PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT APPLICATION OF EXELON CORPORATION, : PEPCO HOLDINGS, INC., POTOMAC ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY, EXELON : Formal Case ENERGY DELIVERY COMPANY, LLC AND : No. 1119 NEW SPECIAL PURPOSE ENTITY, LLC FOR AUTHORIZATION AND APPROVAL OF PROPOSED MERGER TRANSACTION.

ORIGINAL

Washington, D.C.

Tuesday, January 6, 2015

The hearing in the above-captioned matter began at 6:00 p.m., pursuant to notice, held at the Thurgood Marshall Academy, Multi-Purpose Room, 2427 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, SE, Washington, D.C. 20020.

BEFORE: BETTY ANN KANE, Chairman

JOANNE DODDY FORT, Commissioner

WILLIE L.PHILLIPS, Commissioner

Reported by: Christine Allen



			2
1	C O N T E N T S		
2	Welcome and Introductory Remarks, Chairman Betty Anne Kane	4	
3	WITNESSES	PAGE	
4	Gene Solon	10	
5	Arrington Dixon	14	
7	Robert Vinson Brannum	17	
8	Catherine Meloy, Goodwill of Greater Washington	19	
9	Joseph Persichini, Washington, D.C. Police Foundation	21	
10	Michael Melton, 100 Black Men of Greater Washington, D.C.	24	
12	Bill Hague, Anacostia Economic Development Corporation	26	
14 15	Keith Sellars, The Washington DC Economic Partnership	29	
16	Edmund Fleet, THEARC	32	
17	Glenda West	34	
18	Lewis Reckline,		
19	The Salvation Army	36	
20	Johnnie Scott-Rice, National Congress of Black Women	40	
22	Michael Bell, Allen Chapel AME Church	44	

1	CONTENTS		3
2	WITNESSES	PAGE	
3	Derek Coburn	47	
4	Akili West	49	
5	Anthony Cancelosi, Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind	54	
6	Jacque Patterson	56	
7	Irv Sheffey	59	
9	Tim Judson, Nuclear Information and Resource Service	62	
10	Earle "Chico" Horton	67	
11	James McGarry, Chesapeake Climate Action Network	70	
12	Jackie Ward	75	
13	Todd Nedwick, National Housing Trust	78	
15	Ben Breiterman	82	
16	Closing Comments, Chairman Betty Anne Kane	8 4	
17	Adjournment	85	
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			

		4
1	PROCEEDINGS	4
2	(6:00 p.m.)	
3	CHAIRMAN KANE: We'll get started.	
4	Good evening, and welcome to the second of	
5	four community hearings that the Public Service	
6	Commission is having on Exelon Corporation's merger,	
7	proposed merger, with PEPCO Holdings, Incorporated.	
8	For the record, I'm Betty Ann Kane. I'm	
9	chairman of the Public Service Commission. And seated	
10	to my right is Commissioner Joanne Doddy Fort, and to	
11	my left is Commissioner Willie Phillips.	
12	As I said, today is the second of four	
13	community hearings that the Commission is holding for	
14	the purpose of soliciting public input on an	
15	application that was filed on June 18, 2014.	
16	It was a joint application of Exelon	
17	Corporation, PEPCO Holdings, Incorporated, the Potomac	
18	Electric Power Company, Exelon Energy Delivery Company,	
19	LLC, and New Special Purpose Entity, LLC. They filed	
20	for approval by the Commission, pursuant to D.C. Code	
21	34-504 and 34-1001, for a change of control of PEPCO.	
22	And PEPCO, as you know, is the electric distribution	

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company that serves the District of Columbia. The Commission designated this case as Formal Case No. 2 3 1119. 4 We are going to be holding an evidentiary hearing, a formal evidentiary hearing with sworn 6 testimony, on February 9th through 13th in the Commission's offices to determine if the proposed 7 merger transaction is in the public interest. 9 And the community hearings that we are 10 holding are also part of that process. I want to thank 11 you all for coming out on this cold evening, and good 12 to see such a good turnout in this hearing. 13 We're going to use factors. We have seven 14 public interest factors that the 15 Commission has determined in Order 17597, which is going to look at the effects of the proposed 16 17 transaction on seven areas: 18 Number one, the effect on ratepayers, shareholders, the financial health of the utility 19 standing alone and as merged, and the economy of the 20 21 District: 22 Number two, on utility management and

		6
1	administrative operations;	
2	Number three, on public safety and the safety	
3	and reliability of services;	
4	Number four, on risks associated with all of	
5	the joint applicants' affiliated non-jurisdictional	
6	business operations, including nuclear operations;	
7	Number five, the Commission's ability to	
8	regulate the new utility effectively;	
9	Number six, the impact on competition in the	
10	local retail and wholesale markets that would impact	
11	the District and District ratepayers; and	
12	Number seven, on the conservation of natural	
13	resources and preservation of environmental quality.	
14	The Commission has several ways to receive	
15	public comment and input on matters before the	
16	Commission. Certain interested persons may intervene	
17	as a party in our proceedings, and in this case, the	
18	Commission has already issued Order No. 17530 on June	
19	27, 2014 to allow interested persons to intervene in	
20	Formal Case No. 1119. And we ruled on those motions in	
21	Order 17597, 17642, and 17658.	
22	All of the orders that I mention and refer to	

1	can be access online on our website at www.dcpsc.org,
2	or we've also, in the public notice that we've put out,
3	indicated where there are paper copies of those orders
4	and all of the material in this case in the public
5	libraries. You can also get a hard copy of our orders
6	by calling (202) 626-5150.
7	And then persons who want to make their views
8	known to the Commission but who don't want to be a
9	party, a formal party, who don't qualify for party
10	status, are encouraged to share their views at the
11	Commission's community hearings, such as tonight, or by
12	filing your views in writing with the Commission's
13	secretary and for the record, that is at 1333 H
14	Street, N.W., Suite 200, West Tower, Washington, D.C.
15	20005 or by email to psc-commissionsecretary@dc.gov,
16	or we also have our eDocket system, which is at
17	www.dcpsc.org/edocket.asp.
18	We will keep the record open in this case
19	until March 26, 2015. That's what our current
20	procedural schedule calls for. And so comments and
21	filings can be made up until that point.
22	As I said, this is the second of four

- 1 hearings for the community. We will also have two
- 2 additional hearings next week, next Monday, on January
- 3 12th at 6:00 p.m. at the Southwest Library, which is at
- 4 900 Wesley Place, S.W. And the final community hearing
- 5 is on January 20th, also at 6:00 p.m., at the
- 6 University of the District of Columbia Community
- 7 College. Their location for that is 801 North Capitol
- 8 Street, N.E.
- 9 And the reason I'm going into some of this
- 10 detail, this evening's hearing, as all our hearings, is
- 11 audio recorded. That's why we're going to ask you to
- 12 speak into the microphone. And it is also being taken
- 13 down by a court reporter, who will turn it into a
- 14 transcript. And the transcript will be posted also on
- 15 the Commission's website.
- The audio recording will also be posted on
- 17 the Commission's website, so if you miss a word that
- 18 anybody says tonight, you can just tune in and listen
- 19 to it on the website. And it's also there for people
- 20 who were not able to attend tonight.
- 21 We know the weather was bad. We wanted to go
- 22 ahead with the hearing. I'm glad to see so many people

- 1 have come out tonight. But if there are people who
- 2 couldn't make it tonight, certainly you can file those
- 3 comments on the record at any of the ways I just
- 4 mentioned.
- 5 We do have 28 witnesses who have signed up
- 6 tonight, who signed up by the deadline, so I'm going to
- 7 take those people first. And then if there is anyone
- 8 who has come in tonight who did not sign up ahead of
- 9 time and who does want to come up and make a comment,
- 10 please see the secretary's staff over at the entrance.
- 11 They'll take your name, and we'll ask you to come up
- 12 after we hear from the people who signed up ahead of
- 13 time.
- We're going to give representatives of
- 15 organizations a maximum of five minutes for oral
- 16 presentations. And of course, you can always
- 17 supplement it, send in your whole written testimony.
- 18 Turn it in and we'll put it in the record. And if
- 19 you're testifying as an individual, we'll give you
- 20 three minutes. There is a clock, and it'll show you
- 21 when you're getting near to the end of your time. And
- 22 as I said, you may send in additional written comments

