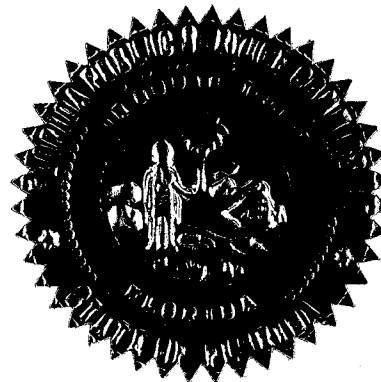


BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 060635-EU

In the Matter of

PETITION FOR DETERMINATION OF NEED FOR
ELECTRICAL POWER PLANT IN TAYLOR COUNTY
BY FLORIDA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY, JEA,
REEDY CREEK IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, AND
CITY OF TALLAHASSEE.



VOLUME 2

Pages 111 through 204

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PROCEEDINGS: HEARING

BEFORE: CHAIRMAN LISA POLAK EDGAR
COMMISSIONER ISILIO ARRIAGA
COMMISSIONER MATTHEW M. CARTER, II
COMMISSIONER KATRINA J. TEW
COMMISSIONER KENNETH W. LITTLEFIELD

DATE: Wednesday, January 10, 2007

TIME: Commenced at 1:54 p.m.
Concluded at 3:59 p.m.

PLACE: Betty Easley Conference Center
Room 148
4075 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, Florida

REPORTED BY: LORI DEZELL, RPR, CCR

APPEARANCES: (As heretofore noted.)

I N D E X

WITNESSES

NAME:	PAGE NO.
LAD DANIELS	
Direct Statement	116
IRENE PARKER	
Direct Statement	125
RAY BELLAMY, M.D.	
Direct Statement	126
JOHN DICKERT	
Direct Statement	132
GALE DICKERT	
Direct Statement	135
CAROLE TAITT	
Direct Statement	150
RICK BREER	
Direct Statement	155
JANET MONROE	
Direct Statement	158
LYNN REYNOLDS	
Direct Statement	163
DORIS KELYNACK	
Direct Statement	168

POLLY PERKINS	
Direct Statement	176
BETTY JOHNSON	
Direct Statement	178
DIANE WHITFIELD	
Direct Statement	190
PAM McVETY	
Direct Statement	199
CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER	203

EXHIBITS

NUMBER:		ADMTD.
88	Comments of Mr. Miller	114
89	Documents submitted by Ms. Dickert	149
90	Comments of Mr. Dickert	156
91	Comments of Ms. Taitt	156
92	Documents submitted by Ms. Reynolds	166
93	Comments of Ms. Byne	167
94	Comments of Ms. Kelynack	175
95	Comments of Ms. Perkins	189
96	Comments of Ms. Johnson	189
97	Documents submitted by Ms. Whitfield	198
98	Documents submitted by Ms. McVety	202

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 (Transcript follows in sequence from
3 Volume 2.)

4 **COMMISSIONER LITTLEFIELD:** Good afternoon. We
5 are going to come back from lunch break and go back
6 on the record. And I'm going to begin by turning
7 to Ms. Brubaker.

8 And where are we and where do we go next?

9 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Yes. During the break, I was
10 approached by a customer who had originally signed
11 up to speak, Mr. Kent Miller, and he has asked in
12 light of especially the time frame we have
13 currently, in lieu of his public testimony, if he
14 could simply submit a document to be identified.
15 And we have provided that to the commissioners and
16 to the parties. And unless there's an objection, I
17 would suggest we do so.

18 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Seeing no objection, we will
19 enter that document -- or excuse me, we will mark
20 that document as No. 88.

21 (Exhibit No. 88 admitted into the record.)

22 **MS. BRUBAKER:** I've also been asked to let the
23 audience in general know that we have a lost memory
24 stick in case anybody is missing one.

25 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** If so, please come and speak

1 to our legal staff.

2 **MS. BRUBAKER:** And with that, unless there's
3 another matter to be addressed, we're ready to
4 resume public testimony.

5 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Okay. Who is next on the
6 list?

7 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Let's go ahead and start with
8 Lad Daniels. And the next speakers will be
9 Irene Parker, Ray Bellamy and John Dickert.

10 LAD DANIELS

11 was called as a witness and, having been duly sworn,
12 testified as follows:

13 DIRECT STATEMENT

14 **MR. DANIELS:** Good afternoon, Madam Chairman,
15 Commissioners. I come before you today wearing two
16 hats. The first hat that I'm wearing is as
17 president of the First Coast Manufacturers
18 Association and a member of the board of directors
19 of the Manufacturers Association of Florida, and
20 the second hat that I'm wearing is I'm representing
21 myself individually as a member of the city council
22 for the City of Jacksonville.

23 So I'm wearing one hat as an elected official
24 and another as a representative of a trade
25 association. And I think the essence of what we're

1 talking about here today, and I'm speaking in
2 support of the construction of the power plant, the
3 800 megawatt power plant, in essence what we're
4 wrestling with as a state and you as a commission
5 is how do we handle growth and growth management.
6 We deal with that in our public arena every day.

7 Let me speak first as a representative of the
8 manufacturers here in this state, some 15,000
9 companies representing some 400,000 employees whose
10 basic tenant is really in the context here to
11 improve the economy and protect the environment.

12 And I've heard a number of comments since I've
13 been here regarding concerns about the environment,
14 and I just would like to go on the record of saying
15 the companies that I represent share that same
16 concern. First and foremost, we're interested in
17 protecting our community, and mainly because our
18 employees live in those communities, and we're as
19 concerned with what happens in those communities as
20 anyone else.

21 Our concerns, of course, are affordable power,
22 reliable sources of energy. The unique feature of
23 the manufacturing community that I think causes me
24 to come before you today is the fact that if we
25 look at the cost of goods sold for typical

1 manufacturers, our energy costs runs somewhere
2 between 15 and 18 percent of cost of goods sold.
3 So it's a huge component in terms of how we are
4 able to compete effectively. That translates
5 directly back to the affordability, reliability
6 issue.

7 It's no -- it's no secret that the
8 manufacturing community as relates to power usage
9 not only do we have a high percentage of our cost
10 of goods sold directly related to energy, but we're
11 typically some of the biggest customers that
12 utility companies have. And that has forced a
13 partnership between the two groups that, I think,
14 has worked to the betterment of us as a total
15 community and as a state. And there has been some
16 significant progress that have been made both in
17 conservation areas, both for electricity and
18 water/sewer.

19 We operate in an extremely competitive
20 environment. In the context of what you are
21 dealing with today, our competitive environment we
22 could talk about the global nature of that
23 environment or the regional nature of that -- of
24 that competition that we face. But I think in this
25 context, we need to talk about the competitive

1 environment we -- we deal with in dealing with our
2 next-door neighbors.

3 So we find particularly as across the northern
4 part of Florida, we're dealing with what's
5 happening in power and power usage and power
6 consumption and rates and reliability with Georgia
7 and Alabama. So we benchmark against those. So we
8 would encourage you to look favorably upon the
9 addition of this power plant.

10 Let me take off my hat for manufacturing and
11 put on the public policy hat as an elected
12 official. And here I'm speaking individually. I
13 wish I could tell you I was speaking for the entire
14 City of Jacksonville and all the city council, but
15 I won't expose my 19 other colleagues to that.

16 We have the same concern as elected officials
17 that you have. We are very, very concerned about
18 public policy, particularly as it relates to
19 energy, energy usage and the impact that it's going
20 to have on us as citizens and our constituents.
21 Yet we find ourselves aligned with looking for
22 affordable, reliable sources of energy. We're very
23 concerned about diversifying sources.

24 We -- we know that we've got to look at all
25 types of alternatives and -- and types of energy

1 generation in the future that we had not seen fit
2 to take a look at in the recent past. And I think
3 in terms of nuclear energy as an example.

4 The creativity that I see coming forth in
5 the -- from the utility companies and from their
6 customers in terms of developing alternative
7 sources of energy, I find encouraging. And I sense
8 that there is a shift in the political winds to
9 become more realistic in how we look at some
10 alternatives.

11 I think that offshore power generation or
12 offshore drilling becomes an issue that we are
13 beginning to wrestle with here as a state in a way
14 that we were not willing to acknowledge in the
15 recent past. And I think that's good as we look at
16 ethanol, as we look at biomass, as we look at all
17 of these other ways of looking at alternative
18 sources of fuel.

19 I think you're -- my experience is we're
20 finding elected officials as representatives of
21 their constituents are much more receptive to the
22 ideas of what we can do to continue to provide a
23 reliable and affordable sources of energy for our
24 consumers in the state.

25 And I look at it, as I wrap up my context, I

1 look at this as almost an environmental stewardship
2 issue as we look at it. And as we wrestle with the
3 fact that we've got a thousand people a day coming
4 into Florida. They're going to continue to come to
5 us. We have got to figure out some way to manage
6 growth. And as a part of that, we have got to
7 figure out how we're going to provide sources of
8 energy at a reliable and affordable basis for these
9 consumers. So I find as I wear that public hat
10 very much in sympathy with what you're going
11 through. I'm glad you're sitting there and I'm not
12 joining you. But we are seeing that same issue
13 being played out locally with us.

14 The interesting thing that I share with you on
15 our community is we're finding that our local
16 municipal utility, JEA, has become a leader in
17 technical innovation. I think that will play out
18 to a positive impact here with what you're looking
19 at with this application.

20 We find that they are extremely good
21 environmental stewards. And we find that they also
22 have initiated and have been successful in creating
23 a strong partnership with their customer base --
24 and there I put back on the manufacturer's hat --
25 but also their consumer base at large. And I would

1 think that that would work to the betterment of us
2 as a state.

3 In conclusion, both wearing that public hat as
4 an individual and that other hat as representing
5 the manufacturing community, we would encourage the
6 support of this power plant. And I'm available for
7 any questions that you may have.

8 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, Mr. Daniels.
9 Questions? Commissioner Littlefield.

10 **COMMISSIONER LITTLEFIELD:** Thank you,
11 Madam Chair.

12 Just to clear up in my mind, when you had
13 started your presentation you had said something
14 about manufacturing being the largest or one of the
15 largest users of energy in the state?

16 **MR. DANIELS:** Our members, manufacturers in
17 the state, tend to be big consumers of energy. So
18 as customers of utility companies, our guys spend a
19 lot of money, use a lot of the energy.

20 **COMMISSIONER LITTLEFIELD:** Okay. I
21 misunderstood that statement. I thought you were
22 saying that manufacturers were the largest user of
23 energy in the state.

24 **MR. DANIELS:** No, sir.

25 **COMMISSIONER LITTLEFIELD:** And then I wanted

1 to pursue what percentage was the residential
2 customers.

3 **MR. DANIELS:** I can't speak to that.

4 **COMMISSIONER LITTLEFIELD:** Thank you,
5 Madam Chair.

6 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Mr. Arriaga?

7 **COMMISSIONER ARRIAGA:** You're absolutely
8 right. JEA happens to be the forefront of
9 technological advancement. I admire your company.
10 It is a magnificent company. Because of that
11 technological knowledge, did JEA consider other
12 possibilities such as IGCC, any other type of plant
13 besides this one?

14 **MR. DANIELS:** I'm not representing JEA. So I
15 can't --

16 **COMMISSIONER ARRIAGA:** I know, the --

17 **MR. DANIELS:** I can't speak to that. I would
18 let them speak to that one. Wearing my public hat
19 as a member of the city council, JEA presents that
20 capital budget to us for approval on an annual
21 basis. We leave it to them to evaluate the choices
22 of how they're going to provide energy to us.

