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1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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3 NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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5 LIMITED APPEARANCE STATEMENT SESSION

6 + + + + +

7 WEDNESDAY

8 JANUARY 25, 2012

9 + + + + +

10 The Limited Appearance Statement Session
11 met in the Calvert Marine Museum Auditorium, 14150
12 Solomons Island Road South, Solomons, Maryland, at
13 1:00 p.m., Ronald M. Spritzer, Chairman, presiding.

14 PRESENT

15 RONALD M. SPRITZER, Chairman, Administrative
16 Judge, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board,
17 NRC

18 GARY S. ARNOLD, Administrative Judge, Atomic
19 Safety and Licensing Board, NRC

20 WILLIAM W. SAGER, Atomic Safety and Licensing
21 Board, Administrative Judge, NRC

22 MATINA SOLOMAKOS, Administrative Assistant,
23 NRC

24 KIRSTEN STODDARD, Law Clerk, NRC
25

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5 of Calvert County
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8 KATIE DECKER, Clean and Safe Energy Coalition
9 RICHARD FLEMING, College of Southern
10 Maryland, Prince Frederick Campus
11 BONNIE GREEN, Patuxent Partnership
12 MIKE HART, Calvert County Chamber of Commerce
13 SONNY YEATMAN, International Union of
14 Elevator Constructors
15 KAREN MEADOW, Maryland Conservation Council
16 NORMAN MEADOW, Maryland Conservation Council
17 CINDY PEIL
18 EVAN LAPISKA, Clean and Safe Energy Coalition
19 JOHN RAYNER, Iron Workers Local 5
20 LAURA SIMPSON, Solomons Business Association
21 STEVE ZIMMERMAN, International Brotherhood of
22 Electrical Workers
23
24
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P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

(1:01 p.m.)

CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Good afternoon. My name is Ronald Spritzer. I'm an Administrative Judge with the Atomic Safety Licensing Board Panel. We are here today in the matter of Calvert Cliffs III Nuclear Project and UniStar Nuclear Operating Services, which is NRC docket number 52-016. And we're here today to conduct what we call a Limited Appearance session, which is an opportunity for members of the public to offer their views to the Board on the matter about which we will be having an evidentiary hearing tomorrow in Prince Frederick in the Albright Building. Anyone here who's interested in attending, we do have seats for the public there, also.

But the purpose of this, unlike the evidentiary hearing tomorrow is a matter, essentially, with -- somewhat like a trial with lawyers and witnesses. It's not a public participation event, but this is. This is the opportunity for members of the public to give us their views on the issue that we're going to be hearing -- having the evidentiary hearing on tomorrow.

My name is Ronald Spritzer. As I said, I'm an Administrative Judge. I'll ask the other two

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1 judges to introduce themselves briefly.

2 ADMIN. JUDGE ARNOLD: I am Gary Arnold. I'm
3 also an Administrative Judge but I -- my education is
4 technical rather than legal. I have a Ph.D. in Nuclear
5 Engineering, and I spent my first career in the Naval
6 Reactors Program.

7 ADMIN. JUDGE SAGER: Hi, my name is Will
8 Sager. I'm a part-time technical judge, and I'm
9 actually a professor at Texas A&M University where I'm
10 in the Oceanography and Geology-Geophysics Department,
11 so my specialty is earth and environmental sciences.

12 And by the way, I'd like to give a
13 compliment to the citizens of this county. I really
14 like your museum, and one of these days I want to come
15 back here and go along the shore and look at those
16 cliffs.

17 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: As do I. By the way, I
18 should have mentioned, I'm an attorney. I'm the
19 Chairman of the Board, but I'm fortunate having two
20 very competent technical people to help me with the
21 issues we have to deal with in this case.

22 Also with us is our law clerk, Kirsten
23 Stoddard, who some of you may have met at the table
24 coming in. Matina Solomakos, our administrative
25 assistant, who I believe is still out there, and we

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1 have a court reporter here who's assisting us, and
2 will be taking down your comments. So, anything we
3 don't pick up, or anything we want to refresh our
4 recollection about we'll have the opportunity to do
5 that.

6 Before we go into the statements let me
7 specifically thank the Calvert County Government for
8 allowing us to use this building in the Calvert County
9 Marine Museum. They have made this facility available
10 to us at our request, and we very much appreciate
11 that. It's because of their cooperation that we're
12 able to have this session.

13 And also let me thank all the Calvert County
14 employees, which there are a great number.
15 Unfortunately, I don't remember all the names but
16 we've gotten great assistance from the county in
17 making this event, and the evidentiary hearing event
18 tomorrow.

19 As you probably know, the Nuclear Regulatory
20 Commission doesn't have an office here, so we're
21 dependent on government units like this to make our
22 evidentiary hearings and other proceedings possible.

23 Let me at least say a few words before we
24 get started of what the Atomic Safety and Licensing
25 Board Panel is. It is a group of independent

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1 administrative judges who are appointed by the five-
2 member Nuclear Regulatory Commission to conduct
3 adjudications such as this; that is, contested
4 proceedings related to construction of new nuclear
5 facilities, such as the proposed unit at Calvert
6 Cliffs Unit III. Also, other types of cases such as
7 uranium mining facilities and other types of
8 activities involving nuclear material.

9 All members of the Atomic Safety and
10 Licensing Board Panel are designated to serve on
11 three-judge Licensing Boards such as this. We do not
12 work for or directly with the NRC Staff, the people
13 who are preparing the Final Environmental -- we who
14 have prepared the Final Environmental Impact
15 Statement, and who are conducting the licensing
16 review. We are independent of the Staff.

17 The hearing that we are conducting tomorrow,
18 the evidentiary hearing we're conducting tomorrow
19 concerns what we refer to as Contention 10-C, one of
20 a number of contentions that were submitted in the
21 adjudication. That contention specifically reads that
22 the well, then Draft Environmental Impact Statement,
23 which has since become a Final Environmental Impact
24 Statement, discussion of a combination of alternatives
25 is inadequate and faulty. By selecting a single

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1 alternative that under-represents the potential
2 contributions of wind and solar power the combination
3 alternative depends excessively on the natural gas
4 supplement; thus, unnecessarily burdening this
5 alternative with excessive environmental impacts.

6 So, this contention is directed at a
7 specific part of a rather long detailed document
8 called the Final Environmental Impact Statement which
9 was published by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
10 And, basically, the challenge that is being made is
11 that one aspect of that Final Environmental Impact
12 Statement is inadequate to support the licensing, and
13 to discharge the Agency's responsibilities under the
14 National Environmental Policy Act.

15 All right. We will move on, and just a few
16 brief rules. Please turn off any cell phones or set
17 them on vibrate. No food or drinks in here. When you
18 do come up to speak, we'll call you in order. We'll
19 start first with the people that sent us emails or
20 letters before we came here today, and then we'll move
21 on to the people who registered out front. We seem to
22 have -- we have ample time to give everybody their
23 five minutes. Every speaker, we'd like you to limit
24 your comments to a total of five minutes.

25 I have my little sheet of paper with a big

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1 number one on it. I will hold this up when you're
2 getting close to the end of your time, when you have
3 about one minute left, so that's your warning.

4 When you come up to the microphone, please
5 state -- I will have called your name already, but
6 please state your name again, and spell your name.
7 That will assist this gentleman to my right, the court
8 reporter, in making sure we correctly identify you.

9 Now, the judges will not be speaking. This
10 is not a question and answer session. There are at
11 least two reasons for that. One is we want to give
12 everybody a chance to speak. And if we get into a
13 back and forth with any particular speaker we might
14 not be able to do that.

15 Number two, because we're judges and we're
16 going to be holding an evidentiary hearing,
17 essentially, a trial tomorrow it really wouldn't be
18 appropriate for us to be stating our views of the
19 issue before we've heard the evidence. But don't
20 think because we're not engaging the back and forth
21 dialogue with you that we're not interested in hearing
22 what you've had to say. We very much are.

