weekend. Salt water is a killer. If

8 I don't keep up on my boat every
9 single weekend, my boat would be
10 destroyed. I have a 30-year-old boat
11 because I work on it every single
12 weekend. Salt water is nothing like
13 fresh water. It is an absolute
14 killer on parts, on metal,
15 fiberglass, on wood. It just
16 absolutely destroys it.

17 Again, thank you for your
18 time. Appreciate it.

19 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 82?

20 Speaker 83?

21 MS. CESTAR: My name is Linda
22 Cestar. I live in Bethpage, 14 miles
23 from the beaches. Do not fast-track
24 our public parks. Now they want 40.
25 That won't be enough. Then 400, then

1 220

2 4,000. When will it stop? When they
3 say there would be little
4 environmental impact, I know that for
5 a fact LIPA lies.

6 I am not against windmills. I
7 am against putting them only three
8 miles off the coast of two of the
9 most beautiful public beaches on Long

10 Island.

11 Why the state parks? Why not
12 the Hamptons? Why not put them 30 to
13 50 miles out on platforms or on
14 manmade islands? Why not Plum
15 Island? Then there would be no
16 controversy.

17 What will it do to the water
18 quality once they start digging up
19 the ocean floor? Me and many other
20 people spend our summers swimming in
21 that water. What will happen during
22 major hurricanes they keep saying we
23 are going to get soon? Is there
24 going to be parts of windmills all
25 over the beaches once they are

1 221

2 destroyed by a major hurricane?

3 Our public beaches are all
4 that is left to natural Long Island.
5 It is my and many other people's
6 sanctuary from this overdeveloped,
7 congested Island. I need the
8 sanctuary for the sake of my sanity.
9 Maybe if we stop the overdevelopment
10 of every little piece of open land
11 left on Long Island, we won't need

12 more energy.

13 A law should be made that any
14 new major developments, like what
15 they want to do with the Nassau
16 Coliseum, should be solar panels on
17 all the buildings and wind towers
18 built on the site of these major
19 developments, not on our public
20 parks. We all agree we need
21 alternate energy resources, but not
22 at the cost of our public parks.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. HOLCOMB: Number 84?

25 85?

1 222

2 MR. READ: I think many of the
3 speakers tonight have reacted and
4 presented, I think, very strong
5 pictures of the importance of our
6 concern for the environment. There
7 is no question about that. It is a
8 critical issue. But that is not the
9 same thing as saying, therefore, I
10 support this project. They are two
11 very, very different issues.

12 I personally care a great deal
13 about the environment. I also care a

14 great deal about not letting this
15 project through. I think I want to,
16 first of all, clarify that. Then
17 what I would like to do now is
18 summarize what I think are the
19 values, what we are getting basically
20 for this project, what it is going to
21 do for us and what it is going to
22 cost us.

23 Project yourself onto Jones
24 Beach. Stand on the shore and look
25 out to sea forever. As far as the

1 223

2 eye can see, there is the ocean.
3 Majestic, pulsing with life. It is
4 more than something beautiful to look
5 at. It inspires, it uplifts your
6 spirits and brings us closer to
7 nature.

8 Installing windmills across
9 the entire east to west horizon of
10 Jones Beach, Tobay Beach and Long
11 Island's other south shore beaches
12 would be devastating. Far from
13 seeing forever, we would see and hear
14 an industrial park. This industrial
15 blight will constitute pollution of a

16 powerful sort as it drains much of
17 the joy of the beach-going
18 experience. The beauty and serenity
19 of our beaches is one of the reasons
20 many of us have decided to live here.

21 That is a cost. Now what
22 about benefit? If -- and it is a big
23 "if" -- this would be the country's
24 first off-shore windmill complex -- I
25 am sorry. Because this is the first

1 224

2 windmill complex off shore in this
3 country's history, it is a big "if."
4 If this project actually performs
5 according to LIPA's expectations, it
6 will add about 1 percent to LIPA's
7 electrical generating capacity. And
8 that capacity is unreliable capacity.

9 So those are the costs. Those
10 are the benefits. A summary here.
11 Jones Beach, which is listed on the
12 National Directory of Historic
13 Places, is a national and local
14 treasure. To inflict intrusive sites
15 and sounds of industrial plant on
16 south shore beaches in return for a
17 trivial increase in capacity would be

18 a great mistake, a mistake that we
19 and our children will have to live
20 with for decades to come. Thank you.