23 **COMMISSIONER ARRIAGA:** The JEA recommended to
24 the council this specific plant?

25 **MR. DANIELS:** JEA has only come to the council

1 to ask for funding for the capital program. And
2 didn't ask for a definition from us or approval
3 from us of the type of energy.

4 **COMMISSIONER ARRIAGA:** Has the city council
5 approved?

6 **MR. DANIELS:** We've approved the capital
7 budget. We've not asked -- we've not been asked to
8 approve the specific type of power plant.

9 **COMMISSIONER ARRIAGA:** You approved the budget
10 that includes investment in this plant?

11 **MR. DANIELS:** Yes, sir.

12 **COMMISSIONER ARRIAGA:** Okay. Thank you.

13 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Mr. Perko?

14 **MR. PERKO:** Just one clarifying question,
15 Ms. Chairman.

16 Just so I understand it, the JEA board decides
17 upon the integrated resource plant; is that
18 correct?

19 **MR. DANIELS:** Correct.

20 **MR. PERKO:** Thank you.

21 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, Councilman.

22 **MR. DANIELS:** Thank you, Madam Chair.

23 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Ms. Brubaker?

24 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Irene Parker.

25 IRENE PARKER

1 was called as a witness and, having been duly sworn,
2 testified as follows:

3 DIRECT STATEMENT

4 **MS. PARKER:** I'm from Taylor County. I'm
5 100 percent against the coal plant. We haven't
6 been promised anything except that they want to put
7 lines down to run the juice thisaway, thataway, the
8 other way. We have children. We have about three
9 ladies out there in the audience that has worked
10 getting doctors and getting professionals to come
11 into meetings and tell us about the things that we
12 can dread in 20 years if we get it, or ten years.

13 Our children. Doctors that have told us even
14 pregnant women can bring a child into this world
15 with a defective brain. There's four generations
16 where I live. Me, my children, my grandchildren
17 and my great grandchildren that's coming along.
18 And there's many families in Taylor County like
19 that.

20 We still have children in school now that --
21 in the elementary school, sometimes I work out
22 there, I see aides pushing that child because he
23 can't walk or that girl. And then there's even
24 little blind children. And this was before the
25 coal plant even come up. But then that's bad.

1 But what we are going to get is going to be
2 much, much, much worse. And we don't want it. And
3 there's a whole lot of people in Taylor County that
4 don't want it. That's it.

5 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, ma'am.

6 Ms. Brubaker?

7 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Ray Bellamy.

8 RAY BELLAMY, M.D.

9 was called as a witness and, having been duly sworn,
10 testified as follows:

11 DIRECT STATEMENT

12 **DR. BELLAMY:** Well, that's a difficult act to
13 follow. Ray Bellamy. I've been a Tallahassee
14 physician for over 30 years.

15 Let me clear up a couple of misconceptions,
16 Commissioner Littlefield. In reference to the high
17 particulate levels in this area and affecting the
18 mortality rates and so on, the last I checked, the
19 average Tallahasseean moved every 3.2 years. And
20 so we're in a mobile society. And to see the
21 health effects of living in one area over many
22 years, it's not that easy.

23 In addition, overall health and mortality
24 rates are very much related to a whole bunch of
25 factors like socioeconomic class and so on. And as

1 you know in Leon County, every other person is an
2 attorney. And, you know, there's a different --
3 there's a different population here. So that the
4 connection between death rates here and
5 particulates is not that easy to pin down.

6 There were -- there were comments made by
7 Mayor Marks on the high electric utility rates here
8 in this area. As I understand it -- my late wife
9 used to be mayor of Tallahassee. And as I
10 understand it, because there's so much property on
11 the -- which is not subject to property taxes, the
12 City of Tallahassee has elected to have high
13 electric utility rates to capture revenue from that
14 source. And I -- as I understand it, it's about
15 16 percent of their operating revenue from selling
16 power. And so it's -- that is more of a factor in
17 the high utility rates here than the cost of
18 natural gas.

19 Let me -- I'll -- I would second the health
20 effects concerns mentioned by Dr. Saff and I think
21 health effects and environmental effects definitely
22 have economic impacts just -- I feel the same way
23 Dr. Saff does on that. And I'll come back to the
24 environment in just a second.

25 As previously mentioned, the Florida Medical

1 Association, the Georgia Medical Association, the
2 Capital Medical Society have all taken position
3 statements against this coal plant. Many of the
4 surrounding counties around Taylor County -- you
5 heard from the Baker County commissioner. You
6 heard from the individual from Madison County who
7 are concerned about rail traffic. Wakulla County,
8 I've talked to their commissioners. And they're,
9 as I understand it, very much against this. And
10 certainly Madison County is.

11 The New York Times -- let's talk about a
12 300-pound gorilla here in the room. The New York
13 Times had a front page photo Saturday of a young
14 woman in Central Park in short sleeves -- this is
15 in January -- pushing her kids on a swing.
16 Yesterday an official declaration was made that
17 2006 was the warmest year on record.

18 I think everyone in this room agrees that
19 carbon capture mandates are right around the
20 corner. Every expert I've talked to says within
21 two or three years -- Barbara Boxer is now chairman
22 of that committee in the Senate as I understand it,
23 and has made it clear she's going to have hearings
24 on that soon.

25 If you shove the carbon cost matter aside and

1 say that's to be dealt with by DEP, as I understand
2 it, they have no current official rules on carbon.
3 And so that basically says we ignore that entire
4 gorilla in this room.

5 It's a huge impending cost factor. And as
6 testimony previously addressed, the cost of this
7 pulverized coal plant because of its effect, as I
8 understand it, the amount of carbon will be emitted
9 per year that 600,000 automobiles would emit in
10 that year. Now, this is for the next 50 years. So
11 when you -- if you include carbon costs in this
12 equation, this is -- this is not a wise decision.

13 Let me read a bit of a letter by the director
14 of the Center for Health and the Global Environment
15 at Harvard Medical School which was written
16 January 2nd of this year. Do we know for certain
17 when and how much Greenland and the West Antarctic
18 ice sheet will melt with global warming and the
19 exact amount the sea level will rise as a result or
20 how intense heat waves, droughts, floods and storms
21 will become? The answer is no.

22 It is not possible to make exact predictions
23 about such complex systems. But there is no
24 uncertainty among the world's leading scientists,
25 that if we do not significantly reduce our current

1 levels of burning fossil fuels, our world will
2 experience profound changes, many of them
3 irreversible in its physical, chemical and
4 biological composition. And there's absolutely no
5 question that these changes will severely threaten
6 life, including human life on this planet. It
7 would be shamefully ignorant and morally
8 inexcusable, not unconscionable, Commissioner
9 Carter, but morally inexcusable, if we did not do
10 everything in our power to prevent these changes
11 from occurring.

12 Political leaders, policymakers and the public
13 should not be misled by the few scientists who
14 persistently emphasize the uncertainties of climate
15 science as if these uncertainties guaranteed that
16 global warming consequences would not be
17 catastrophic. And this is Dr. Sheviain (phonetic)
18 who is director of the Center for Health and the
19 Global Environment at Harvard Medical School.

20 Now, I'll wrap up here with just a few phrases
21 from the abstract of the report by the Union of
22 Concerned Scientists on gambling with coal. First
23 sentence, "New conventional coal plants are an
24 imprudent financial investment." A later sentence,
25 "Laws requiring coal plants to pay to emit carbon

1 dioxide will be adopted in the next few years
2 substantially raising the cost of coal power."

3 Later, "Utility managers and shareholders
4 should reconsider the financial risk to their
5 companies and customers. Regulators should prevent
6 utilities from making these major investment
7 mistakes by refusing to approve the construction of
8 new conventional coal plants and by requiring them
9 to invest in cleaner alternatives or at the very
10 least by warning utilities that CO2 costs must be
11 borne by their shareholders, not by ratepayers."

12 I think this is information you cannot ignore
13 in your position as decision-makers. Thank you.

14 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, Dr. Bellamy.

15 Commissioner Carter?

16 **COMMISSIONER CARTER:** Dr. Bellamy, good to see
17 you again. I don't know if you remember that I
18 worked on Carol's campaign. She was a fantastic
19 person. One of the best mayors in the history of
20 the City of Tallahassee. And it was a tremendous
21 loss. I see you still have the fire and look
22 forward to having all of your comments put into the
23 record. Good to see you again and thank you for
24 your service to this community.

25 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Seeing no questions, thank

1 you, Dr. Bellamy.

2 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Just for clarification,
3 Mr. Bellamy, did you intend to incorporate your
4 documents into the record or are your verbal
5 comments sufficient?

6 **DR. BELLAMY:** They're sufficient.

7 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Thank you.

8 Next speaker is John Dickert, followed by
9 Gale Dickert, Carole Taitt and Rick Breer.

10 JOHN DICKERT

11 was called as a witness and, having been duly sworn,
12 testified as follows:

13 DIRECT STATEMENT

14 **MR. DICKERT:** My name is John Dickert. I live
15 at 411 Plantation Road, Perry, Florida. Our home
16 is only about 3 miles from the proposed power plant
17 and the paper mill. Also we own 20 acres of
18 timberland which is within 500 feet of the proposed
19 site. We are opposed to the power plant.

20 Back in the 1960s, I received my master's
21 degree in mechanical engineering and my
22 professional license. Recently I completed a
23 course in clean energy technologies. The
24 information that you received from Mr. Richard
25 Furman is correct. The IGCC power plant is the

1 best available technology. It is more efficient
2 and 50 to 90 percent cleaner. As Mr. Furman
3 pointed out, IGCC power plants can provide lower
4 electric costs than pulverized coal plants.

5 Last week Florida's DEP advised the Governor
6 to implement a carbon emissions tax here in Florida
7 within three years if the federal government does
8 not implement one. Today, no one is capable of
9 saying what the cost of electricity from the Taylor
10 Energy Center will be when the carbon tax is
11 implemented. How can a need for a power plant be
12 determined if you don't know the cost?

13 In Taylor County, we do not need this power
14 plant because the citizens do not get any of the
15 power generated, just the pollution and a few jobs.

16 In Tallahassee, experts have advised the city
17 that they could serve more than 160 megawatts by an
18 efficiency and conservation program. And the city
19 has already implemented the program. Tallahassee
20 does not need this power plant and we do not need
21 it in our region.

22 We have a duplex apartment in Tallahassee, and
23 the tenants have complained about the cost of
24 electric utilities. As taxpayers, we do not want
25 to see Tallahassee get obligated for paying for a

1 huge power plant that they do not need.

2 The coalition of owners of the Taylor Energy
3 Center include cities from Jacksonville to Key
4 West. Have all of these cities implemented demand
5 side management programs like Tallahassee? It
6 seems reasonable that the Public Service Commission
7 ask for their reports on their conservation
8 programs.

9 The demand side should be addressed before
10 building another power plant. The real problem
11 with locating a power plant in Taylor County is the
12 paper mill. It emits too much pollution already.
13 My wife coughs all night when there is an inversion
14 and the wind blows smoke on us from the paper mill.

15 You don't need to add the pollution of a
16 coal-fired power plant on top of the pollution from
17 this paper mill. The combination of the two would
18 be more polluting than any one single coal-fired
19 power plant in the state of Florida. Please deny
20 the request. Thank you.

21 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, Mr. Dickert.

22 Questions? Thank you.

23 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Gale Dickert?

24 GALE DICKERT

25 was called as a witness and, having been duly sworn,

1 testified as follows:

2 DIRECT STATEMENT

3 **MS. DICKERT:** Commissioners, I thank you for
4 allowing us to speak today.