23 Without further ado, unless either of my
24 colleagues can think of anything that I left out, we
25 will get started. And let me begin with Mr. Jerry

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1 Clark, who is the President of the Calvert County,
2 Maryland Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Clark,
3 thank you. And let me thank you specifically for the
4 great courtesy and cooperation we've received from the
5 County Government in having us today.

6 MR. CLARK: Well, thank you very much, and we
7 would hope that you'd have the opportunity that you
8 would take a tour of our beautiful museum, and
9 Solomons as a whole, and familiarize with it. Come
10 back any time. We'll arrange for any kind of tours
11 that you could possibly want.

12 Good afternoon. My name is Jerry Clark, C-L-
13 A-R-K, and I'm President of the Board of County
14 Commissioners of Calvert County.

15 On behalf of the Commissioners and the
16 citizens of Calvert County, I welcome the Atomic
17 Safety Licensing Board and the speakers here today.

18 Today I'm here to comment on UniStar's
19 application to build and operate a new nuclear reactor
20 at Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, and a legal
21 challenge opposing that application.

22 The issue before us is the question of
23 whether the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's
24 Environmental Impact Statement for Unit 3 reactor
25 properly considered alternate forms of energy.

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1 The Board of County Commissioners believes
2 that the NRC has, indeed, thoroughly studied this
3 project and supports the Final Environmental Impact
4 Statement. We have full confidence that NRC's
5 technical review of Unit 3 fully considers the
6 project's environmental impacts. It is also important
7 to note that this is just one of several studies
8 attesting to the project's environmentally friendly
9 approach.

10 The Maryland Public Service Commission has
11 granted Unit 3 a certificate of public convenience and
12 necessity. Both the Maryland Department of
13 Environment and Maryland Department of Natural
14 Resources agrees that the project has minimal
15 environmental impacts.

16 These three will demonstrate that UniStar is
17 taking a very careful approach to the project and
18 potential impacts on the natural resources.

19 Today's hearing, however, centers on
20 alternatives to the proposed reactor. The Board of
21 County Commissioners believes there is no substitute
22 for the project, and the benefits that it will bring
23 to our region.

24 Unit 3 will generate 1,600 megawatts of
25 clean baseload energy. There's no other clean

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1 alternative that will produce this kind of power
2 without much greater impacts on our environment.

3 The Calvert Cliffs site is perfectly suited
4 for a project of this magnitude. Unlike other energy-
5 generating alternatives, it avoids the need to commit
6 more land to industrial use or carve out more
7 electrical transmission right-of-ways.

8 Clean energy sources like wind and solar are
9 a vital part of our energy mix, but they cannot
10 substitute for nuclear power. We cannot supply
11 baseload power that is available 24/7 with wind power.
12 This cannot be built at a scale needed without
13 impacting a large parcel of our landscape.

14 Today's nuclear energy generates more than
15 70 percent of the nation's clean air electricity. It
16 is the only large-scale clean air source that is
17 readily available to go now.

18 We believe that Calvert Cliffs Unit 3 will
19 help meet our future energy needs cleanly and safely.
20 We support the NRC's conclusion in its Environmental
21 Impact Statement. The Calvert County Board of County
22 Commissioners understand and appreciate the role
23 Calvert Cliffs has played in providing safe, clean
24 power over nearly four decades.

25 We appreciate your open and transparent

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1 process, and consider Unit III project. We thank you
2 very much, and we will continue to support this
3 project, and hopefully we will see it to fruition.
4 Thank you very much.

5 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you, Mr. Clark.
6 Next we have -- we'd like to call Dr. Norman Meadow.
7 I'm not sure if I'm pronouncing your name correctly.

8 DR. MEADOW: My name is Dr. Norman Meadow,
9 that's M-E-A-D-O-W. I was the principal research
10 scientist in the Biology Department at the Johns
11 Hopkins University and am now retired.

12 I want to thank you for the opportunity of
13 presenting the MCC's views here today. I'm also the
14 Vice President of the Maryland Conservation Council,
15 which I'll refer to as MCC, which is one of the oldest
16 environmental organizations in this state, and perhaps
17 the only such organization in Maryland to support
18 nuclear power.

19 We believe that nuclear power is essential
20 for eliminating climate change, and also that nuclear
21 plants have much less harmful impact on biological
22 habitat than industrial-scale wind or solar
23 installations.

24 We believe that the rationale behind
25 Contention 10-C is flawed, and that the analysis done

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1 by the NRC Staff is correct.

2 Two studies of electricity in Maryland, the
3 Levitan Reports of the Maryland Public Service
4 Commission and the Long-Term Electricity report from
5 the Power Plant Research Program of the Maryland
6 Department of Natural Resources show that renewables
7 suggested by the intervenors will not prevent a
8 fraction of the carbon dioxide emissions that the
9 reactor will, and will also be more expensive.

10 The Long-Term Electricity Report was
11 formulated pursuant to an Executive Order issued by
12 Governor O'Malley in 2010, and the MCC participated in
13 some of the deliberations of that report.

14 Now, I attached a figure to your handout
15 which summarizes data from the Levitan Reports that
16 show that a combination of 200 megawatts of land-based
17 wind, 500 of offshore wind, and 1,100 of solar will
18 prevent the emission of about 2 million tons of carbon
19 dioxide per year; whereas, Calvert Cliffs III would
20 prevent 12 million tons per year.

21 And, furthermore, that Calvert Cliffs III by
22 this analysis, which is about four years old, will
23 save the ratepayer about \$3 billion; whereas, the
24 renewables would cost the ratepayer two and a half
25 billion.

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1 The mix of renewables evaluated in the
2 Levitan Report is larger than any now contemplated by
3 the legislature, and it fails to help the environment
4 as much as the reactor will.

5 The Long-Term Report is more recent. The
6 final draft was issued last December, and it's much
7 more detailed. It's over 400 pages long, not
8 including several hundred slides. Its purpose was to
9 "provide a comprehensive assessment of approaches to
10 meet Maryland's long-term electricity needs."

11 The report analyzed 38 alternative scenarios
12 for supplying electricity when existing generators
13 must be removed because of age, and as demand
14 increases, as it surely will, because the recession
15 will certainly end, and population growth is pretty
16 well. The Census Bureau states that the population of
17 Maryland is going to double sometime within this
18 century, so the argument that demand is down is really
19 a very weak one.

20 Now, several of the 38 scenarios are based
21 on the construction of Calvert Cliffs III. Others
22 called the high-renewable scenarios increase
23 Maryland's renewable portfolio standard by 50 percent,
24 from 20 percent to 30 percent of electricity sales.
25 That's a gigantic increase, and that increase is

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1 hypothetical. It hasn't been proposed in the
2 legislature yet.

3 The high-renewable standard assumes the
4 construction of much more renewable capacity than is
5 hinted at in the original Contention 10-C.

6 Now, the heart of the Long-Term Report is a
7 comparison of these alternative scenarios to a
8 reference case which assumes the continuation of the
9 present generation mix into the future. And the most
10 important conclusion for what I'm about to say in this
11 very long report appears on page 13 of the Executive
12 Summary, and it's that Calvert Cliffs III will reduce
13 carbon dioxide emissions in Maryland by 10 percent,
14 but the high-renewables mix will reduce them by only
15 3 percent. And that renewables mix is probably
16 unachievable in today's environment.

17 Now, let me repeat again that the reduction
18 of greenhouse gas emissions is a critical goal of any
19 group purporting to care for the environment, and for
20 biological diversity, and it is this weakness alone
21 that suffices as a reason to reject the contention.
22 We believe that the NRC Staff was correct. And,
23 again, I thank you for the opportunity for speaking
24 here.

25 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you, Dr. Meadow,

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1 and we will include your -- the written submission you
2 made as one of the written statements from this
3 hearing.