21 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 86? 87?
22 88? 89? 90? 91? 92? 93?
23 94?

24 MR. MOORE: I am Edward Moore,
25 licensed professional engineer in the

1 225
2 State of New York, license number
3 071010. You have to back up where
4 you are if you are going to talk
5 about engineering.

6 This is a political issue.
7 Everyone is talking about all these
8 other things. Part of the scoping
9 process needs to identify that this
10 is a political issue. Representative
11 King is here for a reason. Others
12 are here for a reason. Everyone is
13 telling you where they are from for a
14 reason. It is a political issue and
15 that needs to come out in the scoping
16 process.

17 Two, you are here from federal
18 government, and I think that is a
19 good thing, because you are

20 relatively neutral in terms of Long
21 Island politics. I want to make
22 sure, did the maritime administration
23 comment on its proximity to sea-going
24 channels? Did the Coast Guard look
25 at it? I think the rural

1 226

2 electrification administration should
3 be consulted since it is in a very
4 rural area as far as I am concerned.
5 I could give you names and numbers of
6 people to contact in that
7 organization if you need it.

8 The biggest thing I guess on
9 the federal level, we need a
10 long-term plan. One shot doesn't
11 work. You know, it is a big issue,
12 Massachusetts, big issue on Long
13 Island. Florida Power and Light is
14 up here hopefully because they want
15 to do the same thing in the Keys. I
16 doubt it, but it needs to happen from
17 Maine to Key West. It can't be Long
18 Island only. We need the plan
19 because the plan works better than
20 one spot. So, planning. The
21 planning process. Long-term

22 off-shore planning process should be
23 identified as part of the scoping
24 process.

25 Locally, I guess I got to be

1 227

2 careful. There is two issues
3 locally. I am not sure where you
4 leave off onshore or offshore. But
5 this cable runs up through property
6 that is taxed for the Amityville
7 School District. The school district
8 is very close to my heart, but we
9 haven't talked about that. There is
10 a serious impact, socioeconomic
11 impact, on Amityville schools.

12 We are in Massapequa schools.
13 These look beautiful here. This
14 thing runs up on property taxed in
15 Amityville School District impacts on
16 Amityville schools, and we need to
17 consider that. It is on shore, I
18 understand, but we need to consider
19 that.

20 Lastly, we need to find out
21 from LIPA if there is any emissions
22 credits that generate from this
23 off-shore wind park, if they are to

24 be applied somewhere or are they to
25 support its contractual obligations

1 228

2 that it has for its power generation.
3 So, if they are generating emissions
4 credits, is this project to support
5 the contracts they have in place I
6 think that go out to 2013?

7 Thank you.

8 MR. HOLCOMB: Number 96? 97?

9 MS. WERNER: My name is Arlene
10 Werner. I live in the area here in
11 Massapequa Park, but I have lived
12 from Jackson Heights on out. And,
13 yes, Jackson Heights is part of Long
14 Island.

15 The first thing I would like
16 to say is that -- if you don't mind
17 me saying this, when you plan other
18 meetings, I don't know who suggested
19 July to you, but in this area where I
20 have lived for 37 years and in
21 Levittown, when important things need
22 to be voted on, the meetings are
23 always held in July and August or
24 over holidays. January, February,
25 March, April, when people are here,

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2

we don't have those meetings. So try

3

and consider having the meetings when

4

you could have had even more people

5

come to the meeting and more people

6

stay.

7

The last meeting I came to

8

that had something to do with a

9

project on Sunrise Highway, I was

10

here until 2 a.m. to make a small

11

statement. Please, keep that in

12

mind.

13

In addition to which, I am

14

very happy to find out that MMS is

15

involved. That means we are not

16

going to have a rush to judgment. I

17

don't know about the rest of you, but

18

I began to read recently or a month

19

ago that the company who wants to

20

build this and LIPA were looking to

21

begin in the fall of this year. I

22

read it twice. I thought, surely

23

that must be the fall of 2007.

24

So I am happy to see that

25

there is going to be a slowing down

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2 of decision-making, that there is
3 going to be time spent on study.

4 The wind project is not a new
5 experiment. Maybe in the water it
6 is, but it is not a new experiment,
7 and the experiments that I know of in
8 California, somewhere in Midwest, in
9 one of the European countries, it is
10 not successful. They are not working
11 them. I probably could come up with
12 more.