5 I live at 411 Plantation Road, Perry, Florida.
6 For the past 25 years, I have dedicated my life to
7 improving the lives of young people in our county,
8 developing programs like Boys and Girls Club that
9 target low income families. I have been a teacher
10 and I know what it's like to see the children with
11 impairments.

12 We will talk about the mercury this plant will
13 produce. It's important for you to know that the
14 Buckeye plant puts out more lead than any plant in
15 the state that impairs the neurological system.
16 And coupled with the mercury, it would be a
17 devastating problem and the other pollution. All
18 of it goes together. It's not one thing. It's a
19 lot of things that break the camel's back.

20 I have very deep concerns and I'm very
21 worried. We live in a paper mill town with many
22 problems related to pollution. We have a high rate
23 of cancer. The mill has been there 54 years. It
24 takes a long time to begin to see effects and we're
25 seeing them. Many in my neighborhood have cancer.

1 It has touched almost every single family. Some
2 very deeply.

3 Asthma is a serious problem with our children.
4 My grandchildren and my own children have had
5 asthma. I have asthma. And the other night when
6 we had a low ceiling, whenever you-all were
7 enjoying the nice rain that we need so much, when
8 it comes down on us and we're inundated with
9 sulfurous fumes that just -- it's every breath you
10 take.

11 So Saturday night, John and I -- Saturday
12 afternoon, John and I said we'll go to Tallahassee
13 and get out of the bad weather. And we'll -- the
14 bad smell, and we'll do something and we'll come
15 back. When we came back, it was even worse.

16 Now, we're very fortunate. John's father
17 40 something years ago built a tiny cottage down in
18 Steinhatchee. When we got home, I said it was so
19 bad, I said to John, we'll just throw our things in
20 the car and we'll go straight on down there and
21 spend the night.

22 As I went over that Fenholloway River, it was
23 just steaming with pollution. I thought about my
24 kids, our families, and there are so many. They
25 don't have any recourse. They can't leave. Some

1 who live close to the plant do not have air
2 conditioning.

3 It's unbelievable. It's every breath you
4 breathe when it's like that. You're breathing in
5 toxins that are affecting your body. I ask each
6 one of you up there today on that panel to please,
7 please get a list, Florida PURG has a list of the
8 effects of coal plant pollution and the same
9 pollutants are in the paper mill.

10 So when you have the two together, you are
11 literally doubling or tripling the pollutants. And
12 my husband is an engineer. He can tell you that
13 it's more than just two plants. When you put them
14 right together like that, there's a multiplier in
15 there, is the way John put it. There's a
16 multiplier in there, when it's coming from the same
17 direction.

18 And other companies that have wanted to come
19 in like Seminole a few years ago said they couldn't
20 put it in that quadrant of the county not only
21 because there's not enough water, but because it
22 wouldn't be the right thing to put two big plants
23 like that right together on the people, the effect
24 is too great.

25 Okay. The people are literally trapped in

1 pollution with no escape. The people in
2 Taylor County whenever it's bad. You don't smell
3 it as bad every day. And you get so -- when it's
4 just -- a lot of times you think you can't smell
5 it. But someone will visit you and they will say,
6 what is that terrible smell? It's sort of like
7 when you put lotion or perfume on and you get so
8 you can't smell it. Anyway, but it's there; it's
9 always there.

10 You can imagine my reaction when I learned
11 that our county commission had without informing
12 the public and with no public hearing one night
13 without it being on the agenda invited JEA to build
14 a coal plant next to the paper mill. And by the
15 time we had our next commission meeting, they had
16 already sent a written invitation. Now, is that
17 right?

18 And now we hear they want to put more than one
19 plant. They've admitted that. On 32 acres they
20 could put coal plants from now to kingdom come.
21 What do we do? Do we declare Taylor County a
22 wasted county? Are we expendable?

23 John and I could afford to move. You don't
24 really want to move. You have roots and you don't
25 want to move away from your home.

1 But the kids that I've worked with all of
2 those years, they don't have anywhere to go. When
3 we started working with them with the Boys and
4 Girls Club, they hadn't been to the beach. It's
5 18 miles away. A lot of them. They hadn't been
6 anywhere, a lot of them. And they won't go
7 anywhere. They'll stay there and they'll die in
8 it.

9 And we're faced now with looking at the
10 prospect of 50 to 60 years more of life-robbing
11 pollution. I know the Duval Medical Society has
12 taken a tough stand. And I know they want to come
13 to our area, because I don't think they'd let them
14 put a plant of this magnitude and this polluting,
15 additional one in Jacksonville.

16 And they talked about what good stewards they
17 are. I want you to know that their plants -- and I
18 know you know this, that their plants, their north
19 side and their power park plants over in
20 Jacksonville had the highest mercury emissions in
21 the state of Florida. And that was reported in
22 September 13th, '05 in the Times Union.

23 Also, they're having a problem now. They're
24 being sued because of the problems they had
25 20 years ago with the chemical spill that they

1 didn't take care of properly. And the people
2 should have been asked to move or something in the
3 neighborhood. And now they're dying of cancer.
4 And they came and testified in our county about
5 that. Teresa Maskell was the person who testified.
6 And so that's a serious problem.

7 We've packed the County commission chambers
8 all year. I haven't had a lot of time in the past
9 two years for my children's programs, hardly at
10 all, because I have learned everything I can about
11 power plants. I aim to protect our kids and our
12 families. That is important to me. I didn't spend
13 my life trying to protect them and help them have a
14 chance in life for nothing. Not for this. Not for
15 this.

16 When we -- our county commissioners who always
17 have been warm and wonderful to me and to the --
18 you can notice the people who are here, some of
19 them, like our social worker from the school, he
20 feels the same way I do. We haven't been treated
21 kindly.

22 You see, in a paper mill town, the paper mill
23 controls everything. And so whenever we've gone
24 and talked about our rights to clean air and water,
25 that we too have the right to breathe clean air in

1 Taylor County like you-all want to breathe clean
2 air, we were faced with icy stares and boredom
3 because they knew, they had already -- the powers
4 that be had told them you have to be for this
5 plant. We begged for a vote.

6 A couple of years before, they tried to bring
7 a missile range in. We begged for a vote then and
8 we got it. They knew not to give us a vote. We
9 voted 76 percent against the missile range. We
10 didn't get a vote. Although they got one in
11 Tallahassee.

12 The people of Taylor County, we haven't had a
13 choice. We don't have a choice. And for months on
14 end, JEA has conducted a heavy expensive -- you're
15 talking about expense. Expensive campaign of false
16 promises often using outrageous or wellion
17 (phonetic) type ads like this one. And I gave you
18 copies of these.

19 This one chose beautiful pine lands with one
20 of our little ponds. And it says, "Generating
21 solutions to help us all breathe better." Is that
22 acceptable, I ask you? Is that acceptable to fool
23 a population and to mislead people and to use -- to
24 use visual aids like this to fool them?

25 Or this one that says, "Generating career

1 opportunities that protect our way of life." When
2 you're bringing thousands more tons of pollutants a
3 year in, and to say your slogan, "Powering the
4 economy, protecting the environment," when you're
5 going to add thousands and millions of tons more
6 carbon but hundreds -- thousands more tons of
7 sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and particulate
8 matter, mercury to the environment.

9 They aren't telling the truth. Are they
10 telling the truth to you? We know they are not
11 telling the truth when they say it's the best
12 available technology. It's the cleanest. Because
13 Mr. Furman told you and we all know because we can
14 read and we can read, and it tell -- we've
15 researched it and we know that it's not the
16 cleanest and state-of-the-art and best available.
17 I believe this is immoral. It's immoral when it
18 has to do with hurting children and with hurting
19 people and hurting their health.

20 In this ad right here, they show a black
21 child. This one made me cry. We know that our
22 African-American people in this country are most at
23 risk of coal plant pollution and the illnesses and
24 the bad effects it causes. Bryant Gumbel did a
25 great show on that about the little town of

1 Cheshire, Ohio. This is not acceptable.

2 In their ads and their graphs they put in
3 Perry's papers and in this brochure, which I'll be
4 glad to leave with you, on all their graphs, they
5 do not put mercury showing emissions. They don't
6 put mercury and they don't put CO2 emissions. They
7 don't show them. That is not right.

8 A Tallahassee study shows that it doesn't have
9 to be this way. As a matter of fact, I believe
10 that Tallahassee study which I followed carefully
11 with the Big Bend Climate Action Team's report show
12 they could really get the power that they need
13 without this coal plant at all.

14 Our state has been called ground zero for
15 global warming. I plead -- I plead with you to
16 require those 28 other cities wanting power to do
17 an unbiased assessment of cleaner energy options
18 and to implement them just as Tallahassee has done.
19 You know, in California, they were able to save
20 5,000 megawatts to prevent the rolling brown-outs
21 whenever they just required all the people to put
22 in the compact fluorescent lights and to put in LED
23 streetlights, into exit signs and things like that.
24 Simple things. Simple things.

25 Those cities in this consortium who still

1 insist on pulverized coal should be willing to put
2 it in their cities, cities far away from us like
3 Key West and Marathon and Melbourne and places like
4 that. They're putting all their pollution on us
5 while they receive the power. Let them put the
6 pulverized plants in their own town.

7 Our 20 acres that John spoke about a minute
8 ago that sits within 500 feet of the proposed plant
9 site was a part of my past. It's a -- it was my
10 grandmother's -- it was part of my grandmother's
11 farm near the Fenholloway River. Almost right on
12 it. I swam in that Fenholloway River and we got
13 our drinking water from it. That was before
14 Buckeye. That was before 54 years ago.

15 Spending summers with her with no electricity,
16 no electricity, and no running water and depending
17 on a wood stove and oil lamps taught me lessons
18 everyone should learn about conservation. Living
19 in a clean environment that was not polluted until
20 I was 14 years old made me realize that clean air
21 and water is worth fighting for. Without it, we
22 all perish.

23 Will we be like the little town -- will be we
24 like that little town in Cheshire, Ohio where the
25 children and the towns people were so sickened by

1 the coal plant that the utility ended up buying out
2 the town for \$20 million? JEA's coal plant beside
3 the paper mill would equal a similar situation to
4 that in Cheshire. And when they add more and
5 more coal plants, the place will be uninhabitable.
6 It almost is now on many days, believe me. I live
7 with my inhaler beside me. Or will we be wiser?

8 Mr. Furman has told you the truth. I ask that
9 you deny the request of this coal consortium
10 please, and I thank you.

11 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, Mrs. Dickert.

12 Commissioner Littlefield.

13 **COMMISSIONER LITTLEFIELD:** Thank you, Madam
14 Chair.

15 Thank you for being here today. I've always
16 appreciated a passion and recognize it when I see
17 it.

18 **MS. DICKERT:** Thank you, sir.

19 **COMMISSIONER LITTLEFIELD:** I certainly
20 emphasize with you. Growing up in Pascagoula,
21 Mississippi, a paper mill there, Poage plant,
22 coupled with that a Puss-N-Boots cat food factory.
23 And certainly when the inversion came and the
24 ceiling got very low, it was -- you could cut it
25 almost with a knife. And I understand where you're

1 coming from with that.

2 But you made a statement that a lot of your
3 friends, families that you associate with, they
4 have been touched by cancer. Is there a high --
5 higher percentage of cancer victims where you live
6 there in Taylor County than there is in the rest of
7 Florida?

8 **MS. DICKERT:** We've been told by people in the
9 hospital that we have a very high rate of COPD and
10 lung cancer. There's a high rate of lung cancer
11 and COPD. People who worked for the -- that worked
12 on drives for the American Lung Association and
13 groups like that comment on it. And I know that
14 we -- we have a problem with the children with
15 asthma, more of a problem.

