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THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

In the Matter of the)
Application of Oregon Clean)
Energy, LLC for a Certificate)
of Environmental) Case No. 12-2959-EL-BGN
Compatibility and Public Need)
to Construct an Electric)
Generation Facility in Lucas)
County, Ohio)

- - -

TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: April 2, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: Oregon Municipal Complex
5330 Seaman Road
Oregon, Ohio
REPORTER: Robert W. Scheid, Jr., RPR
Notary Public

- - -

1 APPEARANCES:

2 Administrative Law Judge:

3 OHIO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION:

4 Greta See

180 East Broad Street

5 Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

(614) 728-2849

6
7 On behalf of the Oregon Clean Energy Center:

8 BRICKER & ECKLER:

Matthew W. Warnock

9 100 South Third Street

10 Columbus, Ohio 43215-4291

(614) 227-2300

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1 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Good evening.
2 Thank you for taking time out of your evening to come
3 and offer testimony.

4 Scheduled for hearing today before the
5 Ohio Power Siting Board is Case No. 12-2959-EL-BGN,
6 entitled "In the Matter of the Application of Oregon
7 Clean Energy, LLC, for a Certificate to Construct,
8 Operate, and Maintain the Oregon Clean Energy Center
9 in Lucas County, Ohio."

10 My name is Greta See. I am the
11 Administrative Law Judge assigned to the case by the
12 Ohio Power Siting Board. As the Administrative Law
13 Judge, I will be presiding over the hearings held in
14 this case.

15 In addition, there are also other members
16 of the Board representing our energy and efficiency
17 department and our power siting departments. We have
18 Ms. Chris Cunningham. In the corner is Steve Erwin.
19 And as you approached the council chambers today,
20 there's Matt Butler.

21 If you have questions about the process,
22 you can ask any of them about the process for a Board
23 proceeding.

24 At this time, I'd like to take

1 appearances of the parties. On behalf of Oregon Clean
2 Energy?

3 MR. WARNOCK: On behalf of Oregon Clean
4 Energy, Matt Warnock with the law firm of Bricker &
5 Eckler, 100 South Third Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.
6 I also have with me Lynn Gresock, who will be happy to
7 answer questions on behalf of the applicant.

8 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: So if you have
9 some questions that you want the company to respond
10 to, you can approach -- I'm sorry, your name again?

11 MS. GRESOCK: Lynn Gresock.

12 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Ms. Gresock or
13 Mr. Warnock.

14 Oregon Energy filed its initial
15 application for approval to construct the proposed
16 electric generation facility on January 17th, 2013,
17 and has subsequently supplemented three amendments to
18 the application.

19 As proposed, the generation facility will
20 consist of natural gas-fired combined cycle turbines
21 and a heat-recovery steam generator. The facility
22 would be located on approximately a 30-acre plot in
23 Lucas County, Oregon, Ohio.

24 The proposed site is currently farm land

1 but is zoned commercial and industrial within the
2 industrial park. The applicant proposes to commence
3 construction during the summer of 2013 and begin
4 commercial operation by May 1st, 2016.

5 Board staff has reviewed, evaluated, and
6 investigated the application and filed with the Board
7 its report of investigation on March 18th, 2013. I
8 emphasize that the staff report is a recommendation of
9 the staff and does not necessarily reflect the Board's
10 final determination in this case.

11 This local public hearing is only one
12 aspect of the process. An evidentiary hearing where
13 testimony may be submitted by the parties to the case,
14 which at this time only includes staff and the
15 company, is scheduled to commence on Tuesday, April
16 9th, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., at the Board's offices in
17 Columbus, Ohio.

18 The purpose of this evening's public
19 hearing is to receive comments from the public
20 regarding Oregon's application. It's not a
21 question-and-answer session.

22 If you have questions, I suggest you
23 approach the representative for Oregon Clean Energy or
24 Mr. Warnock. I'm not going to try the last name

1 again. The public hearing is your opportunity to let
2 the Board know what you think about the proposed
3 Oregon Clean Energy Center.

4 Tonight's hearing is being transcribed by
5 a court reporter. If you plan to testify, I ask that
6 you speak clearly so that it is recorded accurately.