4 DR. MEADOW: Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: And Ms. Karen Meadow.

6 MS. MEADOW: My name is Karen Meadow, and I'm
7 the Treasurer of the Maryland Conservation Council,
8 and that's spelled M-E-A-D-O-W.

9 I'll talk now about the intermittency of
10 wind energy, and its effect on the reliability on
11 electricity supply, which goes to the heart of the
12 contention that they have looked at alternatives to
13 the nuclear power plant.

14 The intervenors' assertion that wind and
15 solar electricity are reliable enough to serve as
16 baseload is incorrect. The figure in the handout from
17 me contains data taken from a study made by a group of
18 offshore wind advocates at the University of Delaware.
19 It shows that the capacity factors of an enormous
20 2,500 kilometer long array of turbines off the
21 Atlantic coast would be 75 percent or greater on only
22 about 13 days out of the year. However, the capacity
23 factors of the current group of U.S. nuclear reactors,
24 which is 104 of them, has a 75 percent or greater for
25 365 days a year consistently according to data from

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1 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

2 This figure also shows the two-fold larger
3 annual average capacity factor of nuclear compared to
4 wind. The characteristics of this model offshore
5 array are such that no better array can be
6 hypothesized. An array that is spread worldwide would
7 not perform better; thus, the argument that building
8 arrays in distant locations and connecting them will
9 result in a stable supply is spurious because
10 statistical methods show that adding two frequency
11 distributions similar to the ones shown in the figure
12 will result in a new distribution which has
13 essentially the same shape as the average of the two;
14 that is, high-capacity factors will still be uncommon.

15 It warrants explanation why a group of wind
16 advocates would publish data that is harmful to their
17 cause. The group was focused on their finding that the
18 hypothetical array would almost never produce zero
19 electricity, which is an often heard criticism of
20 wind. They simply did not discuss the data which
21 showed that the array would rarely function
22 effectively, but they have to show this data to get
23 the paper published.

24 Further, the technologies like smart grids
25 needed to make wind and solar power as stable as

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1 present baseload generators do not yet exist.
2 Batteries will not come down in cost quickly, if they
3 ever do, and compressed air storage is very much in a
4 trial stage with no assurance that it can provide the
5 required capacity. It also requires natural gas grids
6 operation; thus, generating carbon dioxide.

7 Nuclear reactors are a proven technology,
8 and the designs from 40 years ago could be built today
9 with the assurance that they will work. Reactors like
10 that being proposed for Calvert Cliffs III will most
11 assuredly work even better.

12 There are two synonyms used by the
13 electricity industry to describe the proportion
14 of the output of a renewables installation that is
15 as reliable as the output of conventional
16 generators. These terms are firm capacity and
17 guaranteed capacity.

18 The large firm electricity company,
19 E.On, has stated that only 8 percent of Germany's
20 extensive wind capacity is guaranteed capacity,
21 meaning that it can be the same as the output from
22 other conventional generators. Furthermore, they
23 expect that this percentage will fall to 4 percent
24 as Germany adds more wind capacity because the
25 advantageous sites have already been exploited.

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1 It is very informative to note that
2 France which uses nuclear power dominantly
3 produces 88 tons of carbon dioxide per gigawatt
4 hour of electricity generated, while Denmark
5 produced 600 tons per gigawatt hour, almost seven
6 times more than France despite its touted
7 preponderance of wind and no nuclear. These data
8 are from the International Energy Agency.

9 Again, we conclude that wind does not
10 offset carbon dioxide production nearly as
11 effectively as nuclear power, and respectfully
12 request that the contention be dismissed. Thank
13 you for the opportunity.

14 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you, and we
15 will also have your statement in our record
16 submissions for this Limited Appearance session.

17 Next we have, or would like to hear from
18 Katie Decker. Is she here?

19 MS. DECKER: I'm here.

20 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Okay.

21 MS. DECKER: Hi, my name is Katie Decker.
22 I'm here today representing the Clean and Safe
23 Energy Coalition, otherwise known as CASEnergy.

24 The CASEnergy Coalition is a grassroots
25 organization --

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1 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Spell your last name
2 so our gentleman over here has -- makes sure he
3 gets it correct.

4 MS. DECKER: It's D-E-C-K-E-R. And as I
5 said, I'm here today representing the Clean and
6 Safe Energy Coalition. We are a grassroots
7 organization, and we support the increased use of
8 nuclear energy to insure and environmentally
9 clean, safe, affordable, and reliable supply of
10 electricity.

11 Nuclear power is one of our nation's
12 largest sources of electricity that produces
13 virtually no greenhouse gases. The license
14 application for a new reactor at Calvert Cliffs
15 comes at a critical time as the U.S. anticipates
16 a projected 24 percent rise in electricity demand
17 by 2035.

18 With an average growth in gross state
19 product of approximately 2.6 percent over the past
20 five years, Maryland definitely needs the
21 additional 1,600 megawatts of baseload power that
22 a third reactor at Calvert Cliffs can provide. In
23 recognition of this fact, the Maryland Public
24 Service Commission has issued a certificate of
25 public convenience and necessity for this new

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1 reactor.

2 Nuclear energy is the only large-scale
3 clean air electricity source that can be extended
4 to dramatically mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.
5 As an example, nuclear energy generated
6 electricity avoided 12 million metric tons of
7 carbon dioxide in Maryland alone in 2010. This is
8 the same amount of carbon dioxide that is released
9 in a year by 627,000 passenger cars.

10 Maryland as a state relies on nuclear
11 energy as a vital component of its diverse mix of
12 electricity sources. Nuclear energy alone
13 accounts for 89 percent of Maryland's clean air
14 electricity generation, and more than 32 percent
15 of overall electricity generation in this state.

16 Nuclear energy supports clean air, land,
17 water, and wildlife, and has perhaps the lowest
18 impact on the environment of any energy source.
19 Nuclear energy facilities also require less
20 service area to produce the same amount of
21 electricity as other sources. As an example of
22 this, one nuclear facility with a footprint of one
23 square mile creates the same amount of energy as
24 20 square miles of solar panels, or 1,200
25 windmills.

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1 Since no new transmission corridors will
2 be required to support this new reactor at Calvert
3 Cliffs, very little additional space will be
4 required for the project.

5 Additionally, areas surrounding nuclear
6 facilities provide an excellent habitat for all
7 species of plants and animals as they're often
8 developed as wetlands that allow trees, flowers,
9 and grasses to thrive. This is made possible since
10 water discharge from the nuclear energy facility
11 is extremely clean and never comes in contact with
12 radioactive materials.

13 Federal and state regulatory bodies have
14 already given their approval and support for a new
15 reactor at Calvert Cliffs after conducting
16 rigorous environmental impact studies. Not only
17 has the Nuclear Regulatory Commission issued a
18 Final Environmental Impact Statement as the result
19 of a meticulous review by technical experts, but
20 the Maryland Board of Public Works has also given
21 its unanimous support of UniStar's Title Wetlands
22 Permit application.

23 Nuclear energy supplies safe, reliable,
24 and affordable power for Maryland without
25 polluting the air or harming our eco system.

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1 On behalf of the Clean and Safe Energy
2 Coalition, thank you for your attention to this
3 important public policy matter.

4 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you. Next we
5 would like to hear from Evan Lapiska.

6 MR. LAPISKA: Hi, my name is Evan
7 Lapiska, L-A-P-I-S-K-A. I'm also here with the
8 Clean and Safe Energy Coalition, or CASEnergy.

9 The license application for a new
10 reactor at Calvert Cliffs is another exciting step
11 forward in the U.S., as the U.S. works to lower
12 emissions by bringing on additional clean air
13 energy, something that nuclear energy will
14 provide.

15 You've already heard from multiple
16 independent regulatory bodies about the careful
17 and thorough surveys completed to assess the Draft
18 Environmental Impact Statement of the project, and
19 UniStar's application to construct and operate a
20 new reactor should be permitted to proceed based
21 on the findings.