16 And, you know, I haven't done a study myself,
17 but they have -- they did -- we asked -- I went to
18 the Legislature last spring and -- the energy
19 commission in the meetings on energy in the Senate
20 and the House, and I asked them if they would do an
21 Ellen Brockovich type door-to-door health study
22 before siting a power plant in the state. I felt
23 that was critically important. That that's so
24 important to find out how many people are already
25 sick from present pollution. Because it's not like

1 they're going to put this power plant in a place
2 that isn't already terribly polluted.

3 And -- and Senator Margolis was very
4 interested. As a matter of fact, some DEP people
5 were there that morning. And she said, you know,
6 would you do an ambient air study for these people?
7 And I thought, you know, we really need a
8 door-to-door. We need a real -- a real
9 epidemiological study done by epidemiologists.
10 Something that's done by an impartial group, not
11 the power plant.

12 And they -- they have gotten the -- the JEA
13 group has asked -- somehow they got together with
14 the people with the development authority there in
15 Perry, so gung-ho over the power plant, and after I
16 went to the house and maybe they planned it before,
17 but they decided they would do something called a
18 health risk assessment. It's just ridiculous.

19 They don't consider the impact of Buckeye at
20 all, the paper mill at all in it. I don't know
21 what they consider. They just come up with some
22 pie in the sky thing, that they'll get some
23 statistics from the health department. And they --
24 I don't know what they do. But it's ridiculous.
25 It's not at all what I had in mind and it's not at

1 all what is needed.

2 If they put these plants in a place where it
3 was totally isolated, that might be one thing. But
4 this is right on top of our small population.
5 We're a very small town. There's 20,000 in the
6 county. 10,000 people in the town of Perry and the
7 city. We have 600 kids in our school who -- that's
8 an alarming number of children that are impaired --
9 considered impaired. And that was, that was
10 printed last -- that was in some publication, a
11 teacher had written that to the newspaper because
12 they were so alarmed. 600 children already that
13 are impaired.

14 So there needs to be a real study. There
15 needs to be a real study done. And I think that
16 the least they could do is to use the IGCC
17 technology which is so much cleaner. It's so much
18 cleaner with the sulfur. They admitted recently
19 that they're higher with the sulfur than the IGCC.

20 And they told us all during the year when we
21 asked way back months ago how much mercury that
22 would be emitted, and they said 30 -- 300 pounds a
23 year. And we went -- we attended JEA meetings that
24 were held in conjunction with the NRDC this year
25 and we brought that up again and again.

1 300 pounds? It would be 300 pounds? Yes, yes.
2 They concurred that was the amount.

3 Well, lately we're hearing it's this much
4 smaller amount. Well, they didn't change the
5 technology. I mean, why all of a sudden is it so
6 much less?

7 I don't know. I just worry about the
8 truthfulness of all of this. And I think that we
9 need to do a lot more thinking about this. I think
10 this isn't something you just do. You know, you
11 don't just go and put it in in Perry because Perry
12 is a place you can forget about and the people are
13 expendable.

14 And I thank you, sir, for mentioning that you
15 understand. Because it's so hard for people to
16 understand. I told John Saturday I wish I could
17 bottle some of this and take it with me on
18 Wednesday.

19 **COMMISSIONER LITTLEFIELD:** I'm glad you
20 didn't.

21 **MS. DICKERT:** One friend said if we only had a
22 scratch test and we could send it out. You know,
23 put sulfur dioxide on the scratch thing. And they
24 said, well, you can't put that through the mail.
25 So...

1 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Mrs. Dickert, thank you.

2 **MS. DICKERT:** Thank you.

3 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Mrs. Brubaker, we have two
4 documents that Mrs. Dickert shared with us. So we
5 need to mark those.

6 **MS. BRUBAKER:** That's correct. And it will be
7 No. 89 by my count.

8 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** 89, thank you.

9 (Exhibit No. 89 admitted into the record.)

10 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Next speaker is Carole Taitt.

11 CAROLE TAITT

12 was called as a witness and, having been duly sworn,
13 testified as follows:

14 DIRECT STATEMENT

15 **MS. TAITT:** Good afternoon. My name is
16 Carole Taitt, spelled T-A-I-T-T. I live in Perry,
17 Florida. And this hearing is not about the needs
18 of Taylor County but about the needs or the wants
19 of a corporation to make profits on electricity.

20 Projected needs for the growth of not the
21 state but specified targeted areas. The wants of
22 TEC, JEA are north Florida's waters, cheaper labor
23 and untaxed land at reasonable prices. The needs
24 of TEC were to put the rose colored glassed on the
25 TCDA and our county commissioners and convince them

1 that their wants were my county's needs.

2 Our county will not get any of this power.
3 Florida ranks third in the producing of fish and
4 other seafoods. When the oceans absorb carbon
5 dioxide, it reacts with seawater to form carbonic
6 acid. Ocean acidification, as this phenomenon is
7 called, over time will create major negative
8 impacts on corals and other marine life with
9 anticipated adverse consequences for fishing,
10 tourism and other related economies.

11 Aquiculture ranks in the top three moneymaker
12 producers in the counties of Franklin, Gulf and
13 Liberty which surround the -- up in the Gulf area.
14 Taylor County's top three crops are timber, cattle
15 and hay. And Leon County's top crops are timber,
16 vegetables, cattle and dairy.

17 Agriculture is an important national economic
18 engine. Last year Florida was fourth in the state
19 in net farm income. And in cash receipts, it was
20 ranked fifth, well above all national averages.

21 The economy of this area is founded on the
22 harvesting of pine, cattle, clams, oysters and
23 other fishing industries. The impact of
24 destruction on these industries for generations
25 have supplied food for families, restaurants, other

1 related businesses not only in Taylor County but
2 throughout the state and the country.

3 Economy is not based on the need for
4 electricity. It is based on the renewable sources
5 of an area. And once they are gone, the area is
6 dead. We are the first capital of the south and
7 sulfur dioxide or SO2 can damage pines, especially
8 in the growing season. And from what I've read,
9 there are impacts on the citrus crops throughout
10 the state also from some of these plants.

11 And according to -- according to an impact
12 study done by the North-Central Florida Regional
13 Planning Council for the Taylor County Development
14 Authority, the ratio of new residents and
15 unemployment will rise in the county after the
16 construction phase is over.

17 The plant may meet current emissions as they
18 state in your issue 6, but to have a must-start
19 date of 2012 implies to me that TEC wants the plant
20 up and operational before 2012 when new laws are
21 supposed to go into effect and affect their
22 production of electricity.

23 Economically unsound advice is to put all of
24 your eggs in one basket. And policy 2.3 of the TEC
25 amendment states, "Energy from coal-fired plants is

1 very profitable, but putting all the emphasis on
2 coal is a risky business."

3 In a PCS -- PSC report that I read stated that
4 by 2014 more gas-fired plants would be in use.
5 Supporting a coal-fired plant would be -- well,
6 supporting a coal-fired plant will be obsolete
7 before it sends its first surge of energy over the
8 wire.

9 I am not a proponent of IGCC, but because IGCC
10 needs to sequester its carbon and move it, mercury
11 will not go up the stacks. However, under our
12 area, Taylor County and along the coastal area,
13 there's only 100 feet of lime rock that the aquifer
14 runs through. And this is the thinnest layer of
15 rock bed in the state along our coasts. Along the
16 other coasts in south Florida, it is much, much
17 thicker. So if they wanted to sequester carbon, I
18 don't think they could. It would wind up in our
19 water.

20 Building more power plants does not make much
21 sense environmentally or economically. The 2005
22 Florida Statutes, Chapter 403, Part 1,
23 environmental control, Section 403.021, legislative
24 declaration, public policy 403.021(1)(1) states,
25 "The pollution of the air and waters of this state

1 constitutes a menace to public health and welfare,
2 creates public nuisances. It's harmful to wildlife
3 and fish and other aquatic life and impairs
4 domestic, agricultural, industrial, recreational
5 and other beneficial uses of air and water." And
6 all three sections of this statute repeatedly
7 enforced the need for clean air and water.

8 The national action plan for energy efficiency
9 dated July 2006 states, "Well-designed energy
10 efficiency programs can provide opportunities for
11 customers of all types to adopt energy saving
12 measures that can improve their comfort and level
13 of service while reducing their energy bills.
14 Well-designed energy efficiency programs are saving
15 energy at an average cost of about half of the
16 typical cost of a new plant."

17 Pepco Energy is supplying wind energy to the
18 National Geographic Society's office in Washington,
19 D.C. And as Christopher Lidell, the National
20 Geographic's executive vice president and chief
21 financial officer stated, "Thanks to energy saving
22 initiatives implemented since 2001, the society is
23 now using 2.7 million kilowatt hours less per year
24 than five years ago." Also using this wind power
25 is the EPA in Washington, Lady Liberty and the

1 Ellis Island museum.

2 As the late Edmond S. Musley said, "We impose
3 the cost of pollution on people who breathe so the
4 people who pollute can avoid the cost of control."
5 And he thinks that is backwards.

6 Thank you very much for your time.

7 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, Ms. Taitt.

8 Ms. Brubaker?

9 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Rick Breer.

10 RICK BREER

11 was called as a witness and, having been duly sworn,
12 testified as follows:

13 DIRECT STATEMENT

14 **MR. BREER:** Madam Chair, Commissioners, thank
15 you very much for the chance to speak.

16 Commissioners, the cancer rate, lung cancer
17 rate, in Taylor County is higher than the
18 surrounding -- than other -- than the state
19 average. But it's interesting, if you go look at
20 rural counties as a whole, whether they had a
21 Buckeye in their past or not, those rates are also
22 above the state average.

23 My name is Rick Breer. I am the director of
24 economic development in Taylor County. And so you
25 see I have a professional interest in TEC coming to

1 fruition. But I'm not here today as the -- as the
2 director of economic development.

3 You've heard a lot of environmental
4 information passed on to you today that is not
5 pertinent to this hearing. And my job as the
6 director economic development would be to share
7 with you the financial impact data that TEC would
8 bring to our county. That also is not pertinent to
9 the hearing here today. And so I'm here as a
10 private citizen. A very selfish private citizen.

11 My wife who is way too good looking to be with
12 me had -- is a long time heavy smoker. She has
13 done permanent damage to herself. She uses a
14 nebulizer at least a half a dozen times a day. She
15 uses an oxygen machine all night long. Both of
16 those are fired by electricity.

17 We have had during hurricane season up to five
18 or six days without electricity at our place. We,
19 like previous folks who gave testimony, are
20 fortunate enough to be in a position where we could
21 go solve the problem somewhere else and provide her
22 with the electricity she needed for -- to
23 facilitate her breathing.

24 So if -- if this plant being constructed
25 lessens the possibility of California like problems

1 here in Florida, then my wife and I are in favor.
2 Thank you.

3 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, sir.

4 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Before we call the next
5 speaker, just a quick question. We've received
6 transcribed -- basically transcriptions of the
7 comments provided by Mr. and Mrs. Dickert and also
8 Ms. Taitt. Are they still present in the room?

9 Just for clarification, did you also intend to
10 submit these into the record? Your comments are
11 part of the record. Do you also wish to have this
12 submitted as an exhibit?

13 Okay. Are the Dickerts also still present?
14 Is it also your intention, sir, to have this --
15 okay.

16 If we can then have the Dickerts' comments
17 identified as Exhibit 90 and Ms. Taitt's comments
18 identified as 91, please.

19 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** So marked.