13 I am not against the project.
14 I am not against windmill energy.
15 Excuse me. I am against this
16 project. I am against the placement,
17 the rush to start, the lack of study
18 and the cost versus the return. One
19 to two percent extra capacity isn't
20 worth it.

21 The wind project impacts a
22 larger part of the Long Island
23 population where they are thinking of
24 putting it and it impacts people who
25 make their living in that area.

1 231
2 Amityville has always been -- and I
3 don't live there -- a working water

4 place. You would be better off to go
5 out where there is less population
6 and less actual income-producing
7 companies, which would be Sagaponack,
8 Southampton. Now, the problem there
9 is the sand. But I would recommend
10 to you to remember how much you are
11 impacting on a large population.

12 Also, when we speak of Jones
13 Beach, they give us a very large
14 income the way they are now. A
15 windmill population out there is not
16 going to draw people to come and see
17 Jones Beach. Those are a few of the
18 things I think of.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 98,
21 please?

22 MR. KWAZ: My name is Matthew
23 Kwaz, Town of Oyster Bay resident
24 over 30 years.

25 There are many issues that

1 232

2 have been addressed here and many
3 concerns that have been addressed.
4 Obviously, energy, environment,
5 expense and education. As far as

6 energy, there is no doubt Long Island
7 needs new alternative energy, other
8 sources, maybe ethanol. They
9 possibly need to restructure and
10 reengineer some of the power plants
11 that are already here.

12 Energy addition such as this
13 that will add two to three percent at
14 a cost of \$500 million for a
15 population of 5 million people on the
16 Island. My mathematics tells me it
17 is 150,000 people that will benefit
18 from this new energy windmill
19 addition. So does that 150,000
20 people pay for it, or do the
21 5 million people pay for that? That
22 also is on the expense.

23 Do the windmills stay in
24 operation at 3 percent? Do you
25 upgrade them at any time in the

1 233

2 future or does it just become a dead
3 issue in the future as Shoreham did?
4 There were many notations made of
5 that prior where Shoreham was a
6 \$6 billion project and we are still
7 paying for it over time.

10 MS. KORSZUN: Good evening. I
11 am Annetta Korszun, native Long
12 Islander with an MBA in corporate
13 finance.

14 This evening I was asked to
15 come on a date with the gentleman
16 that just spoke, and I didn't know
17 where I was going. And here I am.

18 What I can say is one thing,
19 and that is that I am not for or
20 against this plan, but what I can say
21 to the board and also to the people
22 that live on Long Island is that we
23 are all responsible. We are human
24 beings and we all are responsible for
25 our environment. And the one concept

1 235

2 and aspect I have not heard once
3 spoken this evening is the moral and
4 ethical aspect of this issue.

5 One question I would like to
6 ask the panel or the people that will
7 be responsible for signing their
8 names on the contract to go ahead and
9 I guess do this plan, is that if your
10 God was sitting right here, would you
11 sign that?

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Thank you.

MR. HOLCOMB: Speaker 100?

MR. LINK: Good evening.

Thank you, MMS, for coming here tonight. My name is Bob Link, permit compliance officer for a company called Winergy Power. I am an off-shore wind developer, so that means I am probably going to support this.

I have three things to say before I address a question. One, I was born in Rockville Centre, lived on Long Island my whole life until I

236

got a letter from General Hershey and President Nixon in 1969. I came back, still live on Long Island. I learned how to swim at Dolphin Beach, practiced my swimming at Point Lookout, had my first kiss on Jones Beach, had a lot of fun on Fire Island when I was a young man. So, I am a native.

My question to MMS is, when you are putting the generic environmental impact statement

14 together, could you include some
15 things?

16 One: The average age of a
17 person living next to a traditional
18 power plant, study commissioned by
19 the EPA. They live to be 58 years
20 old within three and a half miles.
21 That is something that people aren't
22 aware of. That is the average age.
23 Where are these traditional power
24 plants located?

25 Two: Most people don't know,

1 237

2 but before the war started -- having
3 gotten my greetings in 1969, I am
4 sort of familiar with that. But
5 before the war started, we were
6 spending \$27,500 a second to protect
7 oil wells not on our property, not in
8 our country. 27,500 per second.
9 That is what \$52 billion a year is.