7 Also, if you prepared a written
8 statement, I'd ask that you leave it here on the bench
9 and we'll give it to the court reporter so that they
10 can refer to it if need be.

11 When you arrived, you were offered an
12 opportunity to sign up to offer testimony this
13 evening. After I finish this brief introduction, I'll
14 start to call witnesses in the order that they were
15 signed in on the sign-up sheet.

16 When I call your name, if you decide that
17 you no longer want to offer testimony, you can just
18 say you pass, and we'll move to the next witness.

19 If you elect to offer testimony, I'll
20 call you. When you come forward, you'll be asked to
21 swear or affirm that the information you're about to
22 give is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but
23 the truth.

24 And then I'll ask you to state your name

1 and address for the record. You then may proceed with
2 your testimony. All testimony taken here tonight will
3 become part of the record in this case and you'll be
4 able to review it on the Commission's docket.

5 And I think that about covers things. Is
6 there -- are there any questions about the process
7 here tonight?

8 Okay. If there are none, we'll start to
9 go down the witness sheet. And I'll ask you now to
10 forgive me if I mispronounce your name.

11 The first witness this evening is Patrick
12 Czarny.

13 Would you please raise your right hand?

14 (Patrick Czarny was first duly sworn.)

15 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Please state
16 and spell your name for the record.

17 MR. CZARNY: Patrick Czarny, C-z-a-r-n-y.

18 And the address is 1750 State Park Road Number 2,
19 Oregon, Ohio.

20 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Please
21 proceed.

22 MR. CZARNY: I'm the general manager at
23 Maumee Bay State Park Lodge and Conference Center.

24 I work for a company called Xanterra

1 Parks and Resorts, and I just want to testify today
2 that we are in full support of this project for a few
3 different reasons.

4 First off, environmentally, we've taken
5 many environmental steps at our own resort lodge
6 facilities. And having this project where they are on
7 the cutting edge of clean energy and using natural gas
8 will only be consistent to the type of things that we
9 have inside our resort, as people are coming to see in
10 this area what we are doing for the environment.

11 In a couple weeks, we're going to be
12 hosting the Biggest Week in American Birding, where a
13 lot of conservationists will be in our area. And it
14 helps that our community is showing ways that we are
15 taking steps to be good to the environment.

16 Now, the other big reason for the support
17 is just the environmental impact. When any kind of
18 project happens, when anything is built, there are
19 out-of-town guests that need to come visit those
20 facilities. And what's great about our operations is
21 that we offer a service.

22 So unlike a place that sells something
23 and may not really create jobs, when my revenue goes
24 up, it means I'm creating a lot of jobs, because I

1 need people need to fill those positions.

2 And so knowing that something will happen
3 here in our community is going to absolutely impact
4 how we hire each year. That's all.

5 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Thank you.

6 Any cross-examination, Mr. Warnock?

7 MR. WARNOCK: No, Your Honor.

8 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Thank you very
9 much.

10 Ron Donnal? Mr. Donnal, if you'd raise
11 your right hand.

12 (Ron Donnal was first duly sworn.)

13 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Please state
14 and spell your name for the record.

15 MR. DONNAL: Ron Donnal, D-o-n-n-a-l,
16 7945 Winding Ridge, Monclova, Ohio.

17 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Go ahead with
18 your testimony.

19 MR. DONNAL: I just wanted to state that
20 I think that this project is a great opportunity for
21 our area. I think it's a really good solution, a good
22 location, a good technology for the replacement of the
23 aging coal-fired plants in our region that are
24 scheduled to be shut down in the next few years.

1 I think the fact that it's natural gas,
2 clean combustion fuel is really good. You know, the
3 number of jobs that it will create, I read an
4 estimated 450 construction jobs and 24 full-time
5 plant-operations positions related to this project.
6 So, you know, the economic impact would be
7 significant.

8 You know, I think the team pulling the
9 project together, the North American Project
10 Development, they've got a successful track record,
11 having done a local project in Fremont, Ohio.

12 So I just think there's a lot of
13 positives related to this project and I want to state
14 my support for it.

15 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Mr. Donnal, do
16 you live or work in the area or both?

17 MR. DONNAL: Both. I live in western
18 Lucas County and I work in Wood County.

19 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Any
20 cross-examination, Mr. Warnock?