- 1 at any time up until March 26th.
- 2 Do either of the Commissioners want make an
- 3 opening statement, say a few words?
- 4 (No response.)
- 5 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much. We're
- 6 here to hear from you, not for you particularly to hear
- 7 from us.
- 8 So I'm going to call our first speaker, and
- 9 that is Gene Solon. Mr. Solon?
- 10 MR. SOLON: Happy New Year, everybody. Good
- 11 evening, Chairman Kane, Commissioners Fort and
- 12 Phillips. I, Gene Solon, a Southwest D.C. homeowner,
- 13 have done some serious thinking and homework after
- 14 attending the December 17th hearing on Formal Case
- 15 1119, the proposed Exelon/PEPCO merger.
- 16 I was impressed with much of the December
- 17 testimony, but became uneasy with some of it, including
- 18 submissions by business persons PEPCO buys things from
- 19 who, without citing legally binding long-term
- 20 guarantees or other conclusive evidence, testified that
- 21 because a merger would create a "bigger is better" D.C.
- 22 energy utility, their groups would gain greater benefit

- 1 than PEPCO now provides them.
- 2 I've studied various documents, including one
- 3 from George Mason University that contemplates breaking
- 4 up that big, bad PEPCO regulated monopoly, and
- 5 including pre- December 17th testimony submitted by
- 6 independent consultants Maximilian Chang and Scott
- 7 Hempling, whose reality-based, big picture analyses
- 8 raised well-grounded doubts about whether the merger
- 9 proposal honors the reliability criterion, the public
- 10 benefit criterion, and other criteria the PSC should
- 11 honor in its decision-making process. Here are my
- 12 humble comments about Consultant Chang's conclusions.
- In his November testimony, Mr. Chang stated,
- 14 "1. The Joint Applicants have presented a flawed
- 15 reliability commitment for system average duration
- 16 index that is less stringent than is what is required
- 17 by D.C. rules for the years after 2018," and, "2. The
- 18 Joint Applicants' commitment to meet reliability
- 19 targets within existing budgets is premised on a flawed
- 20 reliability statistic and has already been identified
- 21 to be at risk."
- 22 Comment: These conclusions on reliability of

- 1 service are solidly based on Mr. Chang's supporting
- 2 data, and they justify my unease with December 17th
- 3 testifiers' rosy scenarios.
- 4 Mr. Chang also stated, "3. The Joint
- 5 Applicants' commitment to renewable resources is
- 6 comprised generally of resources located outside of the
- 7 PJM footprint."
- 8 Comment: Mr. Chang's supporting data
- 9 convinces me to accept his conclusion on renewable
- 10 energy resources in our 14-state PJM area.
- 11 Oh, man. Mr. Chang stated -- okay. I'm going
- 12 to skip a lot of what Mr. Chang stated, and I'm going
- 13 to end with two paragraphs. I hope I can get them in.
- 14 Please be kind.
- Mr. Chang stated, "The Commission should
- 16 reject the petition as currently structured," et
- 17 cetera. "In short, the merger as proposed does not
- 18 produce a direct and tangible benefit."
- 19 My comment is: My careful homework leads me
- 20 to agree with Mr. Chang's conclusions.
- 21 Ms. Kane, Ms. Fort, Mr. Phillips, (a) the
- 22 comprehensive testimony from experts Chang and Hempling

- 1 reveals an Exelon/PEPCO proposal pattern that contains
- 2 more promises than guarantees; (b) I found nothing in
- 3 the proposal that proves PEPCO cannot survive, thrive,
- 4 and become more reliable without merging with Exelon;
- 5 and (c) my research deepened my concern that the rate
- 6 reduction potential that came with the 1999
- 7 establishment of competition between independent energy
- 8 suppliers will be constricted by a PEPCO merger with a
- 9 Chicago- based energy supply and distribution giant
- 10 that has acted against needed growth in solar and wind
- 11 energy use, and that may, by nature, act to weaken D.C.
- 12 citizens' ability to keep our local energy rates
- 13 affordable.
- 14 Experts Chang and Hempling emphasized that
- 15 public utility mergers "must benefit the public rather
- 16 than merely leaving it unharmed." But the Exelon/PEPCO
- 17 proposal actually puts the public in harm's way. Please
- 18 reject it. Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you, Mr. Solon. And you
- 20 certainly can submit your full statement for the
- 21 record, the part you didn't a chance to read.
- MR. SOLON: Yes. You have 15 copies of it.

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	1	CHAIRMAN KANE: We have it? Thank you very	14
	2	much.	
	3	Arrington Dixon, a former colleague. Good to	
	4	see your, sir.	
	5	MR. DIXON: Happy New Year to everyone.	
	6	CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you.	
	7	MR. DIXON: Chairperson Kane, Commissioners	
	8	Fort and Williams (sic), this letter on behalf of ADA,	
	9	Inc., the company that I own and have started since	
	10	1985 we have 29 years of business as an IT firm. We	
	11	are a multi-million-dollar operation based on	
	12	Anacostia. And we have employees, over 50 to 60	
	13	employees, and we depend heavily on the services that	
	14	we are discussing today.	
	15	I strongly support the approval of the	
	16	proposed PEPCO/Exelon before the Public Service	
	17	Commission, the Formal Case No. 1119. Our support is	
	18	based on a recognition and trust in PEPCO's history in	
	19	our community as a qualified, quality service provider	
	20	and good corporate citizen.	
	21	We also know that you, the members of our	
	22	Public Service Commission and staff, will ensure that	
1			

- 1 this me goes forward in the public's best interest and
- 2 with the best and most cost-effective service possible.
- The People's Counsel, an office which I
- 4 helped establish -- in fact, it was my legislation that
- 5 started it -- has an advocacy role that is important in
- 6 moving forward by reflecting the concerns of our
- 7 residents in beneficial adjustments to the merger. So
- 8 in other words, I hope that they will be seriously
- 9 considered, as I know they will, those concerns.
- I support and strongly urge approval of the
- 11 PEPCO/Exelon merger. From my vantage point as a leader
- 12 and long-time advocate for this city, as a businessman,
- 13 a community activist, and former D.C. Council member
- 14 and chair, along with my excessive experience in the
- 15 law, technology, and education, my long and extensive
- 16 involvement in city legislature and regulatory office,
- 17 long-term regional planning, and deep long-term
- 18 commitment to our city, is a basis for this letter of
- 19 support for approval of the merger.
- It is in the best interests of the city and
- 21 its residents. In fact, the proposed merger can
- 22 provide many advantages, including new technology,

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1	sound renewable energy options, and benefits of scale	
2	to consumers and customers, low-cost savings that	
3	should be passed on to consumers.	
4	As the Commission considers this substantial	
5	service provider, philanthropic, and consumers'	
6	benefits, I hope you will agree that this merger is in	
7	the public interest. Thank you very much.	
8	CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much, Chairman	
9	Dixon.	
10	MR. DIXON: Thank you.	
11	CHAIRMAN KANE: And I was privileged to serve	
12	on the council when you were chairman.	
13	You mentioned People's Counsel, and I do want	
14	to recognize the presence of our People's Counsel,	
15	Sandra Mattavous-Frye. And they are a statutory party	
16	in all of our cases before the Commission. Thank you.	
17	Edwin Powell? Mr. Powell?	
18	(No response.)	
19	CHAIRMAN KANE: I'll go back through the list	
20	again at the end. Mark Davis? Mr. Davis?	
21	(No response.)	
22	CHAIRMAN KANE: Robert Vinson Brannum?	