10 Now I believe we are about
11 \$250 billion a year in this
12 engagement that we have overseas. If
13 you take that and add it up, that is
14 a lot of money. So when we are
15 talking about \$400 million, we are

16 not talking about all that much.

17 Please make that consideration
18 for the impacts when you are doing
19 that so that a fair comparison can be
20 drawn.

21 Thank you and have a good
22 night.

23 MR. HOLCOMB: Would 101 please
24 come up? Our last speaker?

25 MR. SCHNEE: Good evening. My

1 238

2 name is Art Schnee, a native Long
3 Islander and I just wanted to say
4 that I am against the wind park. I
5 am not against alternative energy,
6 but I am definitely against this
7 off-shore power plant they want to
8 build on Long Island.

9 Please don't let LIPA build
10 another Shoreham here. We already
11 have one and this will just be
12 another one. It is ill-conceived,
13 not planned properly, and it really
14 needs to be -- there is plenty of
15 ways to produce electricity and they
16 should look into other alternative
17 energies before trying to convince us

22 proposal at this time --

23 MS. BERGER: I want to put in
24 the record that it is a flood area.
25 They just spent \$500 million in the

1 241

2 last three years putting our roads --
3 making the roads -- no. Lowering it
4 from Merrick Road down to the water.
5 My house was done two years in a row.
6 I am fed up with all the stuff going
7 on. Where are our politicians?
8 Where are the people that are
9 supposed to be standing up for us?

10 And who is this? Is this LIPA
11 or what? Who is doing this? From
12 what I see, my electric bill is going
13 to go up. The only one that is going
14 to make money on this is the people
15 that are making these poles or the
16 cement or whatever these structures
17 are, the construction people or
18 whoever is doing that. But my
19 electric bill isn't going down.

20 As far as conserving electric,
21 that is -- you could put as many
22 things in as you want. People are
23 not going to stop using this

24 electricity. It is ridiculous what
25 they do today. I was brought up,

1 242

2 when you walk in the room, you put
3 the light on; when you walk out, you
4 put it off. Not on Long Island. My
5 bill is \$70 a month; My daughter's is
6 \$900 a month on the north shore.

7 Where is the comparison? What
8 are they doing wrong? Every light in
9 the house is on 24 hours a day plus
10 all the computers, five televisions.
11 This is ridiculous. All the
12 electricity you can get in the world
13 for Long Island will not be enough.

14 They have got to learn how to
15 conserve. They have got to be
16 taught. LIPA has to do something.
17 Go around and -- this is not going to
18 do it, this less than 1 percent. In
19 my backyard in a flood area where I
20 just came today from, that gorgeous
21 beach. It is not filthy or dirty.
22 It is absolutely gorgeous and clean
23 and so is the bay clean.

24 So, don't tell me, you know,
25 this is a dirty area. It is not. It

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is a beautiful area and it is not wealthy people living down here, as they said. It is poor people. But we love our beach. We moved out here because we wanted our beach.

And, by the way, who said that you can do that? Who is giving you permission to do this? We have to object to something? Who started this? The first thing on Long Island or anywhere in the United States? Why here? The first thing in the whole United States? Is that the truth? No answers.

MR. SLITOR: Thank you.

MS. BERGER: Oh, the first on water in the United States. Well, don't pick Oak Beach to Jones Beach. I don't care if everybody says "it is my beach." It is our beach. And we don't -- we want to keep it exactly as it is. And we don't want floods. We have enough junk down here. We don't need more.

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MR. SLITOR: Thank you for
coming.

Thank you very much, everyone,
all you folks that have stuck it out
to the end. It has been a long day.
We appreciate you coming here. You
brought a lot of information to the
table.

Next step, of course, is to
draft the environmental impact
statement. As we said earlier, that
will probably be published in April
of 2007. There is work to be done.
It will take a while. So we will be
doing our due diligence on this and
you will have another opportunity to
participate in the process.

Once again, thank you very
much.

(Time Noted: 11:10 p.m.)

* * *

CERTIFICATION

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I, DEBRA STEVENS, a Notary Public in
and for the State of New York, do
hereby certify:
THAT the foregoing is a true and
accurate transcript of my
stenographic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
set my hand this ___day of _____,
2006.

DEBRA STEVENS