21 MR. WARNOCK: No, Your Honor.

22 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Thank you.
23 Steven Way?

24 MR. WAY: I'll pass. My comments are the

1 same as that gentleman.

2 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Chuck McCune?

3 MR. McCUNE: I will also pass, thank you.

4 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Stacey
5 Wiseman?

6 Ms. Wiseman, if you will please raise
7 your right hand.

8 (Stacey Wiseman was first duly sworn.)

9 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Please state
10 and spell your name for the record.

11 MS. WISEMAN: Stacey, S-t-a-c-e-y,
12 Wiseman, W-i-s-e-m-a-n.

13 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: And your
14 address, please?

15 MS. WISEMAN: 3154 Navarre Avenue,
16 Oregon, Ohio.

17 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Go ahead with
18 your testimony.

19 MS. WISEMAN: I just wanted to say
20 similar to what Patrick was saying. I'm the general
21 manager of the Holiday Inn Express, and we welcome
22 this organization and this wonderful project to our
23 area to bring jobs and also the clean air.

24 We're a green hotel and we're very

1 concerned with our environment and especially the air
2 that we breathe, that we're very excited about this
3 and we're here to help house anybody that needs to
4 come in and work on the project and anything we can do
5 to help support it. And that's it.

6 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Mr. Warnock,
7 any cross-examination?

8 MR. WARNOCK: No questions, Your Honor.

9 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Thank you very
10 much.

11 Tim Pedro?

12 MR. PEDRO: Very good. Excellent,
13 excellent.

14 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Please raise
15 your right hand, Mr. Pedro.

16 (Timothy G. Pedro was first duly sworn.)

17 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Please state
18 and spell your name for the record and give us your
19 address.

20 MR. PEDRO: Timothy G. Pedro, P-e-d-r-o.
21 I'm here representing the Oregon Economic Development
22 Foundation as president. And like was said before, we
23 certainly welcome this new project to our community.
24 But just a couple key things I want to point out.

1 What is of interest to the foundation
2 members is, this organization took time to study and
3 do a thorough investigation of what it would mean to
4 our community, and we thought that was a very positive
5 approach to the project.

6 And, secondly, we welcome the economic
7 development and the impact of all the jobs it will
8 bring to our community and also the fact that it's new
9 clean energy. So we thank you and we welcome you.

10 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Any
11 cross-examination for this witness?

12 MR. WARNOCK: No questions, Your Honor.

13 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Mr. Pedro,
14 before you sit down, could you explain a little more
15 about the Oregon Clean Energy Foundation?

16 MR. PEDRO: The Oregon Economic
17 Development Foundation? Is that what --

18 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Yes.

19 MR. PEDRO: The primary mission and goal
20 of the Oregon Economic Development Foundation is to
21 retain and create jobs. So we work with communities
22 such as Oregon and their members to help them grow
23 their businesses.

24 We have monthly meetings. Every other

1 month we have meetings where we bring businesses
2 together. We share common interests and goals in
3 moving Oregon forward. And we do a lot of networking,
4 allowing our members to learn about new projects so
5 they can grow their business.

6 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: All right.
7 Thank you.

8 Lindsay Myers? Please raise your right
9 hand.

10 (Lindsay Myers was first duly sworn.)

11 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: State and
12 spell your name for the record and give us your
13 address.

14 MS. MYERS: Lindsay Myers, L-i-n-d-s-a-y,
15 Myers, M-y-e-r-s. Address is 5224 Bay Shore Road,
16 Suite 201, Oregon, Ohio 43616.

17 I'm also with the Economic Development
18 Foundation for the City of Oregon. I'm the executive
19 director of the foundation.

20 And Tim did a fine job explaining our
21 mission and our purpose. I wanted to also mention and
22 add to that that we are a public private partnership,
23 so we do represent the business community of Oregon
24 along with the City's economic development interests.

1 And I need to echo the sentiments of my
2 colleagues before me how excited we are to welcome the
3 team to our community. We think they're going to be a
4 fantastic corporate citizen and really help us
5 diversify our energy economic profile we have here.

6 We're excited about the jobs and the
7 investment, but I think what we're most excited about
8 is the ripple effect that it's going to have on the
9 community, whether it's, you know, hotel stays,
10 construction jobs, architect, engineering.