20 (Exhibits No. 90 and 91 admitted into the
21 record.)

22 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Thank you. And with that, the
23 next speakers listed are Janet Monroe. Is
24 Lynn Reynolds present? She has signed up. She has
25 not indicated whether or not she wishes to speak.

1 You do wish to speak?

2 Okay. So it will be Janet Monroe,
3 Lynn Reynolds and then Doris -- excuse me if I
4 mispronounce this -- Kelynack?

5 **MS. KELYNACK:** Kelynack.

6 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Thank you.

7 JANET MONROE

8 was called as a witness and, having been duly sworn,
9 testified as follows:

10 DIRECT STATEMENT

11 **MS. MONROE:** Good afternoon. My name is
12 Janet Monroe. I'm a Taylor County resident. First
13 of all, I wanted to start off by bringing your
14 attention to five of the 25 specifics goals and
15 policies that are stated in our state comprehensive
16 plan. I'm just going to hit a little bit on the
17 five.

18 Health. The goal is listed as, "healthy
19 residents who protect their own health and the
20 health of others and who actively participate in
21 recovering their own health when they become ill."

22 Goal No. 2, "An environment which supports a
23 healthy population and which does not cause
24 illness. Every Florida resident has a right to
25 breathe clean air, drink pure water and eat

1 nutritious food." This goal is presently being
2 violated in Taylor County by the Buckeye pulp mill.

3 "Government shall ensure that future growth
4 does not cause the environment to adversely affect
5 the health of the population." Allowing Taylor
6 Energy Center will be doing just that.

7 We have talked to them regarding pulverized
8 versus gasification. And it seems to me that the
9 reason why they do not allow the gasification which
10 they have stated is because it costs too much money
11 to build that kind of a plant. And they were not
12 willing to offset that by charging more for
13 their -- to their customers. Well, I think that
14 our health and our livelihood and our children's
15 future and the future of the residents of
16 Taylor County is worth more than that.

17 Anyway, No. 10 for air quality. "Improve air
18 quality and maintenance" -- excuse me. "Improve
19 air quality and maintain the improved level to
20 safeguard human health and prevent damage to the
21 natural environment."

22 It also states, "Reduce sulfur dioxide and
23 nitrogen oxide emissions and their effects on the
24 natural and human environment." It also states,
25 "Encourage the use of alternative energy resources

1 that do not degrade air quality. Ensure at a
2 minimum that power plant fuel conversion does not
3 result in higher levels of pollution."

4 Regarding energy. "The gulf state Florida
5 shall reduce its energy requirements through
6 enhanced conservation and efficiency measures in
7 all end use sectors while at the same time
8 promoting an increased use of renewable energy
9 resources."

10 It also states, "Reduce the need for new power
11 plants by encouraging end use efficiency, reducing
12 peak demand and using cost-effective alternatives."
13 It states, "Promote the development and application
14 of solar energy technologies and passive solar
15 design techniques. Promote the use and development
16 of renewable energy resources."

17 Regarding employment. The goal states,
18 "Florida shall promote economic opportunities for
19 its unemployed and economically disadvantaged
20 residents."

21 Yes, Taylor County needs jobs. That is a
22 fact. But if you look at the industries that we
23 already have in Taylor County, three major
24 employers are either big polluters or very
25 dangerous. Buckeye pulpwood mill is just horrible.

1 And like Ms. Gale was saying, there are times where
2 you cannot breathe. The stench is just
3 unbelievable.

4 And then to add on top of that, the
5 smokestacks that are going to come from this
6 coal-burning power plant on top of the pollution
7 that we already have, it's just unthinkable. It
8 just blows my mind to think that people are
9 actually wanting this in the county, some people.
10 The ones that are going to profit from it. But the
11 residents are not going to profit anything. We are
12 going to get the pollution, the health risks, the
13 illnesses.

14 Martin Electronics employs a lot of people out
15 there. That's a bomb plant. And we also have
16 three -- three Florida State prisons. I work at
17 one of them. These are all dangerous. They all
18 have effects on your health. We don't need another
19 major health effect employer.

20 No. 25, plan implementation. The goal states,
21 "Systematic planning capabilities shall be
22 integrated into all levels of government in Florida
23 with particular emphasis on improving
24 intergovernmental coordination and maximizing
25 citizen involvement; encourage citizen

1 participation at all levels of policy development,
2 planning and operations; to encourage the continual
3 cooperation among communities which have a unique
4 natural area respective of political boundaries to
5 bring the private and public sectors together for
6 establishing an orderly, environmentally and
7 economically sound plan for future needs and
8 growth."

9 In conclusion, according to the Florida State
10 comprehensive plan, allowing JEA to build this
11 pulverized coal-burning power plant would result in
12 direct violation of our state comprehensive plan.

13 Thank you.

14 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, Ms. Monroe,
15 appreciate your comments.

16 Ms. Brubaker?

17 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Do we have written comments
18 from Ms. Monroe?

19 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** I don't think so.

20 **MS. BRUBAKER:** That's all right. It's in the
21 record. I want to make sure I don't miss anybody.

22 Lynn Reynolds is the next speaker. Just to
23 help keep us straight, if someone does wish to
24 submit comments, please make sure that's clear
25 before you leave the stand. I'd appreciate it.

1 Thank you.

2 LYNN REYNOLDS

3 was called as a witness and, having been duly sworn,
4 testified as follows:

5 DIRECT STATEMENT

6 **MS. REYNOLDS:** I do have some comments that I
7 will give to you.

8 My name is Lynn Reynolds. I am a resident of
9 Taylor County as well as an educator in
10 Taylor County. And I appreciate the opportunity to
11 speak to you because I can see that you are
12 listening and I appreciate that very much.

13 I am asking you to wait on a decision to
14 approve the need for the building of a 800 megawatt
15 pulverized coal plant in Taylor County. That's one
16 of the biggest ones there is. Please give your
17 decision time to evaluate conservation and
18 efficiency savings in each community to be served.
19 Please look at demand side management of each
20 utility applicant.

21 In addition, I'm asking you to compare the
22 cost of developing and using clean renewable energy
23 sources that are in line with the state
24 comprehensive plan for health. Compared to that of
25 using old polluting resources that degrade the

1 quality of air and water resources.

2 I'm here today to say that I don't think
3 there's a need for the power plant to come to
4 Taylor County. And I am going to present a
5 statistical brief found from our own Florida
6 Department of Education. And the date is
7 January 2007. It's a statistical brief which shows
8 the membership in Florida's public schools. And it
9 states that Florida's pre-K to 12 student
10 membership is showing a statewide decline for the
11 first time in more than two decades. And that
12 suggests that the population growth patterns in
13 Florida are changing.

14 I was given a list of the 29 communities
15 served by the Florida Municipal Power Agency, many
16 of them, probably half, have shown a decrease in
17 enrollment. Fewer students can mean fewer families
18 and schools as customers needing power.

19 Examples are Duval County, where Jacksonville
20 Beach is, down by 1,364 students. Monroe County,
21 which includes Key West, down by 212. Miami-Dade
22 County, which includes Homestead, is down by 8,250
23 students. Alachua County, which includes
24 Gainesville and Newberry, is down 108 students.
25 Bradford County, which includes Stark, is down

1 96 students. Palm Beach County, which includes
2 Lake Worth, is down 3,482 students. Calhoun
3 County, which includes Blountstown, is down
4 47 students. Other significant areas to be served
5 are Seminole County, which is down 1,124 students
6 and Orange County is down 152 students.

7 I'm also presenting articles that were written
8 by Orlando Sentinel. This is dated December 22nd.
9 This is after a Florida census report was given.
10 Headline, Florida growth goes from wild to mild.
11 Population experts point to economic factors that
12 are cooling the Sunshine State's appeal.

13 I also have an article from the Tampa Tribune.
14 They all relate that the boom for the Sunshine
15 State has slowed. In the Tampa Tribune it is
16 written that school officials projected 2.7 million
17 students but were short more than 48,000. It said
18 that most counties saw enrollment growth stop.

19 Demographers such as William Frye from the
20 Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. and other
21 experts have theorized that because of the property
22 prices increasing in Florida, the price of homes
23 and cost of premium insurance is getting too
24 expensive for families with children.

25 It is also written in these reports that

1 Florida has slipped from fourth to ninth on the
2 list of fast growing states. So I think we're
3 starting to see a change.

4 Finally, as a teacher and educator, I'm asking
5 you to evaluate the inevitable cost to the schools
6 in Taylor County. Increased emissions and air
7 pollution will bring an increase of student
8 absenteeism because of asthma attacks. And this
9 affects me greatly. I have about five in my
10 classroom who have severe asthma.

11 Please remember that as students miss school
12 due to illness, parents miss work also. That
13 creates an additional hardship on the community.
14 Like the snowball effect, where one thing leads to
15 another, the whole education system will be at
16 risk. Teachers will become overburdened with
17 trying to help students to make up missed work and
18 to meet the state standards for excellent schools.

19 Some of the children may develop neurological
20 disorders and special needs because of increased
21 levels of mercury produced by pulverized coal
22 plants. The county school system will then be
23 burdened with trying to meet their special needs
24 and to meet the state standards for education.

25 My question is: Who is prepared to pay for

1 the increased cost to the school system and
2 prepared -- is Taylor County -- or Taylor Energy
3 Center going to pass the extra cost onto their
4 customers, or will the taxpayers, and I'm one of
5 them, be asked to pick up the tab? I appreciate
6 your listening.

7 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, Ms. Reynolds. And
8 you do have some documents that you want to give to
9 our staff?

10 **MS. REYNOLDS:** Yes, I do.

11 **MS. BRUBAKER:** And that will be item 92. If I
12 may before the next speaker comes up, we have
13 received subsequent to her testimony some
14 additional documents for Ms. Gale Dickert that was
15 Item 9. It was the brochure that she had held up
16 and demonstrated, and also just a written summary
17 of comments. Unless there's an objection from the
18 parties, I would ask that that also be included as
19 part of exhibit identified as No. 89.

20 (Exhibit No. 92 admitted into the record.)

21 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Yes. That works for you,
22 that works for me.

23 **MS. BRUBAKER:** We have also received comments
24 from a Ms. Catherine Byne who apparently in lieu of
25 speaking would prefer to submit comments as an

1 exhibit. We have copies. We're happy to provide
2 them to the parties. But if it's acceptable to the
3 parties, we'd simply like to have that identified
4 as an exhibit also. If that is acceptable, it will
5 be Exhibit No. 93.

6 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** I'm seeing no objection. We
7 will mark that as Exhibit 93.

8 (Exhibit No. 93 admitted into the record.)

9 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Thank you. I'll see that that
10 gets distributed to the parties. Thank you.

11 With that, the next speaker is Doris Kelynack.

12 **MS. KELYNACK:** Kelynack.

13 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Thank you. My apologies.

14 DORIS KELYNACK

15 was called as a witness and, having been duly sworn,
16 testified as follows:

17 DIRECT STATEMENT

18 **MS. KELYNACK:** The Y is an I. Had an English
19 husband and he wouldn't let anybody call us
20 Kelynack. I look like I've been run over by a coal
21 train, but I'm legally blind. I usually have my
22 sister to help me. Let me see if I can see what
23 I've written here.

24 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Ma'am, before you start, can
25 you spell your name for us, please.

1 **MS. KELYNACK:** K-E-L-Y-N-A-C-K. And as a
2 child when they taught the vowels, the teacher used
3 to say A, E, I, O, U and sometimes Y, I thought
4 that's stupid. And when I got to be -- after my
5 first husband died and I married the Englishman, I
6 found out why.