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1	(No response.)	
2	CHAIRMAN KANE: Catherine Meloy? Did I	
3	pronounce that right?	
4	MS. MELOY: Correct.	
5	CHAIRMAN KANE: Oh, Mr. Brannum. I'm sorry,	
6	Ms. Meloy. Mr. Brannum is here. He was way at the	
7	back. All right. You're next.	
8	The secretary's office folks will take it.	
9	Thank you.	
10	MR. BRANNUM: Good evening. I will not be as	
11	long-winded as former Mayor Gray and read every page in	
12	that document.	
13	CHAIRMAN KANE: Is that 53 pages there?	
14	(Laughter.)	
15	MR. BRANNUM: I am submitting my statement	
16	for the record, and I will be hopefully intelligently	
17	brief.	
18	Again, my name is Robert Vinson Brannum, and	
19	I'm pleased to appear before this Commission to testify	
20	regarding the application. For introduction, I am	
21	president emeritus of the D.C. Federation of Civic	
22	Associations, chairman emeritus of the Fifth District	

- 1 Citizen Advisory Council with the D.C. Metropolitan
- 2 Police Department, and former president of the
- 3 Bloomingdale Civic Association. I also served as a
- 4 member of the PEPCO Blue Ribbon Task Force. And a copy
- 5 of the recommendations are included in my statement.
- 6 I'm going to be straightforward. No sense in
- 7 prolonging. I am here to support the application and
- 8 recommend that the Commission approve it. I'm pleased
- 9 to stand with Chairman Dixon and other organizations in
- 10 the District of Columbia to support the application.
- I am not an expert in utility, but I am able
- 12 to read, and I'm also able to make my own judgments. I
- 13 have done as best I can to go through this. I have
- 14 also read additional documents, and I have come to the
- 15 conclusion that this merger is in the interests of the
- 16 District of Columbia residents.
- And I have in my paper a list, a page of
- 18 recommendations that I feel the Commission should
- 19 entertain and review to go along with my support of the
- 20 application. Thank you very much.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much, Mr.
- 22 Brannum. Good to see you, and thank you for reminding

- 1 us of the Blue Ribbon Task Force that did have citizen
- 2 participation, just a little over three years ago.
- 3 Catherine Meloy, you're next.
- 4 MS. MELOY: Good evening, Commissioners. On
- 5 behalf of Goodwill of Greater Washington, I'm Catherine
- 6 Meloy, the president and CEO of Goodwill of Greater
- 7 Washington. And I want to express our interest and,
- 8 yes, our need in the business decision to include PEPCO
- 9 and its parent company, PEPCO Holdings, in the Exelon
- 10 family of companies, and our desire that our
- 11 partnership with PEPCO continue to support this
- 12 community.
- Goodwill of Greater Washington is a
- 14 community-based organization whose mission is to
- 15 transform lives and communities through the power of
- 16 education and employment. For many years, our
- 17 partnership with PEPCO has helped us carry out this
- 18 mission, benefitting thousands of men and women.
- I recently had the opportunity to witness a
- 20 speech given by Christopher Crane, president and CEO of
- 21 Exelon Corporation, at the Economic Club luncheon, and
- 22 I must tell you, I was most pleased that he shared

- 1 publicly that Exelon has committed to provide annual
- 2 average charitable contributions and local community
- 3 support that actually exceeds PEPCO's 2013 level of
- 4 \$1.6 million in the District of Columbia for at least
- 5 10 years.
- 6 This will enable us, Goodwill and others, to
- 7 continue to do such projects as providing job training
- 8 and referring more than 700 District residents to
- 9 employment within our city. I must tell you also,
- 10 because of what PEPCO has done on behalf of Goodwill of
- 11 Greater Washington, nearly 300 of our own Goodwill
- 12 associates who live in the District are able to access
- 13 core training, job training, coaching, and employment.
- 14 You know, being involved with workforce
- 15 development, I was also exceptionally pleased to hear
- 16 from Mr. Crane about how PEPCO's reliable improvement
- 17 projects already underway and with this merger will
- 18 produce 900 to 1300 new jobs, and between \$95 million
- 19 \$and 134 million in benefits to the Washington, D.C.
- 20 economy. I also have to tell you they are also
- 21 committed to hiring D.C. residents and contractors as
- 22 they do their underground initiatives.

- 1 PEPCO has been a visible leader in our
- 2 community in a way that has contributed significantly
- 3 to our Goodwill of Greater Washington and to the people
- 4 who we serve. Goodwill of Greater Washington is one of
- 5 the most longstanding organizations in the Washington
- 6 metropolitan area.
- 7 With the strength of a company like Exelon
- 8 behind it, we look forward to our local community
- 9 benefitting from this merger in terms of business
- 10 offerings and support for not only Goodwill of Greater
- 11 Washington but for other colleagues' agencies. We are
- 12 eager to continue our work with Exelon and with PEPCO.
- 13 Thank you very much.
- 14 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much, Ms.
- 15 Meloy.
- Joseph Persichini?
- MR. PERSICHINI: Good evening. My name is
- 18 Joe Persichini. I'm the executive director of the
- 19 Washington, D.C. Police Foundation. Prior to that, I
- 20 was the assistant director in charge of the Washington,
- 21 D.C. office of the FBI, and I was on Mayor Bowser's
- 22 transition team for public safety.

1 On behalf of the Washington, D.C. Police Foundation, our board of directors, and members, I want 3 to express our full support of the merger of PEPCO and its parent company, PEPCO Holdings, Incorporated, into 4 the Exelon family of companies. As a community-based serving organization, 7 the Washington, D.C. Police Foundation believes that the merger of PEPCO and its parent company with Exelon will provide economic and environmental benefits to the 10 District of Columbia. 11 I, too, also attended the Economic Club of 12 Washington, D.C. and spoke with the CEO, Chris Crane, and legal counsel, Paul Bonney, about the commitment of 13 charitable contributions and to community organizations 14 15 here in the District of Columbia. And I would not be 16 here, standing here today supporting this merger, if I did not feel confident that they would fulfill that 17 18 commitment as in \$10 million within 10 years, \$1.6 19 million per year. 20 I want to talk a little bit about some 21 specific programs that PEPCO -- and Debbi Jarvis, as an employee of PEPCO, is on our board of directors. 22

- 1 responsibility of the Washington, D.C. Police
- 2 Foundation is to fund, develop, and work with the
- 3 Metropolitan Police Department, funding all youth
- 4 programs in the District of Columbia, with an emphasis
- 5 on encouraging D.C. youth to pursue a career in public
- 6 safety.
- And, now, everybody in this room understands
- 8 the complexity today with encouraging our youth. But
- 9 we are confident that working with Chief Cathy Lanier,
- 10 members like PEPCO and Exelon, that we will bridge that
- 11 gap. We will overcome the challenges of today.
- 12 I have to remind this board that the
- 13 Metropolitan Police Department is hiring 30 police
- 14 officers a month, and currently only 15 percent of our
- 15 applicants have a D.C. zip code. And PEPCO has made a
- 16 commitment to help us overcome that challenge and
- 17 encourage and employ our D.C. youth.
- As prior law enforcement, I also want to
- 19 reassure that PEPCO, who has always been a member and
- 20 partner in law enforcement, especially during the many
- 21 events that occur in the nation's capital -- special
- 22 security, special events such as inauguration or State

- 1 of the Union or 4th of July -- it is apparent and it is
- 2 vitally essential that PEPCO and its new parent,
- 3 Exelon, work and be part of the law enforcement safety
- 4 committee.
- 5 There's one other area that I really want to
- 6 emphasize, is that PEPCO has been also instrumental in
- 7 helping us gain additional positions in the MPD Cadet
- 8 Program. The Cadet Program is if you graduate from a
- 9 D.C. high school, you work part-time for MPD and MPD
- 10 pays your college tuition. We were allowed to increase
- 11 those positions and fund those positions with the
- 12 support of PEPCO.
- So it is without hesitation and without any
- 14 discussion that I and the membership of the Washington,
- 15 D.C. Police Foundation support this merger and
- 16 encourage your approval expeditiously.
- 17 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much, Mr.
- 18 Persichini.
- 19 Michael Melton?
- MR. MELTON: Good evening, Commissioner Kane
- 21 and Commissioners. As stated, my name is Michael E.
- 22 Melton, and I am president of the 100 Black Men of