22 Not only will the project provide clean,
23 safe, and reliable energy while protecting the
24 environment around it, but the economic impact to
25 the region will be significant.

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1 Nuclear energy is a driver of economic
2 growth, and the construction and operation of new
3 nuclear energy facilities in the United States
4 will bring billions of dollars to local economies
5 and create tens of thousands of jobs. The new
6 reactor proposed for Calvert Cliffs is no
7 different.

8 Each new nuclear energy facility will
9 create an average of 1,400 to 1,800 high-paying
10 jobs during construction, and as many as 2,400
11 during peak periods of construction. Approximately
12 400 to 700 permanent jobs will be needed at each
13 nuclear facility once they are operational.

14 As a real example of this job creation,
15 Georgia Power has begun preconstruction activities
16 on the Plant Vogtle Units 3 and 4, and has already
17 created 1,750 jobs in preparation for the two new
18 reactors. The expansion of Vogtle is expected to
19 create roughly 3,500 new jobs at peak construction
20 along with up to 800 full-time positions once the
21 reactors are producing electricity in the over 1.6
22 million Georgia homes.

23 Meanwhile, in South Carolina
24 construction on the two new reactors at V.C.
25 Summer can employ 3,000 to 4,000 people for three

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1 to four years. Once completed, the units may add
2 800 to 1,000 full-time workers.

3 The jobs we're talking about are high-
4 paying reliable jobs that cannot be shipped
5 overseas. Jobs in nuclear energy facilities pay
6 36 percent more than average salary rates in the
7 local areas in which they are housed. There are
8 also estimates for average of 1,000 megawatt
9 nuclear facility generates approximately 470
10 million in electricity sales for economic output
11 in the local community, and more than 40 million
12 in total labor income.

13 But the impact of new reactors goes
14 beyond just jobs in the facility, the average
15 nuclear energy facility generates almost \$16
16 million in state and local tax revenues annually.
17 These tax dollars benefit schools, roads and other
18 infrastructure for areas like Calvert County and
19 the Lusby area.

20 Analysis shows that every dollar spent
21 by the average nuclear energy facility and the
22 creation of \$1.04 cents in the local communities,
23 in this case Calvert County and Lusby.
24 Additionally, the average nuclear energy facility
25 generates federal tax payments of approximately

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1 \$67 million annually.

2 I think it's important to consider all
3 of these facts when making a decision as important
4 as this one, and thank you for your time.

5 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you for your
6 comments. Next we have -- the next person we want
7 to hear from is Charles Martin. Is Charles Martin
8 here with us today?

9 (No response.)

10 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Hearing no takers we
11 will move on to the list of people who registered
12 outside, unless there is someone here who sent us
13 an email or wrote us a letter beforehand who I
14 haven't called. Is there any such person here?

15 (No response.)

16 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: All right. Let's move
17 on to the people who registered at the table
18 outside today. And first on our list is Vance
19 Ayres.

20 MR. AYRES: Good afternoon. I want to
21 thank you all for letting me come up here and
22 speak on this issue. I'm Vance Ayres for the
23 Washington D.C. Building Trades Council. I
24 represent 25,000 construction workers, and about
25 18,000 of them living in Maryland. And the folks

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1 I represent live in actually five counties in
2 Maryland which would be Prince Georges County,
3 Montgomery, and even more live in Calvert, St.
4 Mary's, and Charles Counties.

5 These folks would be manning these jobs,
6 and to echo what other folks have said in peak
7 construction would be anywhere between three and
8 four thousand workers, highly paid construction
9 workers.

10 You know, one of the things that I've
11 seen is in talking with folks earlier, we're all
12 worried about the safety because of what happened
13 over in Japan. And if you've gone through the
14 process I've gone through with the folks that are
15 designing and building these nuclear power plants
16 today, or want to build these nuclear power
17 plants, the safety is so much more advanced. If
18 you want to compare, take the car from 40 years
19 ago compared to today and that's reality.

20 But to give you some of the facts here,
21 nuclear energy accounts for over 70 percent of the
22 nation's clean air electricity generation, and 20
23 percent of the nation's overall electricity
24 consumption. It is the only large-scale clean air
25 electricity source that can be expanded to

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1 dramatically mitigate the nation's greenhouse gas
2 emissions.

3 Nuclear energy is America's largest
4 source of generation and does not produce harmful
5 greenhouse gas emissions. It has the lowest direct
6 impact on the environment, including air, land,
7 water and wildlife of any energy source because it
8 does not emit harmful gases, isolates its waste
9 from the environment, and requires less area to
10 produce the same amount of electricity. When
11 compared to other sources the impact from a
12 nuclear plant is less than a similar size plant
13 using coal or natural gas.

14 The project has already received a
15 certificate of public convenience and necessity
16 from the Maryland Public Service Commission. The
17 Maryland PSC determined that there is a need for
18 the baseload power from Calvert Cliffs III in
19 Maryland, that Calvert Cliffs III will have a
20 positive effect on the reliability and stability
21 of the electric system in Maryland.

22 That proceeding involved extensive
23 review of the project by a number of state
24 agencies, including extensive review of
25 environmental impacts by the Maryland Department

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1 of Environment and Maryland Department of Natural
2 Resources.

3 The proposed plan would be oriented on
4 a site in a manner that minimizes its impacts on
5 Title 9 Title Wetlands, the Chesapeake Bay
6 critical area, flora and fauna. Recently the
7 project received the Maryland Board of Public
8 Works unanimous approval of its Title Wetlands
9 Permit application.

10 Wind and solar power while also clean
11 energy sources cannot serve as a substitute for
12 nuclear power because they are inherently
13 intermittent in nature and unlikely to be built at
14 the scale that would replace 1,600 megawatts of
15 baseload power generated by Calvert Cliffs III
16 which we all know is actually needed in the State
17 of Maryland.

18 New generation transmission corridors
19 will be -- no new transmission corridors will be
20 required to support the Calvert Cliffs energy will
21 be distributed. Some of the economic benefits of
22 the proposed advanced reactor design will provide
23 approximately 1,600 megawatts of electricity, as
24 I stated, and it would help address the region's
25 future energy needs. A new reactor will create

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1 approximately 4,000 construction jobs during peak
2 construction, as I've stated, and 400 permanent
3 jobs.

4 According to the Nuclear Energy
5 Institute, jobs in nuclear energy facilities pay
6 36 percent more than average salaries for the
7 local area. These guys and girls that I work with
8 and I represent go through four or five-year
9 training programs, are the best, safest most
10 workforce in the world because that's what you
11 need to build plants like this, of this level. It
12 also makes -- the average 1,000 megawatt- nuclear
13 facility generates approximately \$470 million in
14 electricity sales in the local community, and more
15 than \$40 million in total labor income, which the
16 environment and that is also my main concern.

17 I'm an avid hunter and fisherman. About
18 75 percent of our members are avid hunters and
19 fishermen, and every time we look at projects like
20 this it's a huge discussion on how anything
21 affects the environment, so to be honest with you,
22 our members would not be in favor of this if it
23 did affect the environment in the wrong way, and
24 they're all in favor of this.

25 Anyway, so that's my take on it. We've

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1 been working at this for a long time. I've had
2 tons of meetings. We vetted this process, we've
3 gone through the environment process over and
4 over, so if there's anything we can do to get this
5 thing moving that would be greatly appreciated by
6 myself and our members. Thanks.

7 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you. Mr. Ayres,
8 just to make sure. I'm not sure we - the spelling
9 of his last name is A-Y-R-E-S, and the first name
10 is Vance.

11 MR. AYRES: Right.

12 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Next we'd like to
13 hear from Steve Zimmerman.

14 MR. ZIMMERMAN: Good afternoon.

15 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Good afternoon.