11 Anything to do with the project, I think,
12 is going to have a substantial effect on the
13 community. And we welcome it and we're excited about
14 it.

15 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Any
16 cross-examination, Mr. Warnock?

17 MR. WARNOCK: No questions.

18 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Thank you.

19 MS. MYERS: Thank you.

20 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Gary Thompson?
21 Mr. Thompson, please raise your right hand.

22 (Gary F. Thompson was first duly sworn.)

23 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Please state
24 and spell your name for the record and give us your

1 address.

2 MR. THOMPSON: My name is Gary F.
3 Thompson, T-h-o-m-p-s-o-n. First name is G-a-r-y.

4 I live at 5808 Seaman Road, which happens
5 to be about a half a mile from where we're standing
6 here today.

7 So I'm a resident of Oregon as a citizen
8 of the community, but I also work for the Regional
9 Growth Partnership, which is an economic development
10 agency that serves as the JobsOhio regional partner
11 for 17 Counties here in northwest Ohio.

12 And I would like to testify today that
13 over the past two years, I've had the opportunity to
14 meet the management team of the Oregon Clean Energy
15 Center. And I've been impressed with their
16 professionalism, with their understanding of the
17 market, with their business acumen, and, really, the
18 effort they've made at doing due diligence.

19 I first met them over two years ago at
20 the Governor's Summit on Energy in Columbus, Ohio.
21 And I know since then that they've had many meetings
22 with folks like the Ohio Department of Natural
23 Resources, the Department of Congress, the folks at
24 JobsOhio, the folks at the Ohio Department of

1 Development, the folks at Ohio EPA, many of the public
2 utilities commission, as well.

3 They've also been very diligent in our
4 local community, meeting with the City of Oregon,
5 meeting with County officials. They've done their
6 homework and I think they've presented a plant that
7 many have echoed already that certainly is an
8 environmentally sustainable plant.

9 It's a plant that fits perfectly not only
10 for Oregon, Ohio, but for our region. The
11 construction jobs alone, this is the kind of thing
12 that people in northwest Ohio do. We know how to
13 engineer, we know how to build, and we know how to
14 operate.

15 And when you take into effect the other
16 clustered companies that exist in Oregon, Ohio, that
17 are in the petroleum industry, the energy industry,
18 the chemical industry, this plant is a perfect fit for
19 our community.

20 And we are proud that they are doing
21 their due diligence, and I wish them all the best of
22 luck. And I hope that the PUCO and others will
23 expedite their application process so that we can
24 break ground just as quickly as possible and put these

1 folks to work here in northwest Ohio building this
2 plant and then operating this plant.

3 Thank you very much.

4 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Mr. Warnock?

5 MR. WARNOCK: No questions, Your Honor.

6 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Thank you.

7 Dan Steingraber? I don't think that was close.

8 MR. STEINGRABER: Dan Steingraber.

9 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Okay.

10 MR. STEINGRABER: Actually, I didn't know
11 I was signing in to speak, but never being at a loss
12 for words, I'll raise my right hand.

13 (Dan Steingraber was first duly sworn.)

14 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: I need you to
15 state and spell your name for the record and give us
16 your address.

17 MR. STEINGRABER: My name is Dan
18 Steingraber. That's S-t-e-i-n-g-r-a-b-e-r. My
19 address is 1710 Grand Bay Drive, Oregon, Ohio, which
20 is very close to the project site. And I'm a resident
21 of Oregon. Also a member of the Oregon Economic
22 Development Foundation, very, very inactive,
23 unfortunately.

24 Just to say thank you, welcome to our

1 Oregon. A couple of questions that came up during the
2 talking to fellow residents is a couple of things
3 actually that maybe I'll ask you to --

4 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Just a moment.
5 As I went through in the introduction, if you have
6 questions for the company or one of their
7 representatives or for Board commission staff, you can
8 pose those to us.

9 But I would ask that you get those
10 addressed before you offer your testimony and then
11 proceed. I'd also ask that you turn toward me and the
12 court reporter so that he can hear clearly and make an
13 accurate transcript.