- 1 Greater Washington, D.C. And I'm here to speak on
- 2 behalf of supporting the merger between PEPCO, PEPCO
- 3 Holdings, and Exelon.
- 4 Our organization, the 100 Black Men of
- 5 Greater Washington, D.C., is a mentoring-based
- 6 organization that in the past year has touched over
- 7 10,000 children in the greater Washington, D.C.,
- 8 Maryland, and Virginia area. We do this by hands-on
- 9 mentoring, education, and interacting with the
- 10 children. The people who work in this organization are
- 11 everyday citizens who live in the community.
- 12 Now, we are able to do the programs we do
- 13 based on philanthropic support. And we receive
- 14 substantial, continuous, and significant support from
- 15 PEPCO. We've done this over the past 10 years, and we
- 16 need this to continue with organizations like this who
- 17 have committed to doing something in the community for
- 18 their stated example of continuing to exceed the \$1.6
- 19 million that they have put into the community over the
- 20 next 10 years.
- Now, a lot of people know our organization,
- 22 and our motto is "Real Men Giving Real Time." And we

help African American boys and girls, as I stated over 10,000 in the last year, through track meets, taking 2 them to conventions, attending basketball games, one-3 on-one mentoring. 5 And we could not do this without financial support in addition to physical facility support that PEPCO has given to us by allowing us to use their 7 locations to hold meetings and events and outreach 8 activities with the community and the organizations. 10 In addition, PEPCO employees have worked with us as members of the organization -- again, their emphasis on 11 having their people act and work with us as regular 12 13 people in the community. 14 As mentioned, I wholly support the merger 15 because I believe they will continue to give their 16 time, their talent, and their funds to assist 17 organizations like myself and others in the room, such 18 as Goodwill and Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind, in 19 doing what we do. Thank you. 20 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much. 21 Bill Haque? 22 MR. HAGUE: How are you this evening? Good

- 1 evening, Chairman Kane, Commissioners.
- 2 CHAIRMAN KANE: Good evening.
- MR. HAGUE: My name is Bill Hague. I'm the
- 4 vice president and chief operating officer for the
- 5 Anacostia Economic Development Corporation. I'm here
- 6 tonight representing Mr. Jackson, who had a conflict
- 7 and couldn't make it. And I'd like to enter into the
- 8 record a letter of support for the planned merger.
- 9 CHAIRMAN KANE: Give it to Mr. --
- MR. HAGUE: And if you'll allow me, I'll
- 11 briefly paraphrase his letter.
- 12 Mr. Jackson tasked the members of his staff
- 13 to look at some of the file material, the supporting
- 14 documentation, case materials, and testimony associated
- 15 with the case. And as we chatted about it and talked
- 16 about it, we came to the conclusion that there appeared
- 17 to be a clear and tangible benefit to the planned
- 18 merger.
- We looked at this from a vantage point that
- 20 is not that different from the way that a number of the
- 21 people have testified tonight they have looked at it,
- 22 but there are certain other economic impact issues that

- 1 we think should be brought to the attention of the
- 2 Commission.
- 3 When we examined the case of consumer
- 4 benefits such as improving system reliability, improved
- 5 efficiencies, and cost management, we found that the
- 6 merger will in fact support a more efficient and
- 7 productive running of a public energy entity.
- 8 The merger also has the possibility of
- 9 providing new employment opportunities and training
- 10 opportunities for District of Columbia residents, which
- 11 we think is an important factor across the District,
- 12 but specifically in Ward 8.
- The merger has the potential to support Ward
- 14 8 businesses in increasing contracting opportunities
- 15 and procurement opportunities with PEPCO. AEDC is
- 16 further encouraged by Exelon's strongly stated
- 17 commitment to honor and maintain PEPCO's workforce and
- 18 supplier diversity programs.
- In our research, we found that Exelon has
- 20 placed a significant importance on the inclusion of
- 21 renewable energy in the company's generation process
- 22 and portfolio. These clean energy efforts, inclusive

- 1 of solar, wind, and low carbon generation, will not
- 2 only have positive environmental impacts but also
- 3 provide employment opportunities and thing in this
- 4 evolving technology.
- 5 With the above considerations in mind, the
- 6 Anacostia Economic Development Corporation supports the
- 7 Exelon/PEPCO Holdings planned merger, and views this
- 8 transaction as beneficial to the District of Columbia
- 9 and its residents. Thank you very much.
- 10 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much, Mr.
- 11 Hague. Thank you. And your letter will be put into
- 12 the record.
- 13 Keith Sellars?
- MR. SELLARS: Good evening, Commissioners.
- 15 My name is Keith Sellars. I'm the president and CEO of
- 16 the Washington, D.C. Economic Partnership. Our mission
- 17 is the marketing arm of the Deputy Mayor's Office for
- 18 Planning and Economic Development. We help facilitate
- 19 business and attraction for the District of Columbia.
- Over the past 14 years, the Washington, D.C.
- 21 Economic Partnership has told the story of the
- 22 resurgence and positioned D.C. as a premier location

- 1 for business and innovative ideas. PEPCO has been part
- 2 of WDCEP since its incorporation.
- 3 D.C. has emerged as one of the strongest and
- 4 most resilient economies in the country, we are
- 5 committed to ensuring that the District of Columbia
- 6 continues to achieve the economic development success
- 7 now and into the future through continuous
- 8 collaborations and partnerships with all parties,
- 9 public and private, interested in making D.C. a great
- 10 place to do business.
- 11 For the merger, the merger of PEPCO and
- 12 Exelon will help to achieve these goals in profound
- 13 ways. For example, PEPCO and Exelon have noted the
- 14 combined merger commitments, including \$14 million
- 15 customer service investment funds are expected to
- 16 produce between \$95 and \$135 million in benefits to the
- 17 Washington, D.C. economy over the next six years of the
- 18 merger closing.
- As an organization committed to enhancing the
- 20 District's economy through job creation for D.C.
- 21 residents, the partnership is encouraged by Exelon's
- 22 commitment to no net involuntary merger related to job

- 1 losses at PEPCO for at least two years following the
- 2 merger's conclusion, as well as the company's
- 3 expectation that the merger could bring over 900 to
- 4 1300 new jobs in the District.
- 5 Finally, I am pleased with the company's
- 6 shared commitment to the local community they serve.
- 7 PEPCO has historically made contributions to the
- 8 District of Columbia to the support of local
- 9 organizations and initiatives as the Washington, D.C.
- 10 Economic Partnership with a national focus.
- 11 Exelon has the commitment to enhancing the
- 12 efforts by providing an annual average of charitable
- 13 contributions and local community support that
- 14 surpasses PEPCO's 2013 level of \$1.6 million. For this
- 15 reason, I am confident that, if approved, the merger of
- 16 PEPCO and Exelon will enhance the District's economy
- 17 and benefit the stakeholders invested in the future
- 18 success. Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you, Mr. Sellars. Mr.
- 20 Sellars, can you clarify? You mentioned the Deputy
- 21 Mayor for Planning and Economic Development. But the
- 22 Washington, D.C. Economic Partnership is not part of

		32
1	D.C. government? It's separate?	
2	MR. SELLARS: No. We're independent. We're a	
3	<pre>public-private partnership.</pre>	
4	CHAIRMAN KANE: Okay. Thank you.	
5	MR. SELLARS: A 501(c)(3).	
6	CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you for clarifying	
7	that. D.C. government is a party in this case, so we	
8	just wanted to keep that line clear.	
9	MR. SELLARS: Thank you.	
10	CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much.	
11	Edmund Fleet? Mr. Fleet?	
12	MR. FLEET: Good afternoon, Public Service	
13	Commissioners, Chairman Kane and Commissioners Fort and	
14	Phillips. My name is Edmund Fleet, and I am the	
15	executive director of Building Bridges Across the	
16	River, the managing partner of THEARC. The Town Hall	
17	Education Arts and Recreation Campus is a partnership	
18	of 11 nonprofits providing services for Ward 7 and Ward	
19	8 families, and since our opening in 2005, we've been	
20	impacted by PEPCO's presence in the District.	
21	And as a third generation Washingtonian and a	
22	long-term customer of PEPCO, not only have I been	