16 MR. ZIMMERMAN: My name is Steve
17 Zimmerman. That's spelled Z-I-M-M-E-R-M-A-N. I'm
18 a 30-year resident of Calvert County. I'm also a
19 business rep for the International Brotherhood of
20 Electrical Workers. My office is here in Prince
21 Frederick, and I'm going to give you a little
22 different take on it today. I'm going to give you
23 a hands on.

24 I've got 44 years in IBEW, and I've
25 worked on over 40 generator stations in Maryland,

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1 Virginia, and D.C., so I'm going to give you the
2 straight scoop on this stuff. I've worked on
3 everything from a 1.5 megawatt solar array to the
4 850 megawatt turbine -- nuclear turbine down at
5 Calvert Cliffs. I've worked with PEPCO as a
6 consultant on all their combustion turbines at
7 Ziggerston and Chalk Points. I've worked at
8 PEPCO's Potts Plant, Potts Point Plant, and as a
9 business rep I helped secure contracts for the
10 solar work in this area.

11 I'm presently involved with the solar
12 array at Charles County, with SMECO, with
13 SunEdison. We just finished up FedEx Field solar
14 array which is 2.5 megawatts, so we applaud the
15 clean energy. We need the clean energy, and we're
16 part -- the IBEW is right on top of this stuff.

17 But with the threat of the only utility
18 that's closing these fossil plants instead of
19 investing in pollution controls, and the limited
20 electrical power derived from the sun and wind, I
21 am convinced because of my experience that nuclear
22 generation represents the most reliable source of
23 energy, clean energy.

24 I was in charge of all the technical
25 radiological requirements with the oil spill at

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1 Swanson Creek at Chalk Point, so I can see what
2 that did. I've seen train cars full of coal frozen
3 that they couldn't even dump the coal in order to
4 provide the electricity to the homes. And I've
5 also witnessed, like you all have, suppliers of
6 natural gas and oil get in a conflict overseas
7 somewhere and shut it down.

8 And I'll tell you a little something,
9 people are going to talk about the gas. There's
10 two 650 megawatt units at Chalk Point Generating
11 Station right across the river. That's 1,300
12 megawatts that sit idle because the gas they get
13 is from Washington Gas Company, and during winter
14 they have to throttle the gas down to supply the
15 customers in D.C. Now, that sounds kind of crazy
16 because here's the maintenance sitting over here
17 at Cove Point, and they can't get the gas in that
18 plant to run them units, and they sit idle.

19 And like I said, it's -- when I talk
20 about reliability, I've worked on them. I've
21 helped supervise the installation and the
22 operation of them, the maintenance of them.
23 Nuclear power, once it's there they don't have to
24 worry about a train or a barge, something going
25 wrong.

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1 And Calvert County is a small county,
2 the smallest county in the State of Maryland. We
3 don't have enough area to put in like a Horse
4 Hollow Wind Farm of 47,000 acres down in Texas. We
5 don't have that.

6 I'm really convinced that Calvert Cliffs
7 -- UniStar's new reactor at Calvert Cliffs is the
8 best fit for Calvert County and for my members
9 here who live in this county. And I'm not going to
10 talk about the economic stuff. I'm just trying to
11 give you a hands on, because -- and don't look at
12 me as just like a construction worker, and I want
13 to build something. I want you to look at me and
14 think of your family not ingesting the lead,
15 vanadium, the arsenic, the mercury, the coalites,
16 everything that I've got in my system over 44
17 years in IBEW.

18 And like I said, I've worked at all
19 these plants. I've got a commercial crab and fish
20 license. I fish and hunt down there in Calvert
21 County. I'm 100 percent in favor in non-polluting
22 units, but the baseload is, the bottom line is the
23 solar and the wind cannot provide that for us.

24 Let's face it, these people are greedy
25 for power. You go through these neighborhoods in

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1 the summer time, you don't see kids out there
2 playing. They're inside the house playing with
3 their electronics. And it's a shame that it's
4 gotten like that. And I want to ask everybody
5 when is the last time you've seen a clothesline
6 full of clothes that somebody washed that day?
7 Well, I put mine up 30 years ago, and I still use
8 it occasionally, so I want to thank you.

9 (Laughter.)

10 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you, Mr.
11 Zimmerman. We'd next like to hear from Sonny --

12 MR. YEATMAN: Yeatman.

13 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you.

14 MR. YEATMAN: Good afternoon.

15 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Good afternoon.

16 MR. YEATMAN: Zim, it's a wonder you
17 ain't gone, boy.

18 (Laughter.)

19 MR. YEATMAN: Zim is my man. My name is
20 Sonny, my last name is Yeatman, Y-E-A-T-M-A-N. I'm
21 part of the International Union of Elevator
22 Constructors, and a member of the Washington
23 Building Construction Trades Council. I'm the
24 apprentice director for the Elevator Constructors.

25 The building of the third nuclear

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1 reactor at Calvert Cliffs is an issue that we've
2 been dealing with for years now. Opponents to the
3 development and building of this reactor have
4 expressed their many concerns from air pollution,
5 water pollution, impacts on the title and non-
6 title wetlands at Chesapeake Bay critical area.
7 All these issues have been heard and addressed,
8 and recently received the Maryland Board of Public
9 Works unanimous approval of the title permit
10 application, wetlands permit application.

11 I'm not here to debate these issues.
12 Those issues are debated out. I'm here to stress
13 the importance of this project as it affects job
14 and the unemployed craftsmen of this county.

15 This project will employ during its peak
16 week, peak month over 4,000 individuals. The
17 building of this project is expected to last
18 between six to seven years. You do the math on how
19 that affects taxes.

20 When the project ends there will be 400
21 new full-time jobs at Calvert Cliffs. That's
22 twice as many as the great Walmart tally when
23 everyone was happy to see it built right up the
24 road. The difference is that these are full-time
25 jobs with wages and fringes.

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1 The building of this facility is under
2 a private labor agreement. As part of the
3 agreement it is a requirement to have a registered
4 apprenticeship program. As most people don't
5 know, all children do not go to college. Some want
6 to earn an honest living, and an honest wage for
7 working with their hands.

8 With the registered apprenticeship
9 program a young person will learn a trade, earn
10 college credit, receive a progressive wage scale
11 as he or she progresses through the educational
12 portion of that trade, and also secure a great
13 future.

14 As the Building Trades Apprentice
15 Directors we learn while we learn. It time that the
16 dancing stops. It's time that the roadblocks are
17 taken down. It's time that the dirt begins to be
18 moved, and that we put the taxpaying citizens of
19 this county back to work to start investing in our
20 children's future. We need to start the job, and
21 we need to start it now.

22 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you. John
23 Rayner.

24 MR. RAYNER: My name is John Rayner, R-A-
25 Y-N-E-R. Thank Your Honors for the opportunity to

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1 speak. I represent over 1,000 men and women of the
2 Ironworkers Local 5, Washington, D.C. Many of my
3 members live in Calvert County.

4 The earlier speakers did an excellent
5 job of giving you factual data, as well as my
6 colleagues in the building trades, so I'll just
7 give a few personal remarks as I have worked at
8 Calvert Cliffs early in my career in the late '80s
9 and early '90s. And many of my retiree members
10 who have a nice retirement built the original
11 Calvert Cliffs. And many of our new apprentices
12 are looking forward to working there, as well as
13 my members that are active in the trade, the 10,
14 20-year, 30 members. And I worked there, and it
15 is by far the safest working environment in my
16 industry. And I can speak from that from a
17 personal standpoint.

18 I tell a young member that goes to work
19 there work safely there but don't take the same
20 practices in the normal private sector industry
21 because you'll work too slow, you'll be too
22 careful, and then there's so much emphasis put on
23 productivity in the private sector.

24 Likewise, I tell a seasoned member who's
25 been in the private sector working uptown a lot of

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1 times don't do what you do up there or you will be
2 fired. You don't weld on something that has paint
3 on it. You don't do -- you have the utmost safety
4 as your priority.