14 MR. STEINGRABER: Okay. Well, I guess,
15 then, what I would say is welcome to Oregon. Haven't
16 heard any negatives from the community at all and I
17 live in the closest residential community to the
18 proposed project. Obviously it's something that we've
19 talked about. Haven't heard any negative comments
20 whatsoever.

21 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Mr. Warnock?

22 MR. WARNOCK: No questions, Your Honor.

23 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Thank you.

24 Jim Seaman?

1 (Jim Seaman was first duly sworn.)

2 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: State and
3 spell your name for the record and give us your
4 address.

5 MR. SEAMAN: Jim Seaman, S-e-a-m-a-n,
6 3555 Williamsburg, Oregon, Ohio 43616. I think a lot
7 of people know here I'm a member of the esteemed body
8 of the Oregon City Council.

9 You got promoted, right? Or maybe not.
10 Maybe you're better off.

11 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: No comment.
12 Go right ahead.

13 MR. SEAMAN: I'm chairman of the finance
14 committee. So budgets for the City, I study them, I
15 work with the administration. And I would just like
16 to tell a real quick story about what has happened to
17 the budgets for many cities across the state of Ohio.

18 First of all, in the year 2013, which
19 we're in right now, estate tax, basically that's for
20 people who pass on, is null and void. So cities do
21 not get any money from the estate tax, and that's a
22 significant loss. Okay?

23 Another one is the local government fund
24 that has been significantly reduced to our cities

1 coming from the state and the county government.

2 And, also, House Bill 66, which was a
3 kick in the stomach. It eliminated taxes basically
4 over a phased-out period on inventory and equipment.

5 So it not only hurt the schools
6 massively, but it also hurt cities like ours who have
7 property tax on the fire, the police, and the
8 recreation departments. So we stand to lose a
9 significant amount of money through those three
10 different things.

11 Now, this project, though, will really
12 help us. There's no question about it. We're talking
13 about close to a maybe thousand tradesmen working for
14 a three-year period of time. And these jobs pay well.

15 And that's money for the City of Oregon.
16 That's money for our fire department. That's money
17 for our police department. That's money for our
18 children and the recreation department. That's money
19 to keep the streets clean, keep the streets paved, and
20 serve our citizens the way they're expecting to be
21 served.

22 So we really feel positive about all the
23 hard work that the Oregon Economic Development
24 Foundation has done to make this happen and the

1 excellent management team from the Oregon Clean
2 Management Center. The managers are a tremendous
3 asset and their communications impeccable with Mr.
4 Beazley.

5 So we feel very positive about this
6 project. So needless to say, you know, this
7 council -- I guess I can say -- this council, you
8 know, going out on a limb, is in full support.

9 The Mayor has been working, Mr. Seferian
10 has been working very diligently with the management
11 team along with Mr. Beazley to help bring this project
12 through.

13 So I think it's been a tremendous team
14 effort. The assets for the City of Oregon are
15 tremendous. We believe in natural gas as an energy
16 form. We think it's better than other fossil fuels.

17 It's cleaner. It has much, much less
18 particulate emission. And we think this project is
19 going to work out really well for the City of Oregon.

20 So I'm just hoping that we can keep
21 moving forward as we have in the past and help people
22 obtain jobs. People want to feed their children.
23 People want to send their kids to college. And this
24 will help do it.

1 Thank you so much.

2 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Thank you very
3 much.

4 Cross-examination, Mr. Warnock?

5 MR. WARNOCK: No questions, Your Honor.

6 MR. SEAMAN: Thank you.

7 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Mark Hoover.

8 MR. HOOVER: I thought I was signing up
9 for a drawing or something.

10 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: So you want to
11 pass, I take it?

12 MR. HOOVER: I'll pass.

13 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Fred Keith?
14 Please raise your right hand.

15 (Fred Keith was first duly sworn.)

16 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Please state
17 and spell your name for the record and give us your
18 address.

19 MR. KEITH: My name is Fred Keith,
20 F-r-e-d K-e-i-t-h. And I am from Rossford -- well, my
21 home address or the Boilermakers, which I represent?

22 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: If you're
23 representing a business, then give us that.

24 MR. KEITH: 319 Glenwood Road, Rossford,

1 Ohio 43460.

2 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Okay.