- 1 impressed by their superior level of customer service
- 2 over the last 20 years, but I have also been deeply
- 3 impacted by their philanthropic efforts throughout the
- 4 greater Washington, D.C. area.
- 5 The opening of the PEPCO Edison Gallery alone
- 6 has given many nonprofit organizations in the arts the
- 7 opportunity for growth and exposure for greater
- 8 endeavors. It is a space for community exchange and a
- 9 hub for local artists.
- I am certain that Exelon will continue to
- 11 build upon the foundation established by PEPCO.
- 12 Nonprofits like THEARC depend upon support from
- 13 companies like Exelon because these companies are good
- 14 corporate citizens invested in the communities that
- 15 they serve.
- 16 Additionally, Exelon can provide critical
- 17 support to our neighborhoods by providing funding for
- 18 the Commission with bill credits, assistance to low-
- 19 income customers, or establishing energy-efficient
- 20 education programs. This assistance is crucial for
- 21 many D.C. families and seniors in need, and especially
- 22 those that reside here east of the Anacostia River in

- 1 the communities surrounded by THEARC.
- 2 And so it is without any reservation that I
- 3 do wholeheartedly support the merger of Exelon and
- 4 PEPCO and their application. Thank you.
- 5 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much, Mr.
- 6 Fleet.
- 7 Glenda West? Is Ms. West here? Okay. Lewis
- 8 Reckline? Oh, here she is. I'm sorry, Ms. West. I'm
- 9 going too fast.
- MS. G. WEST: Good evening, Chairman Kane,
- 11 Commissioner Fort, and Commissioner Phillips. My name
- 12 is Glenda West and I'm a long-time District resident
- 13 and lived in my current home in Ward 7 since 1993. And
- 14 I live in the house that my parents purchased in the
- 15 1950s.
- I'm here today to speak in support of this
- 17 merger because I think it will help District residents
- 18 like me, and here are a few of the reasons.
- I support the merger because I'm pleased with
- 20 the service that PEPCO provides. And the few times
- 21 we've had outages in the neighborhood, PEPCO has kept
- 22 us abreast of what's going on and how long it would

- 1 take to get the power back on. Knowing what's going on
- 2 is especially important to me and other seniors in the
- 3 neighborhood.
- 4 The second reason is I support the merger
- 5 because of how PEPCO treats their employees. I do have
- 6 a friend that works for PEPCO, and he has mentioned how
- 7 much he enjoys working for PEPCO, and has indicated
- 8 that they have good benefits as well as good
- 9 promotional opportunities.
- The third reason is I support the merger
- 11 because the low-income assistance programs that so many
- 12 District residents rely on will not be affected.
- 13 People in this ward work hard to provide for their
- 14 families, but sometimes life gets in the way and you
- 15 need a little help. PEPCO's special payment programs
- 16 that evenly spread out the costs over a year or that
- 17 offer to extend due dates help many people keep their
- 18 power on.
- And finally, I support this merger because
- 20 it's my understanding that Exelon shares PEPCO's
- 21 commitment to District residents by promising to keep
- 22 up the good work of PEPCO. With this merger, I feel

that the two companies will bring more resources to our community. 2 So in closing, I support this merger for all of the reasons I just mentioned, but especially because I believe it's in the best interests of the District residents like myself. Thank you. 7 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much, Ms. 8 West. 9 Lewis Reckline? 10 MR. RECKLINE: Good evening. 11 CHAIRMAN KANE: Good evening. 12 MR. RECKLINE: My name is Lewis Reckline. currently serve as the area commander for the Salvation 13 14 Army in the National Capital Region. Our organization 15 has been serving others in need in the District of Columbia since 1880, and we are celebrating 130 years. 16 17 The Salvation Army is an international 18 movement. It is an evangelical part of the Universal 19 Christian Church, and our mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and meet the needs, human needs, 20 in His name without discrimination. The last year 21 alone, we served over 85,000 residents in the National 22

- 1 Capital Region.
- 2 Our services in the District of Columbia
- 3 include emergency assistance to families through rent,
- 4 mortgage, and utility payments so that families
- 5 struggling to make ends meet financially can stay in
- 6 their homes. Our Grate Patrol program feeds the
- 7 homeless living on the streets of Washington, D.C.
- 8 while providing case management to move the
- 9 homeless into a shelter or permanent housing.
- 10 We also offer transitional housing through
- 11 the Salvation Army Turning Point program here in D.C.,
- 12 a 26-apartment transitional living center for young
- 13 mothers and children that are homeless and need
- 14 intensive case management, like skills, and job
- 15 training as well as a place to call home for up to two
- 16 vears.
- 17 Additionally, we offer a substance abuse
- 18 treatment through the Salvation Army Harbor Lights
- 19 program on New York Avenue for up to 136 men and women
- 20 struggling to overcome addictions. You may also know
- 21 our organization through our Christmas assistance
- 22 program, where over 6200 children were provided with

- 1 toys and clothes this past holiday season, making the
- 2 holidays a little brighter for families living in
- 3 poverty.
- And in times of disaster, the Salvation Army
- 5 is one of the first agencies on the scene and one of
- 6 the last to leave, supporting the first responders and
- 7 disaster victims in need of assistance.
- I join you this evening to ask for the
- 9 District of Columbia Public Service Commission to
- 10 support the proposed merger between Exelon, PEPCO, and
- 11 PEPCO Holdings, Incorporated. PEPCO has provided
- 12 ongoing support to the Salvation Army in Washington,
- 13 D.C., helping our organization serve the most
- 14 disadvantaged populations.
- The Salvation Army's vision is to have the
- 16 greater Washington, D.C. area be a place where people
- 17 of all ages live in safe and sustainable communities in
- 18 which differences are respected and people are
- 19 empowered to learn, work, and worship in freedom.
- 20 PEPCO has taken part in our mission by
- 21 providing support to the Anacostia community through
- 22 our Solomon G. Brown Community Center right down the

- 1 street. Anacostia has one of the highest rates of
- 2 poverty within the District of Columbia.
- 3 PEPCO has also established a community
- 4 service center at the Solomon G. Brown Community Center
- 5 in 2009. The center provides a convenient way for
- 6 customers to pay their utility bills, and rental income
- 7 from PEPCO helps the Salvation Army and offers a
- 8 discounted rate for other nonprofits that we have as
- 9 tenants.
- 10 PEPCO has provided annual support to the
- 11 Salvation Army's seasonal assistance programs, Angel
- 12 Tree and the Red Kettle Campaign. Each holiday season,
- 13 thousands of households benefit from these programs by
- 14 receiving gifts of food, clothing, and toys. Donations
- 15 collected during the Red Kettle Campaign help us
- 16 provide emergency assistance to our community members
- 17 throughout the year.
- We believe that a merger with Exelon, PEPCO,
- 19 and PEPCO Holdings will have a positive impact on the
- 20 community the Salvation Army serves, and we look
- 21 forward to partnering with the new family of
- 22 businesses.

- 1 We understand that PEPCO and PEPCO Holdings
- 2 contribute to the community throughout the year, and
- 3 that the quality of life in D.C. is greater because of
- 4 their assistance. We are equally pleased to hear of
- 5 Exelon's commitment to continue an even greater level
- 6 of financial support over the next 10 years.
- 7 Organizations like the Salvation Army cannot exist
- 8 without organizations like PEPCO and Exelon.
- 9 Thank you for your support in this merger,
- 10 and thank you for your service to the Public Service
- 11 Commission.
- 12 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you. And thank you for
- 13 your service through the Salvation Army.
- 14 Reverend Charles Brown? Reverend Brown?
- 15 (No response.)
- 16 CHAIRMAN KANE: Johnnie Scott-Rice?
- 17 MS. SCOTT-RICE: Thank you. Good evening,
- 18 Chairman Kane, Commissioner Fort, and Commissioner
- 19 Phillips. My name is Johnnie Scott-Rice. I live in
- 20 Ward 7. I am chair and a founder of the National
- 21 Congress of Black Women, metropolitan D.C. chapter, and
- 22 second vice chair to its national board. I also served

- 1 on the Washington, D.C. Blue Ribbon Task Force on
- 2 PEPCO's service reliability.
- 3 As a native Washingtonian and a fourth
- 4 generation Washingtonian, and a District resident and
- 5 PEPCO customer, I am here to support the merger of
- 6 PEPCO and Exelon. Like many customers, my main
- 7 concerns are rates and reliability. I support the
- 8 merger because I believe that PEPCO will be a stronger
- 9 with Exelon than it will be without it.
- 10 At the rate that this city is growing, we
- 11 need to make sure that our electric utility can keep up
- 12 with the pace of development without over-burdening
- 13 customers with rate increases. The ability of PEPCO to
- 14 buy equipment and secure human resources more
- 15 efficiently due to the sheer size of Exelon will help
- 16 keep our rates down while doing the necessary work to
- 17 continually improve service reliability.
- 18 Although I'm no expert in how electric rates
- 19 are set, I do know that the Commission sets the rates.
- 20 Therefore, we will be looking to you, the Commission,
- 21 to make sure that the savings achieved by operating
- 22 more efficiently are actually reflected in lower rates