7 Anyway, I've -- this is usually my nap time.
8 My name is Doris Kelynack. I have lived or been a
9 resident of Perry for 85 years. Sunday, my
10 preacher saw me at church and he said, how are you
11 today? I said, don't ask an 85-year-old woman how
12 she is because I might have told him I felt like
13 hell.

14 Okay. Enough fun. I'm a Depression child,
15 lived in the '30s when we were taught early not to
16 want for something we didn't need, and
17 Taylor County doesn't need the coal plant.
18 Everybody has told you that, except the ones here
19 on the other side.

20 And the reason we have so many elderly today,
21 the others, the men, have connections with Buckeye
22 or they're in business and they want to make more
23 money, so they're leaving it to the women just like
24 the speaker of the house. Every time I go to
25 Hardee's, we get kidded about the woman speaker.

1 Well, they better look out. They might have a
2 woman president.

3 Anyway, women, old women like a lot of us
4 here, are concerned about the poor in
5 Taylor County. They don't know what's going on.
6 The elderly know, but some aren't able to get out
7 like me, but we're hard headed. And then there are
8 the children. I taught school for 37 years and I
9 loved every day of it. I've seen all kinds of
10 problems, but we don't need any more from that word
11 we've heard too many times, "pollution."

12 Okay. Okay. I read the article in
13 yesterday's Democrat. That's the first thing I do
14 in the morning, look to see if I'm in the
15 obituaries. If I'm not, then I do the next thing
16 you told me about, I start doing my breathing
17 exercises to see if I can still do that.

18 But anyway, being a child of the Depression,
19 we learned early when you leave a room, if you're
20 not going back in it in a few minutes, you turn the
21 light off. And I did that forever. And in recent
22 years, my grandchildren have taught me there's
23 plenty of it. Leave them on. Leave them on all
24 day. You've got money to pay for it.

25 But I think when I read your article about do

1 we need a coal plant and you mentioned
2 conservation, that's the first thing that ought to
3 come before we are where we are now. And it might
4 take two or three years before we really got into
5 it. And then I thought in the middle of the night,
6 no, the energy people wouldn't like that. If we
7 started an addition to the FCAT curriculum about
8 our shortage and need for electricity, and it's not
9 about money, it's about saving the earth. Okay.
10 Won't say any more there. We do need a lot more
11 talk about conservation. This -- as I've got my
12 speech written here, but I don't like it. A lot it
13 has been said.

14 When someone asked about the cancer rate, I
15 have a firsthand account of cancer in
16 Taylor County. In 1975, my precious World War II
17 husband, a Yankee -- incidentally I've done my part
18 for culture. I married a Yankee and brought him to
19 Perry County and then I married an Englishman and
20 brought him. That's all I'm doing.

21 Anyway, John woke up one morning and was
22 sitting on the side of the bed. I ran around to
23 that side. He had like an electric current coming
24 from his shoulder all the way down to his right
25 hand, it was. And in a few minutes, it stopped.

1 And I thought, well, has he had a stroke? So we
2 called Dr. Parker, met him at the hospital. And he
3 came out after he examined him and said it's not a
4 stroke. I said, well, what could it be? He said,
5 it could be brain cancer or a brain tumor. And
6 sent us to Tallahassee. And we spent two weeks
7 here for them to find out what was wrong.

8 And years later, I met Dr. Slade who was our
9 doctor. And he said I have never seen a strong man
10 so weak. And when I found out he was from
11 Taylor County, he said I have a lot of patients
12 down there who have brain cancer. Well, take it
13 for what it's worth. We don't know because we
14 haven't had any checking on all of that.

15 Let's see. Now, what else was I going to tell
16 you good people?

17 Affordability. I have just heard that
18 Tallahassee politicians will probably increase the
19 tax structure when they go with JEA and the carbon
20 tax comes in. Well, my sister and I have two
21 pieces of rental property we bought in the '30s
22 knowing that our teacher pension wouldn't provide
23 us with the kind of lifestyle we wanted.

24 **MS. PERKINS:** It wasn't in the '30s. The
25 '80s.

1 **MS. KELYNACK:** It was in the '80s. She keeps
2 me straight. You can see I'm losing it a little
3 bit. Anyway, we've had it 30 years and stays
4 rented. It's in a good location. And the taxes
5 keep going up. And I tell her, I said, we'd be
6 better to have our money in a CD.

7 But anyway, we are concerned about the rates
8 of electricity not going up too much because we've
9 made such a big deal about it being cheap when they
10 get into all of this. I can't understand how you
11 can figure out coal is cheaper than oil. I can
12 listen to my television, and I listen to the
13 business station, and for the last few months, it
14 seems like that oil is cheaper than coal. And I
15 know train stock. Because after I heard we were
16 going to get into this, I thought I'd buy me some.
17 And I know that train stock has gone up. So I
18 don't know how you figure the cost of things when
19 it's so cyclical. But maybe the ones smarter than
20 I am can figure that out.

21 Okay. I wrote notes while everybody was
22 talking this morning, but I suppose that's about
23 it. Appreciate you letting us come. I came to the
24 city commission and they didn't pay us too much
25 attention. They seemed to -- the majority seemed

1 to know all the right answers.

2 I am concerned about the democracy we find
3 ourselves living in. We know that all citizens
4 ought to be listened to and have a chance to know
5 what's going on. When you don't know until after
6 it happens and then everybody falls in with the
7 leaders and they begin to find out, that's not the
8 way it ought to be. It's almost too late to do
9 anything about it. We see this at the federal
10 level and of course at our local level. But
11 anyway, that's the way it is. And we'll have to
12 learn to live with it.

13 I do know one other thing I was going to tell
14 and I debated all night about whether to say it or
15 not. But we know special interest. And our
16 politicians have been involved in this. One of the
17 girls in our Sunday school class said her mother
18 always told her, if you mess with the devil, you
19 know who is going to win? The devil. Sometimes he
20 wins to teach the rest of us a lesson. And I'm not
21 going to tell you who I think the devil might be.

22 And my personal opinion is that this thing has
23 gone so far unless this commission sitting here,
24 unless you're brave souls and go against what's
25 coming to you like a freight train or a coal train,

1 we might have to pay for it later. Thank you.

2 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you.

3 Commissioner Carter?

4 **COMMISSIONER CARTER:** Ms. Kelynack, will you
5 sit for a moment, please?

6 **MS. KELYNACK:** Yes, yes.

7 **COMMISSIONER CARTER:** I mean, it would be a
8 shame for you to come all the way here at a
9 youthful 85 and we not say hello to you. I don't
10 think you're losing it at all. I think that you
11 are a refreshing breath of fresh air.

12 **MS. KELYNACK:** You're a sweet boy.

13 **COMMISSIONER CARTER:** I think you pretty much
14 covered the perspective about whether or not we
15 need the plant or not. I think that's a
16 perspective. I think you had a lot to say. We
17 thank for doing your bit to bring a Yankee down
18 here with us and then also repairing that thing we
19 had with the tea party a few years ago with
20 England.

21 **MS. KELYNACK:** I used to tell him when we'd go
22 anywhere, everybody would flock to him. And I
23 said, lord, they think you're an Englishman and I'm
24 telling them you're just putting on an act.

25 **COMMISSIONER CARTER:** Thank you so kindly.

1 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, ma'am.

2 **MS. BRUBAKER:** We do have some comments from
3 Ms. Kelynack. They should be identified as Item
4 No. 94 in our list.

5 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Yes.

6 (Exhibit No. 94 admitted into the record.)

7 **MS. BRUBAKER:** And the next speaker will be
8 Polly Perkins. Ms. Perkins is to be followed by
9 Betty Johnson.

10 **MS. KELYNACK:** That's my baby sister.

11 **MS. BRUBAKER:** To be followed by
12 Betty Johnson, Diane Whitfield and Pam McVety.

13 POLLY PERKINS

14 was called as a witness and, having been duly sworn,
15 testified as follows:

16 DIRECT STATEMENT

17 **MS. PERKINS:** I don't have a lot to add. I'm
18 Polly Perkins, and I've lived in Perry for
19 82-and-a-half years. And I'm a retired school
20 teacher. And my sister and I share many things.
21 And I think she has said all that I need to say.

22 One thing I do want to mention is the
23 railroad. Crop -- the track crosses the main
24 street in Perry. Jefferson Street goes right in
25 front of the courthouse. And that's where the

1 train will cross about three blocks from the
2 courthouse unless they spend I don't know how much
3 money to move it somewhere else or do an overpass.
4 And I think that overpass would certainly be a bad
5 mistake.

6 Anyway, we have no power. All we have to do
7 is let people know that we don't want it. And
8 thank you for listening.

9 And I want to compliment you for being so
10 patient with all of us who have lots to say. We
11 used to have meetings -- well, the meetings we've
12 been to in Perry, the county commissioners had a
13 red, gold, green light. And sometimes I don't
14 think the person talking could even see the light.
15 But one rude county commissioner said, "Your time
16 is up." Wouldn't even let him finish the sentence.
17 I appreciate your patience and thank you so much.

18 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, Ms. Perkins.
19 Thank you for coming to speak to us today.

20 Ms. Brubaker?

21 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Betty Johnson, please.

22 BETTY JOHNSON

23 was called as a witness and, having been duly sworn,
24 testified as follows:

25 DIRECT STATEMENT

1 **MS. JOHNSON:** Thank you so much for allowing
2 so many wonderful people to come before you today.
3 I am Betty Johnson. I'm a resident, long life,
4 from Madison County. And my heart has gone out to
5 these people from Taylor County.

6 I think it was you, Commissioner Carter, who
7 said a community shares a community. Well, that's
8 what we became involved in, being from Madison
9 County to Taylor, and our hearts have gone out to
10 these folks.

11 In fact, I have submitted to you some record
12 evidence of special requests that I made to the
13 Florida attorney general and also to Jack Shreve,
14 senior general counsel. This request that I made
15 was also to Charlie Christ and also to Mr. Bill
16 McCollum.

17 I took a special interest in looking for what
18 was best to the citizens of the state of Florida
19 with regards to the proposed coal plant development
20 in Taylor County. And I thought about it a long,
21 long time. And I said, you know, it's really time
22 that the citizens of the state of Florida was
23 represented. And by that, I mean you will find in
24 my record that I have detailed pertinent facts
25 about this issue. They have been confirmed to me

1 by Mr. Jack Shreve, they are correct.

2 But he felt that I was so smart that I should
3 come down here and maybe represent this issue
4 myself. So please take a special interest in my
5 record that I submitted before you today. There
6 are some pertinent facts in here that you need to
7 be aware of.

8 Most of all, in the discussions that I've had
9 with these public officials is we all realize this
10 is a very serious decision that we need to make and
11 is it justified? Frankly, I ask that it simply be
12 denied because I find no justification at all.

13 The power is not needed in Taylor County and
14 is not needed in the regional area of any adjacent
15 county that is so severely impacted by the
16 pollution. And I don't know how many of you know
17 the geographic region that I'm talking about. But
18 Madison County, like most, and north-central
19 Florida, is a very beautiful rural community. And
20 we all know each other and we take great pride in
21 how much money the state has expended for
22 conservation of land and water resources along the
23 beautiful Suwannee River and all other tributaries
24 to that. You know, we've been blessed.

25 And for a coal plant to come in and totally

1 destroy our community, our environment is
2 unforgiving. So today I've asked simply that this
3 commission deny a need determination for
4 Taylor County Energy Center.