3 MR. KEITH: We've got a great opportunity
4 here. The people in this community and the people in
5 the surrounding communities are going to get jobs here
6 that are good-paying jobs.

7 You're going to create a certain amount
8 of really good-paying jobs when this plant is up and
9 running and on into the future. It's going to supply
10 things for taxes, for roads. And I want to just echo
11 all the things that some of the others have said that
12 it's going to get.

13 But the thing that's really great about
14 this is it's going to make clean energy for your area.
15 It's absolutely top-notch. You've got one over in
16 Fremont you can look at and see how it works.

17 This is going to be a great thing for the
18 community, because you're not going to have coal piles
19 and all those things. Coal energy, you know, when you
20 look at the energy situation in this country, we're
21 about 3 percent on solar and wind and all the
22 different things.

23 You're about 17 percent on nuclear and
24 about 80 percent on coal. And that varies from place

1 to place. But you can see what's happening with the
2 coal plants. They're old. They're getting
3 deteriorated. They need a lot of work.

4 Will the coal technology come and change
5 that industry? Yes, it will. But it's not here right
6 now. Right now, gas energy is here and it works, and
7 it works real well.

8 So if we pass up this opportunity to
9 build something that's going to provide jobs and
10 energy for our immediate area right here in the
11 future, I think that would be foolishness on our part.
12 So I hope that this passes and we get to start work on
13 it this year.

14 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Any
15 cross-examination, Mr. Warnock?

16 MR. WARNOCK: No, Your Honor.

17 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Thank you.
18 Sir, tell me again what organization you said you were
19 with.

20 MR. KEITH: I'm the business manager with
21 the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers.

22 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Okay. Thank
23 you.

24 MR. KEITH: And we've got a vested

1 interest. Thank you.

2 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: That was the
3 last witness that had signed up tonight to offer
4 testimony. If there's anyone present who wishes to
5 offer testimony that did not sign up, you can come
6 forward now.

7 Please raise your right hand.

8 (Thomas Susor was first duly sworn.)

9 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: State and
10 spell your name for the record and give us your
11 address.

12 MR. SUSOR: Thomas Susor, S-u-s-o-r, 105
13 Cedar Wood, Oregon, Ohio. I'm here on behalf of the
14 Oregon City Council. I'm the Oregon City Council
15 president.

16 Yes, you're in my chair.

17 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: I would hope
18 you didn't mind.

19 MR. SUSOR: Oh, no. We're happy you're
20 here. I'm sorry I'm tardy. I was led to believe this
21 was a 6:30 meeting. Much to my chagrin, it was a 6:00
22 meeting. But I will read this letter, if I could,
23 into the record.

24 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Okay.

1 MR. SUSOR: "Dear Ms. Wissman." I assume
2 that is you?

3 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: No. My name
4 is Greta See. I am the Administrative Law Judge
5 assigned to this case by the Board.

6 MR. SUSOR: Thanks for clearing that up.

7 "On behalf of the Oregon City Council, I
8 would like to take this time to express to the Ohio
9 Power Siting Board the level of support the Oregon
10 Council has for the Oregon Clean Energy Center.

11 "The City of Oregon has a long and
12 successful history of mutually beneficial
13 collaboration with our industrial partners. The
14 recent announcement by First Energy of their desire to
15 downsize their coal-fired power production affected
16 our city on two fronts: We lost a multitude of
17 valuable high-paying jobs as well as the loss of a
18 reliable proven power plant to support our highly
19 industrialized community.

20 "The arrival of the OCEC was a much
21 sought-after solution to a problem that helps
22 replenish lost jobs and kilowatts to our electrical
23 grid.

24 "The use of clean-burning natural gas

1 produced here in the U.S.A. in a plant that utilizes
2 state-of-the-art combustion and emissions technology
3 certainly fits today's clean energy model for
4 industry. The tax dollars generated throughout the
5 three-year construction period will supply a
6 much-needed boost to an already sagging economy.

7 "In summation, I would simply say that
8 this project is happening at the right place and at
9 the right time. Therefore, the Oregon City Council is
10 in total and unified support of the Oregon Clean
11 Energy Center."

12 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Thank you.

13 Cross-examination, Mr. Warnock?

14 MR. WARNOCK: No questions, Your Honor.

15 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Thank you.