- 1 or at least reduce the need for future increases.
- 2 Because you also set the reliability
- 3 standards, I am confident that there will be adequate
- 4 oversight to ensure that PEPCO continues to improve and
- 5 meet its reliability requirements.
- As I noted, my main concerns are the rates
- 7 and reliability. However, I have heard quite a bit of
- 8 discussion from others regarding a third kind of R,
- 9 renewables. There are those who do not believe that
- 10 Exelon will support the expansion of solar energy in
- 11 the District of Columbia. I do not have a solar array
- 12 on my rooftop, but I do understand the benefits of
- 13 generating clean local power.
- 14 However, one must keep in mind that all
- 15 customers are served by the existing electrical
- 16 infrastructure that brings us power, even at night when
- 17 the sun isn't shining. Therefore, all customers,
- 18 including those using solar power, must continue to pay
- 19 for the poles, the wires, and other components of the
- 20 system that we depend on. However, since I am not
- 21 using solar energy, I think it is only fair that I am
- 22 not unduly charged for the costs associated with the

- 1 expansion of this technology.
- The good news is that I think we achieve the
- 3 right balance in the District of Columbia. The Council
- 4 of the District of Columbia enacted community solar
- 5 legislation that minimizes subsidies from nonprofit
- 6 customers and did not force PEPCO and its customers to
- 7 bear third party community solar providers'
- 8 development, administrative, engineering,
- 9 interconnection, and other such costs.
- 10 As I understand it, this is also the position
- 11 that Exelon takes with respect to the community
- 12 renewable programs, that they must be developed in
- 13 conjunction with policies that ensure fairness to all
- 14 electric customers. Accordingly, I believe that
- 15 Exelon's position on renewable energy is consistent
- 16 with what we have in the District, and thus is not a
- 17 threat to the expansion of renewable energy.
- I do understand that you are required to
- 19 ensure that this transaction is in the public interest.
- 20 To that end, PEPCO and Exelon have made a number of
- 21 proposals that produce direct and tangible benefits to
- 22 customers.

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1	Most needed, the proposed customer investment	
2	fund and the long-term financial commitment to local	
3	philanthropic efforts represent benefits that are both	
4	direct and tangible, and neither of these expenditures	
5	are recovered in rates to customers.	
6	So Commissioners, I thank you for the	
7	opportunity to speak to you this evening. And on a	
8	personal note, I'm one of these people that heat with	
9	wood, so we do good. Thank you.	
10	(Laughter.)	
11	CHAIRMAN KANE: All right. Thank you very	
12	much.	
13	Michael Bell?	
14	REVEREND BELL: Good evening.	
15	CHAIRMAN KANE: Good evening.	
16	REVEREND BELL: My name is Michael Bell. I	
17	am the senior pastor of Allen Chapel AME Church right	
18	here in Southeast Washington, D.C., and have been the	
19	senior pastor since 2005. I'm here tonight to offer	
20	testimony in support of the merger between PEPCO and	
21	Exelon. I've reviewed the details of the merger, and	
22	believe that the joining of these two companies is in	

- 1 the best interests of area residents and the District
- 2 community as a whole, especially our senior citizens.
- 3 I'd like to begin by discussing PEPCO's
- 4 record of charitable giving. Last year PEPCO gave more
- 5 than \$1.6 million to local charities. Through its work
- 6 with groups like the Urban League, the March of Dimes,
- 7 and the United Way, among others, the company is
- 8 providing much-needed resources to area organizations
- 9 that every day are working to help the less fortunate
- 10 here in the District of Columbia.
- 11 Those donations from PEPCO are invaluable,
- 12 and that's why I am so pleased Exelon has promised to
- 13 match PEPCO's 2013 level of giving every year for the
- 14 next 10 years. A promise like that from Exelon shows
- 15 that both companies have committed to this community
- 16 and its residents.
- 17 Additionally, I support this merger because
- 18 the low-income assistance program that so many D.C.
- 19 residents rely on, especially residents right here in
- 20 Southeast Washington, D.C., will not be affected.
- In 2013, Allen Chapel, along with the
- 22 National Housing Project, opened the Roundtree

- 1 Residence, a \$16 million senior living affordable
- 2 housing project, and that project provided 91 units of
- 3 affordable housing for Southeast D.C. residents who are
- 4 in this nation and this city that is the most expensive
- 5 city in America.
- 6 Later this month, PEPCO, as a part of its
- 7 community outreach efforts, will visit Roundtree to
- 8 share with the residents information on energy
- 9 assistance, the emergency medical assistance program,
- 10 and winter preparedness. These kinds of visits by
- 11 local PEPCO staff are important, as they serve to show
- 12 our senior residents that they live in a community
- 13 where people really care about them.
- 14 Finally, I would be remiss if I did not make
- 15 note of the \$14 million consumer investment fund from
- 16 Exelon that you, the Commissioners, will be charged
- 17 with distributing. That money will provide customers
- 18 additional savings via bill credits, low-income
- 19 assistance, and energy efficiency programs.
- 20 Combined with this commitment to maintain
- 21 PEPCO's level of charitable giving, this customer
- 22 investment fund further proves that Exelon is, even

- 1 before the merger has been approved, investing much-
- 2 needed resources in D.C.
- 4 Commissioners. Based on the community benefits I just
- 5 discussed, I strongly encourage you to approve the
- 6 merger between PEPCO and Exelon. Thank you so much.
- 7 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much, Reverend
- 8 Bell.
- 9 Derek Coburn?
- MR. COBURN: Good evening, Chairman Kane,
- 11 Commissioner Fort, Commissioner Phillips. My name is
- 12 Derek Coburn, and I own a wealth management firm and
- 13 also a small business with my wife Melanie here in D.C.
- 14 We live along the U Street Corridor. My oldest boy is
- 15 at Creative Minds, a public charter school, and my
- 16 youngest will be starting there next year, so we're
- 17 going to be here for a while.
- I'm here today to speak in support of this
- 19 merger for a couple of reasons. I won't go into some
- 20 of the others that some of my predecessors have touched
- 21 on. But the first is, I believe strongly that it's
- 22 going to improve reliability in service. And second, I

- 1 think it's going to be a great way to provide some
- 2 additional jobs for the local economy.
- 3 And I will say that I believe PEPCO has made
- 4 significant strides the last couple of years in
- 5 improving their reliability -- the proactive phone
- 6 calls, some of the other things that others have talked
- 7 about. I like what they've done, but I think, like
- 8 most residents, I want to see them continue to push
- 9 forward, and think they're doing that.
- I have friends in Baltimore, and I've
- 11 discussed the merger with them, and since the Exelon
- 12 merger with the BGE, they've noticed an improvement in
- 13 service and reliability. I have to think that the next
- 14 time there's a major weather event in D.C., it's going
- 15 to be a significant change, being able to call their
- 16 sister company to say -- instead of asking for a favor,
- 17 give them an order; not, "Will you please come down
- 18 here?" but, "Get down here."
- I also would like to say that I support this
- 20 merger because of the benefits I believe it will have
- 21 on the local economy. As the owner of two businesses,
- 22 I know how important it is that companies invest time

- 1 and money in communities that they serve, and PEPCO has
- 2 done an amazing job with that.
- 3
  It's also my understanding that this merger
- 4 is going to produce upwards of a thousand plus jobs,
- 5 and potentially \$100 million plus in benefits to the
- 6 D.C. economy. That's why I tend to agree with the
- 7 trustworthy establishments like the D.C. Chamber, the
- 8 Greater Washington Board of Trade, District of Columbia
- 9 Building Industry Association, and some of the others.
- 10 I appreciate your time tonight,
- 11 Commissioners. And I do think it's good to have a
- 12 healthy debate regarding this merger and would
- 13 encourage the Commission to approve this merger. Thank
- 14 you.
- 15 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much, Mr.
- 16 Coburn.
- 17 Akili West?
- MR. A. WEST: Hello and good evening.
- 19 Commissioner Kane, good to see you again. Commissioners
- 20 Phillips and Fort, good to see you. My name is Akili
- 21 West. I am a Ward 8 resident, born and raised in
- 22 Washington, D.C. Have lived in Ward 8 for -- with the