5 So, my members are anxiously looking
6 forward to the construction of Unit 3, and my
7 entire membership is in full support of it, as
8 well as I think it would just be a tremendous
9 impact to the members of Calvert County and
10 citizens of Maryland. Thank you, sirs.

11 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you. Dr.
12 Richard Fleming.

13 DR. FLEMING: Good afternoon. I'm Dr.
14 Richard Fleming. That's F-L-E-M-I-N-G. I'm the
15 Vice President and Dean of Prince Frederick campus
16 of the College of Southern Maryland, and I'd like
17 to thank you for giving me an opportunity to
18 address this early expansion of the Calvert Cliffs
19 Nuclear Power Plant, and offer an educator's
20 perspective on this project.

21 On a national level demand for an energy
22 industry workforce is growing, and there is a
23 national movement to build a number of new
24 reactors. These projects will require
25 construction personnel, engineers, physicists,

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1 power plant operators, technicians, and many other
2 types of workers.

3 To meet workforce needs locally and
4 nationally, 38 community colleges, including the
5 College of Southern Maryland are developing
6 programs to train the next generation of industry
7 workers.

8 Industry statistics show that over the
9 next five years as many as 50 percent of current
10 workers could or will retire, over 23 percent of
11 those workers are involved in maintenance
12 activities. Here in Maryland, energy companies
13 are facing the same critical shortage of craft
14 workers and so retirements could seriously affect
15 Calvert Cliffs's ability to replace these workers.

16 Now, what does the College of Southern
17 Maryland do to help to address these needs? We
18 are a three-campus regional community college
19 system whose mission is to serve the educational
20 and workforce development needs of the residents
21 of Calvert, St. Mary's, and Charles County. And
22 the college enrolls over 12,000 credit students,
23 and 12,500 credit-free students.

24 In support of the plan for a reactor and
25 to help meet the future needs of Calvert Cliffs,

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1 we have partnered with CENG and the Nuclear Energy
2 Institute to develop and implement a new Associate
3 Degree Program in Engineering Technology. We
4 implemented the program in the fall of 2010 in a
5 temporary location in Calvert County while we
6 construct our new building which opens in the
7 spring of 2013. In that permanent facility we
8 have dedicated nearly 3,000 square feet of
9 laboratory space to support the ANT program.

10 This program is designed to train three
11 types of technicians, instrumentation and control,
12 mechanical, and electrical. We have received over
13 \$260,000 in financial and other tangible support
14 from CENG to purchase equipment and to establish
15 scholarships, and nearly \$259,000 in NRC grants
16 for additional scholarship support, as well as
17 funding support to implement the ANT program.

18 We currently have over 100 students
19 enrolled in the program, and this summer we had 16
20 students participate in an internship experience
21 at Calvert Cliffs. We anticipate we will have our
22 first 10 graduates in May of this year.

23 The college has also established the
24 Center for Trades and Energy Training in Waldorf
25 to train electricians, welders, plumbers, HVAC

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1 technicians, and carpenters. We are working with
2 our area public schools to promote STEM programs,
3 and our academic programs in science, technology,
4 engineering, and mathematics are poised to help
5 create the ready workforce for the 21st century.

6 We believe the economic impact of the
7 new reactor will be significant. And as I stated
8 earlier, the college stands ready to help the
9 nuclear industry and Calvert Cliffs in particular
10 to train the highly qualified workforce to meet
11 short-term needs as current employees retire or
12 leave the industry, and to meet long-term needs
13 when the new reactor is built and becomes
14 operational.

15 This expansion will provide high-paying
16 employment opportunities for many years to come,
17 and those individuals who deserve top quality
18 public education and affordable higher education
19 here in southern Maryland can remain in southern
20 Maryland. Thank you again for allowing me to make
21 these comments.

22 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you. We'd next
23 like to hear from Mike Hart.

24 MR. HART: Good afternoon. I'm Mike Hart,
25 H-A-R-T, and I'm a member of the Calvert County

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1 Chamber of Commerce, also a resident of Calvert
2 County for the past 36 years, and own Patuxent
3 Wine & Spirits here in Lusby.

4 On behalf of the Chamber and our
5 business community, I want to thank you for your
6 efforts to obtain input regarding potential
7 environmental impact that UniStar's construction
8 of a third reactor at Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power
9 Plant might have on our community.

10 As a member of the Chamber, it's no
11 surprise I will support the expansion of Calvert
12 Cliffs. Constellation has been an outstanding
13 corporate entity here for more than three decades.
14 They pump millions of dollars in our local,
15 regional, and state economy every year.

16 As it would be for any business in this
17 county, it's critical that the Calvert Cliffs
18 potential expansion and UniStar be treated fairly
19 through the entire regulatory process. Certainly
20 we would expect this to be done within the
21 regulatory limits.

22 We support UniStar in their efforts to
23 build at Calvert Cliffs. We support the Calvert
24 County Commissioners and their endorsement of an
25 expanded plant. And we support the use of nuclear

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1 power as an alternative solution for stable and
2 reliable energy.

3 A lot of this is redundant. You guys
4 have heard it. I'm not going to bore you with the
5 particulars there. But, also, as you conduct the
6 review please remember the outstanding partner
7 that Calvert Cliffs has been to our community and
8 the contributor that they have been to our
9 economy.

10 Mostly importantly, remember the
11 constant commitment to the environment. I'm
12 confident in offering my testimony in support of
13 this expansion project and in support of UniStar
14 that the minimal environmental impact proposed
15 construction and operation will have locally.
16 Thank you very much.

17 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you. Next on
18 our list is Dwight Crawford.

19 MR. CRAWFORD: Good afternoon.

20 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Good afternoon.

21 MR. CRAWFORD: My name is Dwight
22 Crawford, C-R-A-W-F-O-R-D. Father of three,
23 lifetime Calvert County resident, and my wife and
24 I own and operate Family Auto Mercedes BMW in
25 North Calvert.

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1 I'm a five-year member of the Calvert
2 County Chamber of Commerce, so I do have a vested
3 interest in what's going on, but beyond the
4 monetary aim, I'm a father first, and a family
5 member first, and environmental stewardship is
6 highly important. So, again, thank you for your
7 time.

8 I do applaud your efforts to obtain
9 input regarding the potential environmental
10 impact, and here in Calvert we have a long history
11 with nuclear power and with Calvert Cliffs. As a
12 result of that history, we've been blessed with an
13 outstanding business community partner, employer,
14 and environmental steward.

15 As I think about the impacts of our
16 existing facility, Calvert Cliffs, the fact that
17 they pour millions of dollars into our economy,
18 provide baseload energy to supply approximately 20
19 percent power for state's residents, and the fact
20 that Calvert Cliffs remains steadfast in their
21 efforts to protect the environment, I'm honored to
22 be a part of history making efforts to site the
23 first new reactor in Calvert and, in fact, in the
24 United States in 30 years.

25 With the expansion does come great

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1 responsibility to the environment. I am, however,
2 completely confident that we will continue to see
3 a commitment to environmental stewardship by
4 UniStar that we already enjoy by the current
5 facility. I ask that you please fairly regulate
6 UniStar throughout this process.

7 I appreciate your willingness to hear
8 our words. As you conduct your review, please
9 remember the existing relationship we have with
10 Calvert Cliffs, the potential growth it will bring
11 to our community and our country. I support
12 UniStar. I support the third unit at Calvert
13 Cliffs, and I appreciate your regulatory efforts.
14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you. We'd next
16 like to hear from Bonnie Green.

17 MS. GREEN: My name is Bonnie Green,
18 spelled like the color, and I am Executive
19 Director of the Patuxent Partnership. I am also a
20 resident of St. Mary's County. Thank you for the
21 opportunity to speak this afternoon.