5 I will -- and I have listened today at other
6 testimony, I've taken some notes and I'll try to
7 briefly answer some of those concerns I have with
8 that testimony. I won't take up too much time. I
9 know we've been here for a long time today. And I
10 know you've been very patient and we appreciate --
11 we appreciate that, because we understand how
12 important this issue is and what it means to all of
13 us.

14 But in simple terms with my request to the
15 attorney general's and those up there with regards
16 to the citizens, I want you to know it's the
17 citizens of the state of Florida who are the
18 customers. We're for all state owned and leased
19 facilities. And I have spoken many, many times
20 with various public officials in the office of
21 energy here with DEP. We are diligently working to
22 seek alternative energy in Florida. And they
23 understand when I say no, we have to stop. We have
24 to cease the new development of coal-fired power
25 plants for Florida to do its share to stop our

1 global warming. And so they understand.

2 And believe you me, they have worked very,
3 very hard. They worked hard with the Legislature
4 last year. They're back in there again this year.
5 And folks, we need for you to understand there's
6 not a genuine need nor benefit for this coal plant
7 to be developed in north-central Florida. We are
8 sincere about that. There's no justification for
9 this to ever occur.

10 But in their site that they selected, please
11 allow me to expand just for a few moments on that.
12 You know, when we first heard about a utility
13 coming to north-central Florida regional area, we
14 heard they were out dealing with our development
15 authority and that they were looking for a site in
16 three counties. We heard Terrell, heard Madison,
17 and we heard Hamilton.

18 And then after a short time, we found out that
19 the site had been selected down in Taylor County
20 and it was 2,800 acres initially, and then it went
21 from there to I heard 3,200 acres. And I thought,
22 well, what's really behind this? Why was this site
23 selected? Because I know there's not a genuine
24 need. I know there's not a benefit. None of these
25 residents who were so impacted will get one ounce

1 of energy from that plant. Not one ounce.

2 So I asked that question of myself. And I
3 researched as much as I could find on why this site
4 was selected in Taylor County. And I came to one
5 conclusion. It seems that back around 1999 and
6 2000 and in 2001, in that frame of time, it seems
7 that there was discussion at the federal level
8 about regional transmission grids.

9 And it seems that C Trans had obtained an
10 order from the Federal Energy Regulatory
11 Commission. And those involved, the two bigger
12 utilities, was Southern Company and also Entergy
13 out of Louisiana. Involved in that was JEA, City
14 of Tallahassee, and as I recall, I believe FMPA.

15 And so I began to wonder why was this site
16 chosen in Taylor County when there was no genuine
17 need nor benefit. And there's only one substantial
18 reason as I can come to any conclusion, possibly in
19 the future we're going to be seeing C Trans. I
20 don't know of any other reason why that site would
21 have been chosen to serve the customers as I have
22 noted to you in my document elsewhere.

23 It's scary to think they could obtain an
24 application from you at the state level and then
25 create their regional transmission organization and

1 that the Public Service Commission after that fact
2 would have no control over what goes on. So I'm
3 going to leave that thought with you.

4 And I hope that you-all will be serious about
5 maybe pursuing that avenue a little bit more.
6 Because, I mean, if it ever got permitted without a
7 need or a benefit by you, then I'm going to caution
8 you and tell you that could possibly happen. And
9 as I remember from the federal studies that were
10 done on the three Florida grids, it was only C
11 Trans that would make a profit. I want to leave
12 that thought with you.

13 Also you've heard from an awful lot of local
14 residents from Taylor County talk about their local
15 public officials. Well, when there's money
16 dangling in somebody's face, it usually makes a
17 different opinion a lot of times. And I just want
18 you to know that there is a Website that anybody
19 can access to obtain any information about the coal
20 plant from the utility partners.

21 And if you'll go there, you will find that
22 there is \$179 million to Taylor County. Now,
23 who -- who bears this cost? Will it be the
24 citizens of the state of Florida?

25 The impacts of the railroad, maybe I was the

1 Godchild of that. Let me tell you, Madison County
2 is going to be severely impacted. Madison County
3 has two existing rail lines, one of which runs
4 through the heart and core of every municipality in
5 Madison County. And we've talked about that a
6 great deal with our commission, both the city and
7 the county.

8 And so we know that if a permit is approved,
9 what we're going to be dealing with. And Madison
10 County right now is in the process of looking for a
11 new site for our new hospital. This is going to be
12 one of the issues that we are going to be looking
13 at, because Madison County only has one overpass or
14 bypass that goes over the rail line. So that's
15 going to be a crucial issue to us in choosing a
16 site that's suitable to meet our needs and any
17 emergency response that we may have and that would
18 apply in any other community. This should be part
19 of our planning on those issues.

20 DCA and I have touched base on that. They
21 understand the position that we're in. And if we
22 have to seek for federal money to bypass, in our
23 emergency situation, we're talking more dollars on
24 top of this particular development. But in my
25 opinion, you cannot separate out those two. When

1 you're talking about the impacts of the railroad
2 transportation issue for the coal shipments that
3 are necessary to this proposed power plant, you
4 cannot separate those two issues. It's all one
5 development any way you look at. You just don't
6 often realize all of the impacts that are
7 associated with that in that site that was
8 selected.

9 Finally, in closing, let me mention to you
10 briefly. I did review the case before you
11 recently, and I found record evidence of a public
12 notice that was published in the TACO newspaper in
13 Taylor County for this particular hearing today
14 before you.

15 I want the Commission to know that there has
16 been no other public notice to any adjacent county
17 with regard to any portion of this project. None.
18 But because I got so attached, I guess, to those
19 residents and my heart poured out to them, I took a
20 special interest as a resident from Madison County.
21 So I pretty well tried to stay abreast of
22 everything we need to know to deal with what's
23 coming for all of us regionally.

24 There's no way to separate. This is a
25 regional development that is certainly going to

1 impact many, many counties and municipalities. We
2 know that you understand that. We appreciate very
3 much your concern.

4 One other thing. Madison County long ago
5 learned a very valuable lesson. We promote only
6 clean industry in Madison County when someone comes
7 and makes an application to locate to Madison
8 County. I don't know how many of you remember a
9 few years back something called Waste Tech. It was
10 a regional hazardous waste incinerator that was to
11 locate in Madison County. It was to be there for
12 only 25 years. And after that, the problem was
13 Madison County and the state of Florida. We
14 learned a very valuable lesson. We spent four
15 years of our lives fighting with the state of
16 Florida's Waste Tech. I can't throw enough red
17 flags out there to others in other counties to
18 promote only clean industry. But believe you me,
19 we have to work hard at it every day to keep the
20 unclean out.

21 Finally, I will mention something also that I
22 saw recently in my research off of the NASA
23 Website. To my amazement, when I looked at what
24 appeared of record on that site, there were
25 pictures that showed prevailing winds off the coast

1 of Taylor County. And it talked about low
2 prevailing winds in an eastward direction. And
3 then it talked about high prevailing winds that
4 would prevail out over the coastline into the Gulf
5 of Mexico.

6 Can you imagine what is going to occur with so
7 much mercury? Do I need to remind you folks that
8 we have a public interest in the Big Bend sea grass
9 aquatic preserve as well as all of our public land
10 along the Suwannee River?

11 And finally I'd like to tell you that there
12 are more Florida freshwater springs found along
13 that Suwannee River than anywhere else in the
14 world, all contaminated when it's senseless and
15 useless to do it. So I urge you folks to deny the
16 need determination today for the Taylor Energy
17 Center and its participating utilities. Thank you.

18 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you. Mrs. Johnson, I'd
19 like to ask you, if you could a moment, a very
20 quick question. The document you've given us which
21 we will need to number in a moment, at the bottom
22 of page 3, I see that you've requested legal
23 representation on behalf of the citizens of Florida
24 in this proceeding and probably in other
25 proceedings --

1 **MS. JOHNSON:** Yes, ma'am.

2 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** -- related to this same
3 proposal and application and that it was copied to
4 the Office of Public Counsel. Did you receive a
5 response to that request?

6 **MS. JOHNSON:** They preferred -- really and
7 truly, I did not get a response back from
8 Joe Jaquat with Bill McCollum. And the reason was
9 they have just gone through the transition. We
10 were in a bad time trying to seek some legal
11 representation for this particular case. You know,
12 we just kind of left it at that. We ran out of
13 time, you know.

14 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** There is a transition going
15 on.

16 **MS. JOHNSON:** I know.

17 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** But I do know at the very
18 bottom of page 4, you do have it copied to
19 Mr. Harold McLean with the Office of Public
20 Counsel. The Office of Public Counsel is part of
21 the Legislature. So that office would not be as
22 directly impacted by the transitioning in the
23 executive branch and they are charged with
24 representing consumers.

25 **MS. JOHNSON:** Right. But I had raised an

1 issue on it, if I could, Chairman, before -- prior
2 to that with our legislative delegation which was
3 Lawson, Kendricks and Argenziano for our area, and
4 I flat told them, you folks listen to me closely.
5 We've got a coal plant proposed in Taylor County
6 and I want you guys to know, we have a -- you have
7 a dog in this fight too when it comes to the state
8 protecting our public interest. And so they know
9 where I'm coming from. You know, they have a
10 responsibility to protect our public interest. So
11 they knew where I was coming from when I made those
12 statements, you know?

13 One thing I did fail to make mention of is
14 that in 2005 when I heard about this, I did address
15 that in a town hall meeting, this coal plant issue,
16 with U.S. Senator Bill Nelson and respectively
17 requested suspension of all federal money for this
18 project because there was no genuine need nor
19 benefit existing to develop this project in Taylor
20 County.

21 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you.

22 **MS. JOHNSON:** Questions or maybe comments?

23 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** We need to go ahead and mark
24 the documents.

25 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Actually we have received

1 comments from Ms. Perkins who testified before
2 Ms. Johnson. If we can have that item marked as
3 Exhibit No. 95. And if we could mark Ms. Johnson's
4 comments as Exhibit 96, please.

5 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Okay. So marked.

6 (Exhibits No. 95 and 96 admitted into the
7 record.)

8 **MS. BRUBAKER:** Thank you.

9 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, Ms. Johnson.

10 **MR. JOHNSON:** Thank you so much.

11 **MS. BRUBAKER:** The next speaker is
12 Diane Whitfield, please.

13 **DIANE WHITFIELD**

14 was called as a witness and, having been duly sworn,
15 testified as follows:

16 **DIRECT STATEMENT**

17 **MS. WHITFIELD:** Hello commissioners, my name
18 is Diane Whitfield. I live at 6740-A Whitfield
19 Lane in Taylor County, ten miles southwest from the
20 center of Perry on 89 acres. I've been interested
21 in the coal plant results for a long time. But
22 when I heard in early '05 that they were
23 considering siting the plant on the west -- on the
24 acreage to the west of our west fence, I became
25 very interested. Because, you know, just like the

1 Tallahassee city commission didn't want a coal
2 plant in their backyard, I didn't want it next to
3 my west fence in sight of my property either. I
4 understand Madison County didn't want it in their
5 backyard and Wakulla County took steps not to have
6 it in their backyard.

7 I welcome the opportunity to speak before you
8 today. I know that you have knowledge and training
9 in economics, and that therefore the decisions you
10 make guarantee a consideration of relevant economic
11 theory. It must be daunting to some members of the
12 public to speak in front of an audience of all of
13 these suits and business people and the legal staff
14 because that's not typically who some of us hang
15 out with.

16 But I'm convinced that the public does
17 represent citizens with extensive training and
18 experience in the area of cost external to the
19 calculations that the four applicants are
20 presenting. I know that direct costs of mining
21 coal, transporting coal, building power plants and
22 transmission lines are obvious costs and are paid
23 by the producers and the consumers of the energy.