- 1 exception of college and a few years in New York, for
- 2 almost 40 years.
- 3 And I'm also founder of Ward 8 Renewable
- 4 Energy Coop, and I'm a community activist who works day
- 5 in and day out with residents of Ward 8, many of whom
- 6 are faced with high energy bills, many of whom are
- 7 faced with fixed incomes, many of whom are faced with
- 8 some of the oldest and draftiest homes in the District
- 9 of Columbia. And so when there is any rate change,
- 10 increase, when there is any fluctuation in rates, they
- 11 are affected the most. And they have the least amount
- 12 of expendable income.
- I for one, and nor any of my neighbors, were
- 14 at the Economic Club meeting to meet Exelon's president
- 15 and to get any type of reassurance, nor have I found it
- 16 easy to access funds to teach Ward 8 residents about
- 17 energy efficiency.
- And I'm happy for all the organizations here
- 19 who are represented who are already on the payroll of
- 20 PEPCO and who are looked forward to being on the
- 21 payroll of Exelon, and I would imagine that they would
- 22 be very happy with the money that has been promised.

- 1 But the people on my block and the people on
- 2 the adjacent blocks to me, even though they do benefit
- 3 -- and they do benefit from PEPCO; they do benefit from
- 4 PEPCO's ability to help with energy assistance.
- 5 And I personally like PEPCO. I've come to
- 6 like them. They are the company that I know, and that
- 7 I know I can roll up my sleeves and work with. And
- 8 they're right here, as opposed to Exelon. I talked to
- 9 a buddy of mine down the street. He said, "I can jump
- 10 on my bike and ride down to PEPCO." He said, "Exelon
- 11 sounds like it's in another galaxy."
- 12 So again, I have a lot of appreciation for
- 13 PEPCO and what PEPCO has done. There are two things
- 14 which I feel are not beneficial about this merger.
- 15 One, we fought hard for the Community Renewable Energy
- 16 Act of 2013. Allen AME would be well served to get
- 17 solar panels on the rooftop of that building that they
- 18 built for the seniors.
- We are paying subsidies every year to PEPCO.
- 20 So to say that we're getting money from PEPCO and then
- 21 we're using that money to go and pay energy bills back
- 22 to PEPCO, I don't know. And then the rest of it is

- 1 absorbed by jobs that I don't see coming to my
- 2 community.
- We have the highest rate of unemployment in
- 4 this community in the country. In 2011, we had the
- 5 highest rate of unemployment. And all the green
- 6 programs and all the money was floating around, and we
- 7 still have the highest rate of unemployment. So this
- 8 money is not -- it's still a drop in the bucket; \$14
- 9 million is not going to help my community. And I say
- 10 that with -- I don't want to take away from all the
- 11 good organizations who are in our community and are
- 12 doing well. But let's not be fooled.
- And my time is up. The second thing I just
- 14 want to say real quickly is Exelon is a generator,
- 15 transmitter, and retailer of energy, and they're
- 16 heavily invested in nuclear. Any fluctuation, such as
- 17 a nuclear plant having to be decommissioned at a cost
- 18 of 40- to \$60 million, or another plant having to be
- 19 built, is going to cause a rate hike. And they cannot
- 20 promise you that that won't be the case.
- 21 Furthermore, they're going to be looking for
- 22 ways to balance out their books across their portfolio.

- 1 And it could very well happen on the backs of D.C.
- 2 residents.
- And just real quick, just to let you know, in
- 4 New York right now there's a very troubling thing going
- 5 on with Exelon, where Exelon is trying to get the PSC
- 6 to force Rochester Gas & Electric into an above-market
- 7 contract to prevent the Ginna Nuclear Power Plant from
- 8 closing. This is exactly what could happen here.
- 9 Exelon seems determined to hang themselves on
- 10 their own -- apparently confirming that they're going
- 11 to demand a contract that includes an 11 percent return
- 12 on investment, and suggesting the contract price may
- 13 come in at \$71 per megawatt hour.
- 14 That would be over 80 percent higher than
- 15 market electricity prices in that area, and would raise
- 16 the cost of the contract to over \$150 million per year
- 17 above market, more than \$400 per RG&E customer per year
- 18 just to cover the cost of running a plant that Exelon
- 19 seems to determined to rake in a huge profit on. Thank
- 20 you very much.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much, Mr.
- 22 West.

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	1	Lena Moffit?	54
	2	(No response.)	
	3	Anthony Cancelosi?	
	4	MR. CANCELOSI: Good evening, Commissioners.	
	5	My name is Tony Cancelosi, and I'm the president and	
	6	CEO of the Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind. I've	
	7	heard a lot of great things tonight, and so I don't	
	8	know how much more I could add. But I have a couple	
	9	comments that I think would be very relevant.	
	10	First of all, Columbia Lighthouse for the	
	11	Blind wants to express our support for the merger of	
	12	PEPCO and its parent company, PEPCO Holdings, into the	
	13	Exelon family of companies. Columbia Lighthouse for the	
	14	Blind has been around 115 years. I know Salvation Army	
	15	is a little bit older. But we've been around 115	
	16	years.	
	17	Now, I don't know how many people in this	
	18	room have bought light bulbs from the Columbia	
	19	Lighthouse for the Blind. Would you please raise your	
	20	hand? Is there anybody who has bought light bulbs from	
	21	the Columbia Lighthouse? Right here.	
	22	(Show of hands.)	
1			

- 1 MR. CANCELOSI: So you can see our connection
- 2 to PEPCO. We sell light bulbs, so we're in the
- 3 electric business. But I want to make a couple
- 4 comments that are very important, and some concerns
- 5 that we have with the merger on a positive side.
- We have more than 80,000 people in this
- 7 region that are visually impaired or blind, more than
- 8 15,000 in the District of Columbia. There's 158
- 9 million Baby Boomers, and by the year 2017, they will
- 10 mature to the age of 65. One in three people by the
- 11 age of 65 could lose their vision. That's an enormous
- 12 amount of people.
- Now, with this merger, technology is going to
- 14 become a very important part as they integrate
- 15 themselves to come up with better communication, better
- 16 technology, better communication for people with
- 17 disabilities.
- So our concern is the fact that if we don't
- 19 have this kind of merger, we're not going to get the
- 20 capabilities that we need for people to have
- 21 accessibility to the organization, to PEPCO and Exelon.
- 22 So think about the fact that if we don't have

accessibility, how will people with disabilities be 1 able to make a phone call and be accessible? So we see this merger as an important part 3 that will enhance the quality of life of our aging 5 population. We call it a white tsunami. It's coming. And if we don't have these kinds of organizations that have the capacity to bring things together so that people can communicate, I think we are going to lose a 9 lot of capability and a lack of quality of life. Thank 10 you. CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you, Mr. Cancelosi. 11 12 Marcee White? 13 (No response.) CHAIRMAN KANE: Jacque Patterson? 14 15 MR. PATTERSON: Good evening, Commission. 16 Again, my name is Jacque Patterson. I'm a resident of 17 Ward 8 and also a newly-minted commissioner, ANC commissioner for 8B07. And I wanted to come tonight 18 19 just to lend my support to this merger. And I wanted 20 to do so based on a relationship that I had 21 specifically with PEPCO when I served in Mayor Williams' administration as a community affairs

- 1 coordinator.
- 2 And PEPCO has been just a great, great
- 3 partner with communities. When I served in that
- 4 position, I could always reach out when I was trying to
- 5 engage the community or find out the needs of the
- 6 community by reaching out to people in PEPCO, and they
- 7 were very responsive to people that I had to service in
- 8 my capacity as a community affairs coordinator, where
- 9 their lights were being turned off, where they were
- 10 having problems paying their bills. They were
- 11 accessible.
- 12 And you look for that when you're looking for
- 13 a company to work with, to be a partner with your
- 14 community. That meant a lot to me as a person working
- 15 in that position. It made me more effective as a person
- 16 in that community. And it made me believe that much
- 17 more in PEPCO.
- I have been in communications with the people
- 19 who are conducting this merger. They have promised that
- 20 they will continue to be that kind of partner with the
- 21 community. And now that I'm back as an ANC
- 22 commissioner, that's what I need to make sure that I'm