22 The Patuxent Partnership is a non-profit
23 organization focused on education, workforce
24 development, and the diversification of the
25 technology industry in southern Maryland. The

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1 partnership was formed to gain national and
2 international recognition of southern Maryland as
3 a growing technology community with an outstanding
4 quality of life and environment. The partnership
5 has over 300 members. On behalf of the
6 partnership, please accept our support of the
7 proposed extension of Calvert Cliffs.

8 Regarding the challenge to the Nuclear
9 Regulatory Commission's Environmental Impact
10 Statement, we support the Commission's findings
11 and its consideration of alternatives to the
12 proposed Unit 3 reactor at Calvert Cliffs Nuclear
13 Power Plant.

14 According to the U.S. Department of
15 Energy, the U.S. demand for electricity will
16 increase 25 percent by 2030. That means we need
17 hundreds of new power plants to provide
18 electricity for our homes and to continue economic
19 growth.

20 When weighing this against the fact that
21 nuclear power plants do not generate carbon
22 dioxide, the principal greenhouse gas, it is
23 difficult to formulate arguments against expanding
24 our nuclear energy capability.

25 Conservation and renewable energy will

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1 play a role in our energy future. However, nuclear
2 energy is reliable 24 hours a day, seven days a
3 week. This proven affordable source of
4 electricity helps keep American business
5 competitive.

6 We see no current green technology that
7 can match this critical baseload capacity. From
8 the Patuxent Partnership's perspective, we see
9 this new nuclear plant as a viable part of our
10 clean energy future. You have the full support of
11 the Patuxent Partnership in the conclusions of the
12 Environmental Impact Statement.

13 Thank you for your efforts and for
14 allowing me to speak this afternoon.

15 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Excuse me. Laura
16 Simpson, please.

17 MS. SIMPSON: Hello, I'm Laura Simpson,
18 like the TV show. That's S-I-M-P-S-O-N. And I am
19 here today on behalf of the Solomons Business
20 Association, and the Calvert Chamber of Commerce
21 as a Board representative.

22 Solomons Business Association has about
23 125 members in the organization, and the Chamber
24 has about 400 local businesses. Both of these
25 organizations work to promote economic development

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1 in the area. The member businesses include
2 everything from restaurants, marinas, hotels, to
3 charter boat captains and gift shop owners, and
4 everything in between. We are also neighbors of
5 the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, and many
6 of us have been here since it first began
7 generating electricity in the 1970s, myself not
8 being one of them. I'm not that old, but I've
9 grown up with Calvert Cliffs in my backyard, and
10 I know that they've been a good neighbor.

11 We know Constellation Energy has a
12 reputation for charity and environmental
13 management, and we know their record for safety
14 and security. We know their dedication to
15 providing energy that is clean, renewable, and
16 reliable. We consider them a responsible and
17 important member of our business community.

18 We are here this afternoon to support
19 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's findings in
20 its Environmental Impact Statement which
21 demonstrates the need for new energy supply in the
22 State of Maryland. Businesses of Calvert County
23 derive much of their livelihood from visitors who
24 come here for our natural resources, our
25 waterways, parks, and open spaces.

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1 We believe in the need for clean energy
2 to help preserve these resources, but we do not
3 believe that other types of electricity generation
4 can realistically take the place of a single new
5 reactor at Calvert Cliffs. I, myself, have
6 personally toured Calvert Cliffs and the proposed
7 site for the reactor. They have the land and the
8 infrastructure ready to go for this project. No
9 other clean energy source has demonstrated the
10 ability to provide what we need when we need it
11 with such little impact to the environment.

12 In these tough financial times, it is
13 economic development like the construction of a
14 third reactor at Calvert Cliffs that will provide
15 the socio economic push many of our small
16 businesses need to stay afloat and prosper.

17 Both the Solomons Business Association
18 and the Calvert Chamber of Commerce support
19 UniStar's application, and welcome the
20 development, new jobs, new businesses, and new
21 visitors that will bring to our region.

22 So, thank you for having us here today,
23 and we appreciate your efforts in insuring the
24 public is important on this matter. Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you. Chris

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1 Comer.

2 MR. COMER: Good afternoon, gentlemen.
3 Welcome to Solomons. My name is Chris Comer,
4 that's C-O-M-E-R. I'm the Director of Government
5 Affairs for Comcast here in the area. My wife and
6 two daughters, as I said, live here in Solomons
7 and are residents of Calvert County, where my wife
8 and I also run a small business. So, after the
9 hearings feel free to stop by Kim's Key Lime Pie.

10 As you've heard, there's tremendous
11 support for the third reactor here in Calvert
12 County. We've talked about the 800 jobs that
13 Constellation Energy Nuclear Group currently
14 employs, the 400 new jobs that would be added, up
15 to 4,000 workers, construction workers during the
16 peak activity. All of that would have a huge
17 impact, as I'm sure you understand, here and not
18 only local economy, to the state and throughout
19 the region when it's sorely needed.

20 Beyond the obvious business benefits,
21 this project is critical to the county, to the
22 State of Maryland, and our national energy
23 program. The emission-free renewable, dependable,
24 and domestic nature of nuclear energy makes it an
25 ideal choice in creating a 21st century solution

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1 for our country's energy needs.

2 With the addition of a third reactor we
3 can demonstrate why Maryland continues to support
4 the reduction of greenhouse gases through nuclear
5 energy while at the same time providing solutions
6 for our nation's dependency on foreign energy
7 sources, something that's beyond environmental
8 impact, but national security.

9 Conservation and energy efficiency are
10 important and noble components for achieving
11 energy diversity in the United States. Nuclear
12 energy has perhaps the lowest impact on the
13 environment, including air, land, water, and
14 wildlife of any energy source. It does not emit
15 harmful greenhouse gases, and requires less areas
16 to produce the same amount of electricity as other
17 sources.

18 No other combination of non-nuclear
19 alternatives provides the level of baseload
20 generating power without also having a much
21 greater impact on the environment.

22 In conclusion, it's imperative that we
23 reverse the growth of greenhouse gas emissions,
24 and Calvert County stands ready to share our
25 nation's responsibility to provide free sources

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1 that produce energy to minimize the impact on the
2 environment.

3 Thank you for allowing me to speak today
4 and hearing the statements of all of our local
5 residents.

6 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you. And the
7 last person we have signed up to speak is Cindy
8 Peil.

9 MS. PEIL: Hi, I'm Cindy Peil. It's P-E-
10 I-L, Calvert County resident. And I thank you for
11 giving the public the opportunity to provide input
12 to the hearings. And I know there are some more of
13 us who are what we call sometimes the infidels,
14 people that are saying hey, people need to take
15 another look. We've had the opportunity to come
16 and participate but like most folks, I'm at work.

17 One focus of the hearing is the
18 environmental impact of Calvert Cliffs III, and
19 many aspects of environmental issues have not been
20 considered. For example, the capability and
21 capacity of solar energy, which is truly clean
22 energy, has been very much downplayed to make it
23 appear as though nuclear is better when, in fact,
24 nanotechnology such as strong enhancement of solar
25 cell efficiency will increase 50 percent the power

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1 conversion efficacy of solar cells. That
2 technology was proven here in Maryland in Adelphi
3 by our own US Army research lab in cooperation
4 with the University of Buffalo, New York. So,
5 please take this and many other developments into
6 consideration when you consider your judgment of
7 the contention against Calvert Cliffs III.

8 Calvert Cliffs III is something highly,
9 highly undesirable for the environment here in
10 Maryland. We already have 11 working nuclear power
11 plants on the Chesapeake Bay watershed, 11.
12 Calvert Cliffs III which would have been double
13 reactor would increase that count to 13 nukes.
14 The combined environmental effect of nukes on the
15 Bay has not been determined to warrant such
16 addition of Calvert Cliffs III, such an addition.