24 Just as valid are the indirect costs of
25 diminished health due to air pollution from coal

1 plant, burning coal, cost of damage to land and
2 lungs from mining coal, cost of damage to forests
3 and the cost to our future quality of life as the
4 atmosphere is altered. I learned there's a name
5 for these kinds of costs, and I've heard it today.

6 I've been a social worker all my life, not an
7 economist, so I didn't know there was such a thing
8 as externalities. But I studied up on that early
9 this morning when I woke up to get ready for today.
10 That's why I'm as tired as I can be. I wonder if
11 everybody else here is exhausted. Five o'clock was
12 too early to get up and learn about externalities.

13 At any rate, I feel like an expert on negative
14 externalities of a different sort having spent
15 34 years as a trained social worker in rural
16 Taylor County. I've witnessed and attempted to
17 resolve the results of public policy that were
18 negative externalities. I'm here today to
19 encourage you to consider those as equally valid
20 and more global, no pun intended there, than the
21 issues listed on the material I received about
22 today's proceedings.

23 As a resident of the community in which this
24 plant desires to be sited, I wanted to intervene in
25 the proceedings but was not allowed to; however, I

1 was invited to come as an interested party and sent
2 the information which I find fascinating. You
3 know, it's just all good reading.

4 My electric provider, though -- I wrote to
5 Seminole Electric. I receive energy from
6 Tri-county in Perry and they get their power from
7 Seminole. I wrote to them and asked the general
8 manager if they had ever purchased power to FMPA or
9 JEA, and they said yes. So I am a consumer once
10 removed, you know.

11 I've learned a great deal about conservation
12 and efficiency from watching the documentary,
13 Kilowatt Hours. I hope everyone here watches it.
14 I've reduced my family's consumption of electric to
15 below 500 kilowatt hours per month on average. One
16 month in the last month it went to 600 and
17 something. We did run our -- we never had air
18 conditioning, but we have a new air conditioner,
19 two years old, and we got one of those high SEER
20 energy efficient ones. And we ran it all during --
21 what were the hot months? June, July -- July,
22 August. We ran it for two months and still my
23 energy wasn't far over 600-kilowatt hours. We have
24 a 1,600 something square foot house.

25 At any rate, I also checked with Tallahassee.

1 I think I asked Mr. Wales a year ago, two years
2 ago, when I heard that Tallahassee had attempted
3 some demand side management and had some programs,
4 he said but they weren't successful because people
5 didn't participate. And I heard that earlier today
6 from the FMPA man that was here.

7 And I thought about that later when I saw the
8 tremendous drive that went on, the money spent, the
9 advertising, the visits, the open houses that were
10 held when they wanted the vote to pass about
11 keeping Tallahassee in the partnership. Well,
12 Mr. Wales said -- I said, did you market it? Did
13 you tell people about this great opportunity that
14 the City of Tallahassee had? He said, we don't
15 have money for that. We don't have a budget for
16 marketing. We're just a city.

17 And I thought -- later I thought, wait a
18 minute, where did they get the money for the glossy
19 ads and where did they get the money for selling
20 the boat idea? But anyway, that was puzzling to
21 me.

22 I think anything has to be sold. And if
23 people don't participate -- I notice when voters
24 aren't sure about how to vote, it's phrased
25 differently or reframed and you say it a different

1 way so that people like the idea better. Well, you
2 sell your idea.

3 And so the FMPPA folks that have all of those
4 communities -- I counted that they have like 27 or
5 29 communities, but maybe that's a grouping of 15
6 major places that get power from them. If they've
7 actively sold and lobbied and tried to get the
8 customers to participate in demand side management,
9 well, that's good. I'd like to know that.

10 I'd like -- I called Ray Maxwell with Reedy
11 Creek and I said, Mr. Maxwell, since I don't want
12 this power plant in my backyard, why don't you put
13 it on all the land you own down there by Disney
14 World and you can show people how you can make a
15 great plant. And then the children coming to
16 Disney World would think, whoa, the mouse is a
17 really good thing.

18 He said, water, Ms. Whitfield. We can't put
19 it here because we don't have enough water in
20 Orange County. What do you think I thought about
21 that? I thought, oh, Taylor County does.

22 I really am concerned and tried to reach out
23 to other people. Demand side management is a very
24 good thing. My husband is a quiet man. He's been
25 reading the Weather Maker book. He's reading it

1 now for the second time which means a lot to me.
2 He's a very slow reader. So he finally finished
3 it, took it back to the library and then bought a
4 copy. He's reading it again and he was
5 philosophizing with me. And I promised I would
6 bring his question but I don't want it to offend
7 you.

8 He talks like this. He said, "Diane, when
9 madmen practice the annihilation of entire
10 populations, we call it genocide. When we go
11 forward and ignore available scientific evidence
12 concerning extinction, drought, extreme weather,
13 what do we call that?"

14 In conclusion, I request that you deny
15 approval of this and any other application
16 submitted for a coal-burning power plant until your
17 need analysis includes the cost of the negative
18 externalities that we've heard discussed today.
19 Thank you.

20 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, Ms. Whitfield.

21 **MS. WHITFIELD:** The only thing I have to give
22 you, an elderly woman in Perry, I found this in my
23 office yesterday -- by the way, I wonder if anybody
24 here is being paid to be here? You reckon? Some
25 of these -- some of us took leave without pay

1 because we've used up all of our leave doing these
2 meetings. And I wonder if there are people here
3 that are actually paid to be here.

4 Not you guys. I know you guys are probably --

5 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** For some of us, this is part
6 of our job and this is why we like our job, because
7 we --

8 **MS. WHITFIELD:** I like my job too and don't
9 tell the superintendent I'm taking all this time
10 off.

11 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Ms. Whitfield, thank you for
12 your comments and thank you for coming today.
13 Would you like to give a document to our staff,
14 please?

15 **MS. WHITFIELD:** It's for the lady in Perry.
16 Can I do that? She left it on my chair to give it
17 to you, her comments.

18 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** We'll ask Mr. Breman to take
19 that from you.

20 Thank you, Mr. Breman. And we will need to
21 mark it. I meant 97.

22 **MS. BRUBAKER:** That's correct.

23 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** So Exhibit 97 will have been
24 submitted with Ms. Whitfield.

25 **MS. BROWNLESS:** Do you have a title?

1 **MS. BRUBAKER:** The next speaker is --

2 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Hold on. I missed who was
3 talking to me. Just a moment.

4 Ms. Brownless, was that you? I apologize.

5 **MS. BROWNLESS:** That's all right. I was just
6 wondering what is the name of that document so
7 we --

8 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** We have been -- Ms. Brubaker,
9 you can help me out here.

10 We have been -- I have been, let me do it that
11 way, and Ms. Brubaker is keeping the official
12 record with the court reporter but marking the
13 numbers to correspond with the documents to
14 correspond with the witness who has given them to
15 us.

16 **MS. BRUBAKER:** That's correct. We've been
17 identifying them with the witness' name just for
18 ease of identity.

19 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Trying to bring in some
20 simplicity and also to give clarity.

21 **MS. BROWNLESS:** Yes, ma'am. But this is not
22 Ms. Whitfield's statement.

23 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** No, it is not. But it is
24 submitted by her. That is my understanding.

25 **MS. BROWNLESS:** Thank you.

1 (Exhibit No. 97 admitted into the record.)

2 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Okay. Ms. McVety, welcome.

3 PAM MCVETY

4 was called as a witness and, having been duly sworn,
5 testified as follows:

6 DIRECT STATEMENT

7 **MS. MCVETY:** Thank you. And good afternoon,
8 Madam Chairman and Commissioners.

9 My name is Pam McVety, and I am here today as
10 a citizen, but I also am a member of the Big Bend
11 Climate Action Team. And I do volunteer work for
12 the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. on climate change
13 and energy issues. And as a scientist, I've been
14 studying and tracking climate change science since
15 2000.

16 I would like to make two points today
17 regarding the cost of burning coal. The first
18 point is that the estimated cost of compliance with
19 carbon emission regulations will soon have to be
20 updated to reflect the current science in
21 congressional legislation. Once this cost is
22 reestimated, the Taylor County -- the Taylor Energy
23 Center will prove, I believe, not to be
24 cost-effective.

25 In the 109th congressional session, 20 bills

1 were introduced that dealt with reducing our carbon
2 emissions. And from the science, it's clear that
3 large cuts are going to have to be made between now
4 and the year 2050, cuts on the order of 60 to
5 80 percent to avoid dangerous runaway climate
6 change.

7 The Global Warming Reduction Act, Senate Bill
8 4039 already requires those kinds of very large
9 reductions. Thus it is not unrealistic to project
10 that legislation requiring these kinds of carbon
11 emission reductions will pass given the serious and
12 urgent nature or need to respond to the escalating
13 impacts of climate change.

14 I would also like to commend to you the
15 document that was put into the record earlier by
16 Kent Miller. This is the document by the union of
17 concerned scientists. It's entitled Gambling with
18 Coal, How Future Climate Laws Will Make New Coal
19 Power Plants More Expensive. This is an
20 outstanding document.

21 My second point -- my second point is that
22 large external costs are now known to be associated
23 with the impacts of releasing more carbon dioxide
24 into the atmosphere. These impacts are so serious
25 that they are already costing each of us more than

1 any possible savings on our monthly utility bills
2 associated with burning coal.

3 And I offer the example of weather related
4 disasters and the resulting property insurance
5 crisis. Rising economic losses due to
6 weather-related disasters are linked to climate
7 change. Two research papers were published in 2005
8 linking our warming oceans with increased
9 frequency, duration and intensity of storms
10 worldwide. And I have the references for the
11 record in my talk which I'll hand in.

12 According to the National Climatic Data Center
13 at NOAA, Florida has had more
14 billion-dollar-related disasters than any other
15 state in the nation. This was during the period of
16 1980 to 2005. So as a result, Florida is in the
17 midst of a property insurance crisis. Hindsight
18 will show that escalating insurance rates are
19 directly related to our warming of the land and
20 water and that no true lasting solution can be
21 achieved until the underlying cause, carbon output,
22 is addressed.

23 An insurance specialist with Aviva, the fifth
24 large insurance company in the world, reports that
25 insurance losses because of extreme weather are

1 going up 10 percent a year while economic growth is
2 only averaging 3 percent per year. He reports that
3 by 2065 the two growth curves will intersect and
4 the world economy will no longer be able to sustain
5 these losses.

6 These are just two very brief examples of the
7 very real and rising costs associated with carbon
8 emissions. Coal-fired power plants incur costs
9 that the Public Service Commission hadn't
10 traditionally considered. But it is clear to me
11 that a coal-fired power plant would cost me much
12 more than what my monthly utility bill would show.
13 Please consider these costs when determining
14 whether we can afford a coal plant.

15 Thank you for the opportunity to speak. Thank
16 you for the generous amount of time and attention
17 you're giving to hearing our concerns.

18 **CHAIRMAN EDGAR:** Thank you, Ms. McVety. And
19 I'll note that the document that was submitted
20 earlier that you brought to our additional
21 attention was marked as No. 88. And if you will
22 give your comments to our staff over there, we will
23 mark those as well.

24 **MS. BRUBAKER:** And those would be marked as
25 Item 98, is that correct, by your list?

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CHAIRMAN EDGAR: That's where I'm at too.
(Exhibit No. 98 admitted into the record.)
(Please go to Volume 3.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

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STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF LEON)

I, LORI DEZELL, RPR, CCR, certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the proceedings herein, and that the transcript is a true and complete record of my stenographic notes.

I further certify that I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties' attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this 11th day of January, 2007.



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