16 There's another gentleman. Step forward.
17 Please raise your right hand.

18 (Mayor Michael J. Seferian was first duly
19 sworn.)

20 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: State and
21 spell your name for the record.

22 MR. SEFERIAN: My name is Michael J.
23 Seferian, S-e-f-e-r-i-a-n. I live at 5110 Eagles
24 Landing Drive in the city of Oregon, Ohio, and I

1 happen to be the Mayor of the City of Oregon.

2 I also was led to believe we were going
3 to start at 6:30, but I prefer to go last.

4 As the Mayor of the City of Oregon, I'm
5 left with a lot of tasks, especially at a time when
6 the economy has not been the greatest. We have to
7 fill our city services, and it takes money to run
8 them.

9 We had a job to do to come in within our
10 budget. And when our budget is being reduced by about
11 \$2 million by the State of Ohio, our alternative means
12 of filling those needed funds would be to increase our
13 tax revenues.

14 We are a city that survives predominantly
15 on the industrial side. We have requests from our
16 citizens all the time who say what can we do to our
17 downtown area to enhance the city? Add shopping. Add
18 restaurants.

19 Very difficult for a city 28 square miles
20 with only 20,000 people to perform those tasks. But
21 what we do have is our support from our industrial
22 partners in the city, which is predominantly the BP
23 Husky Oil Refinery, the Toledo refinery, and we have
24 two hospitals that create our tax base.

1 So for our city to survive, our city has
2 to have industry to make it operate. Power is needed
3 to run the industry. And for us to look attractive to
4 other potential industrial sources in an era where
5 we've experienced blackouts or the lack of power, we'd
6 like to be attractive to potential industrial users by
7 knowing that we can provide services.

8 We like to boast a bit that we are a
9 small city that is a full-service city, one of the
10 only in the State of Ohio that has its own wastewater
11 treatment plant, water treatment plant, as well as
12 police and fire department and total city services.

13 For us to add a power plant to that adds
14 to our attractability so that we can survive as a
15 city. This is a big tool for us.

16 So not to exclude the jobs that could be
17 created, it is an attraction to potential industrial
18 users. So we have to survive and continue to be
19 attractive, because it is difficult for us to put a
20 shopping center with 20,000 people in the city. It
21 makes it a risk.

22 But, like I say, we do survive, to our
23 industrial friends, and a project of this nature is
24 hard to pass up. It's a clean energy project and

1 something that everyone needs.

2 They take for granted when they plug
3 something into a wall socket that power will always be
4 there. We know in reality that it may not always be
5 there. But we want to ensure that in the City of
6 Oregon, it will always be there.

7 I can't add much to that, but I would
8 certainly appreciate your support. Our city counts on
9 it.

10 Thank you.

11 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Mr. Warnock?

12 MR. WARNOCK: No questions, Your Honor.

13 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Thank you.

14 Is there anyone else who did not sign up
15 that wishes to offer testimony tonight?

16 If there is no more testimony to be
17 taken, I appreciate you coming out, giving us your
18 time this evening, and offering the Board your
19 comments on the project. Thank you very much.

20 (Hearing concluded at 6:39 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E


I, Robert W. Scheid, Jr., a Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify that these proceedings were by me reduced to stenotype in the presence of said parties and afterwards transcribed; that the foregoing is a true and correct transcription of the testimony so given as aforesaid.

I do further certify that these proceedings were taken at the time and place in the foregoing caption specified.

I do further certify that I am not a relative, employee of or attorney for any of the parties in this action; that I am not a relative or employee of an attorney of any of the parties in this action; that I am not financially interested in this action, nor am I or the court reporting firm with which I am affiliated under a contract as defined in the applicable civil rule.

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1 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
2 my hand and affixed my seal of office at Toledo, Ohio
3 on this 3rd day of May 2013.

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5 
6 _____
7 ROBERT W. SCHEID, JR., RPR
8 Notary Public
9 in and for the State of Ohio

10 My Commission expires May 29, 2013.
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Summary: Transcript Transcript of Public Hearing

April 2, 2013 electronically filed by Mr. Jeffrey T. Jagodzinski on behalf of Ohio Public Utilities
Commission and Greta See and Bricker & Eckler and Matthew W. Warnock