17 Furthermore, the Applicant, UniStar in
18 particular, has asked for waivers of the NRC
19 standards so that they can increase the amount of
20 radioactive pollution that CCIII would release to
21 the waters of the already dying and challenged
22 Bay. And we know that these things last forever,
23 and we continue the way in a variety of ways in
24 the water cycle and coming down in other places
25 than where they were first released.

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1 We've all heard of the Fukushima nuclear
2 disaster in Japan, and we here in Calvert and St.
3 Mary's counties have felt shockwaves of the most
4 recent earthquakes in Virginia that shutdown the
5 nuclear reactors and damaged the North Anna
6 Nuclear Power Plant. People said for a long time
7 oh, there's never been an earthquake here. Well,
8 things like that have happened and, indeed, this
9 past year they did happen.

10 What's most disturbing is that the
11 physical location of Calvert Cliffs III has strong
12 indications of an earthquake fault transversing
13 the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant property
14 just south of the proposed Unit 3.

15 Scientific evidence, in fact, four
16 separate times, evidence was presented to support
17 that a fault line exists from the Chesapeake Bay
18 around Landon and goes clear across the Calvert
19 Cliffs' property on the south side, crosses Route
20 4 and extends all the way to Mears Cove. The fault
21 line is only a half a mile from the proposed CC3
22 coolant tunnel, and crosses over where the major
23 distribution of natural gas pipelines of their
24 neighbor, Dominion LNG are located.

25 Building Calvert Cliffs III at this

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1 location is a recipe for an environmental
2 disaster, and undue safety risks not only to the
3 residents of this peninsula in Calvert County, but
4 also to our nation's seat of government in
5 Washington, D.C., which is within a 50-mile
6 nuclear badland.

7 To make matters worse, UniStar has
8 submitted seismic documentation to the NRC which
9 is full of errors, omissions, and
10 misrepresentations of the seismic conditions at
11 Calvert Cliffs. In spite of the scientific
12 evidence cited and supporting documentation
13 submitted to the Applicant, UniStar has continued
14 to suppress the evidence that they have to this
15 day. They have to this day not tested whatsoever
16 the area of the fault line on their property.
17 Sampling with bore holes and other scientific
18 testing was recommended by concerned scientists in
19 April 2010, again in July of 2010, but all of
20 these were ignored by UniStar.

21 When the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
22 asked UniStar in July of 2010 to provide an answer
23 to the seismic issues presented to them and to NRC
24 at that time, UniStar was silent until November 10
25 when they eventually responded back with a letter

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1 claiming that flyovers of the area couldn't find
2 the fault. Scientifically determining a fault
3 line, especially in our area is not by done by
4 flyovers. In fact, that's a laughable excuse even
5 with a layperson.

6 UniStar in addition to skirting the
7 seismic issue did not respond either to the
8 errors, omissions, or misrepresentations in some
9 of the seismic documentation submitted to the NRC.
10 These seismic documents which UniStar submitted to
11 the NRC were reviewed by scientists whose studies
12 they used, but was found by the same scientist,
13 Dr. Susan Kidwell, to be a misrepresentation of
14 the facts contained in her 1997 scientific paper.

15 All of this evidence and supporting
16 documentation were submitted to the Project
17 Managers of NRC in April and in July 2010. When
18 the Final Environmental Impact Statement was
19 released, although the NIC stated that these
20 issues were under consideration by the staff, the
21 seismic staff on November 1, 2011 denied having
22 any knowledge of it. All these documents
23 submitted to the NRC on the seismic conditions at
24 Calvert Cliffs have ABMS extension numbers for
25 reference, and these numbers were also referred to

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1 in the FEIS which is the subject of the
2 contention.

3 We urge you to look into these issues.
4 They have huge, huge, huge environmental impacts.
5 Nobody expects the worst thing to happen, but
6 unfortunately sometimes it does, and in Japan it
7 did.

8 The seismic condition at Calvert Cliffs
9 needs to be investigated and tested to determine
10 the extent and direction of the fault line and its
11 environmental impact, as well as the safety impact
12 for the public, and for the environment. If
13 ignored as if it doesn't exist, which is what the
14 applicant, UniStar, wants us to do, and the staff
15 has, in fact, been doing since the matter was
16 brought up at the state level way back in 2009.

17 We, the public, have our tax dollars at
18 stake when federal subsidies are granted to give
19 money to the nuclear industry, which is what
20 Calvert Cliffs III has been asking. It's my money,
21 it's your money, it's everybody's money. On top of
22 this, UniStar was wholly owned by a French entity,
23 a foreign entity, the French government through
24 EDF, and therefore doesn't even qualify as an
25 applicant for a nuclear power plant, as this is

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1 the law.

2 So, in summary, we should not continue
3 to process UniStar's application because these
4 conditions exist. UniStar at Calvert Cliffs has
5 been foreign owned now and does not qualify as an
6 applicant, so we urge you to immediately
7 disqualify the application for license.

8 UniStar has submitted documentation to
9 a federal agency, the NRC, which is full of
10 errors, omissions, and misrepresentations of the
11 facts, especially these hugely important safety
12 facts on the seismic issue. This is also against
13 the law, and they've also violated the public
14 trust.

15 We ask that the Atomic Safety Licensing
16 Board, what we want you to do is to stop this
17 licensing process immediately, issue a ruling to
18 deny a license for the construction of this power
19 plant. The above two requests are within the power
20 of the ASLB, and we respectfully request that the
21 ASLB exercise this power.

22 NRC is a federal agency sworn to protect
23 the public and to protect the environment in
24 exercising their power through the licensing
25 process of nuclear plants. We would hope, the

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1 people who live here especially, are asking that
2 the NRC hold true to their mandate and to uphold
3 public trust.

4 We're talking about spending our money,
5 my money. I don't want to spend it on nuclear
6 power. It's outdated. It's been proven around the
7 world that it's not effective. It's just what some
8 people want as a short-term solution being a huge
9 long-term problem. The government still hasn't
10 effectively sponsored research and development on
11 alternate energies where we could have many, many
12 things available if we put into that instead of
13 this. There's too many unanswered questions; one
14 huge one being the spent fuel. It's not supposed
15 to be sitting there like it's sitting there now
16 and the government is not taking charge. So,
17 please take all these things into consideration,
18 think about myself and many others who share these
19 feelings and are concerned about their safety.

20 I live here. I have my home insurance
21 for everything except nuclear disaster because
22 nobody will touch it, because it happens, and we
23 do not want it happening here. Do not license
24 this plant. Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Thank you. We did

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1 miss -- we're at the end of people who have signed
2 up to speak. We earlier called Charles Martin and
3 didn't get a response. Is Mr. Martin here?

4 (No response.)

5 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: Going once, twice,
6 three times. Is there anybody else who wants to
7 speak who hasn't had an opportunity yet?

8 (No response.)

9 CHAIRMAN SPRITZER: All right. Well,
10 thank you all for attending. I hope this has been
11 informative for you. I know it has been for us.
12 Thank you to all who came and all those who spoke,
13 and if you're interested we will be having an
14 evidentiary hearing on the specific issue raised
15 by Contention 10-C on the question of solar,
16 whether solar and wind power received adequate
17 consideration in the Final Environmental Impact
18 Statement.

19 That will be starting at 9:30 tomorrow
20 in the Albright Building. If you are interested,
21 I do suggest you come early. We were there today.
22 There are some seats there, but a number of them
23 are going to be taken by lawyers, and witnesses,
24 and so forth. So, if you are interested please
25 come early. Thank you.

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1 We will be having another session,
2 Limited Appearance session tonight at 7:00 here.
3 Thank you for coming.

4 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
5 went off the record at 2:14 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceedings
before the United States Nuclear Regulatory
Commission

Proceeding: Calvert Cliffs III Nuclear Project
Limited Appearance: Afternoon Session

Docket Number: 52-016

Location: Solomons, Maryland

were held as herein appears, and that this is the
original transcript thereof for the file of the
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission taken
and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my
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