- 1 an effective ANC commissioner.
- 2 So I wholeheartedly support this because I
- 3 think at the end of the day, I'll be able to serve my
- 4 community the way that I did when I was part of the
- 5 Williams administration. So I appreciate this, and I
- 6 hope you guys will pass this merger. Thank you very
- 7 much.
- 8 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you, Mr. Patterson.
- 9 Indicated on the list, I have here that you're
- 10 associated with Martha's Table. Is that --
- MR. PATTERSON: That is correct, ma'am.
- 12 CHAIRMAN KANE: Okay. But you're not
- 13 speaking for them?
- 14 MR. PATTERSON: No. I am not speaking on
- 15 behalf of Martha's Table, just as a resident of Ward 8
- 16 and an ANC commissioner.
- 17 CHAIRMAN KANE: I see. Thank you very much.
- MR. PATTERSON: Yes, ma'am.
- 19 CHAIRMAN KANE: Irv Sheffey?
- MR. SHEFFEY: Bear with me, please.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KANE: Yes, indeed. Take your time.
- MR. SHEFFEY: I would have had a printed

59 copy. I'm going to read off my computer because I didn't have a chance to print it off. CHAIRMAN KANE: That's okay. You can submit 3 it later, or just submit it electronically. MR. SHEFFEY: And I would like to do that. Good evening. 7 CHAIRMAN KANE: Good evening. MR. SHEFFEY: Thank you for this opportunity, Commissioners. By way of introduction, I'm a former 10 field organization on the national staff of the Sierra Club's environmental justice and community partnerships 11 12 program. And though I am no longer in that position, I 13 am speaking as a concerned private citizen, a resident of Ward 7, and an environmentalist. 15 During my time with the Club, I worked with a 16 number of energy stakeholders, including PEPCO, 17 Washington Gas, Chesapeake Climate Action Network, D.C. 18 Solar United Neighborhoods, the D.C. chapter of the Sierra Club, the District Department of the 20 Environment, City Council staff, the Office of the 21 People's Counsel, and staff from the Public Service

Commission on an initiative to bring community solar to

- 1 residents of the District of Columbia.
- This was almost two years in the making, as
- 3 these stakeholders met monthly and sometimes more often
- 4 to craft the Community Renewable Energy Act, or CREA,
- 5 which was passed by the District Council into law in
- 6 2013. In essence, the bill brings access to solar and
- 7 other renewable forms of energy to a wider number of
- 8 people, including those in low-income neighborhoods,
- 9 much like where I live and where we meet today.
- This is relatively radical, since access to
- 11 such forms of energy has historically been limited to
- 12 the middle class, upper class, and corporate interests,
- 13 people who could afford it. The CREA bill promises to
- 14 level the playing field for people like myself, a
- 15 renter, and others like nonprofit entities, churches,
- 16 schools, small business, and community-based
- 17 organizations, et cetera.
- 18 That now brings me to my concern about this
- 19 proposed merger. I do hope that it can still be
- 20 considered proposed since there are those that believe
- 21 that it's a done deal. Now, what gives that impression
- 22 is the analogy of David and Goliath, when it comes to

- 1 people like those I mentioned being the little guys,
- 2 the Davids of the world, when it comes to these major
- 3 business decisions, versus large corporate America, the
- 4 Goliath, as represented by Exelon and PEPCO.
- Now, I'm concerned that local initiatives
- 6 like those promised by CREA might not get support of a
- 7 corporation almost 700 miles away that has solar
- 8 holdings of its own. I'm concerned that local interests
- 9 would be sublimated to corporate interests. And though
- 10 PEPCO will still have a face in our region, decisions
- 11 will be made by those who don't have a deep interest in
- 12 me and my neighbors except that we are another market.
- I know that there are mentions of community
- 14 investment, but I'd like to see more of that in writing
- 15 and that it will span more than a couple of years, kind
- 16 of a halo.
- I have other concerns about rates, as well as
- 18 sources of energy like coal and nuclear lighting my
- 19 home and those of my neighbors. That is only part of
- 20 my concern, and I know that I have limited time, and
- 21 many of those concerns are being addressed by my
- 22 colleagues in the activist community who are testifying

- 1 today and in the other hearings.
- In short, I want to encourage that this
- 3 merger, especially as currently proposed, not proceed,
- 4 and I hope that the Commission can follow suit with
- 5 that. And I thank you very much.
- 6 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much, Mr.
- 7 Sheffey.
- 8 Tim Judson? Earle Horton? Oh, Tim Judson?
- 9 Come forward. Sorry.
- 10 MR. JUDSON: Thank you, Commissioners, for
- 11 the opportunity to address you again tonight. My name
- 12 is Tim Judson, and I'm testifying tonight on behalf of
- 13 the Nuclear Information and Resource Service, where I'm
- 14 the executive director.
- NIRS is a national environmental nonprofit
- 16 organization headquartered in Takoma Park, Maryland. I
- 17 personally have 16 years' experience watchdogging the
- 18 energy and utility sectors, with a particular focus on
- 19 merchant nuclear power generators and utility
- 20 restructuring.
- 21 Exelon emerged as the largest player in both
- 22 of those spaces more than a decade ago, and I have

- 1 monitored the corporation's activities very closely
- 2 with respect to the PEPCO acquisition and a number of
- 3 other current issues.
- 4 In my testimony on December 17th, I testified
- 5 that Exelon's acquisition of PEPCO would be counter to
- 6 the interest of Washington, D.C. residents and it does
- 7 not meet the public interest standard for approval. In
- 8 short, D.C. deserves a much better utility than PEPCO,
- 9 but the evidence plainly shows that Exelon would be
- 10 substantially worse.
- I provided an example of what life with
- 12 Exelon is like in Illinois, where the company has long
- 13 been both the largest utility and power generator. It
- 14 is now exerting considerable political influence to
- 15 suffocate efforts to improve the state's renewable
- 16 portfolio standard, holding legislation hostage to
- 17 Exelon's demand for subsidies, incentives, and
- 18 preferences for its nuclear power plants, which could
- 19 cost Illinois ratepayers \$1.1 billion per year.
- I would like to detail another such example
- 21 tonight. Exelon is attempting to obtain a subsidy for
- 22 a nuclear power plant it owns in New York, and

- 1 illustrates another way Exelon could harm PEPCO
- 2 ratepayers.
- 3 Exelon has petitioned the New York PSC to
- 4 require a local utility, Rochester Gas & Electric, to
- 5 enter into an above-market-rate contract for the R.E.
- 6 Ginna Nuclear Power Plant, which is located near
- 7 Rochester. The Ginna reactor is one of the oldest and
- 8 most economically challenged in the country. For two
- 9 years, industry analysts have predicted it would need
- 10 to close after a previous long-term contract with RG&E
- 11 expired in June.
- However, RG&E has developed a record of poor
- 13 planning and investment in its service treaty, just a
- 14 PEPCO is known for, and has failed to prepare for
- 15 Ginna's likely closure. RG&E's problems have emerged
- 16 over the last decade since it was taken over by a
- 17 Spanish conglomerate, Abengoa, which was documented in
- 18 a audit commissioned by the New York PSC in 2012.
- As a result of a question system reliability
- 20 and RG&E's known reliability issues, the New York PSC
- 21 authorized Exelon and RG&E to negotiate a new power
- 22 contract for Ginna that will ensure Ginna continues to

- 1 operate, and that will be submitted for review next
- 2 week.
- NIRS has done an analysis of Exelon's filings
- 4 in that case, and projects that the Ginna contract
- 5 would entail unprecedented cost to RG&E ratepayers over
- 6 and above the market price for electricity in the area.
- 7 That analysis was submitted to the New York PSC by the
- 8 Alliance for a Green Economy on December 17th.
- 9 We calculate that just to cover the reactor's
- 10 operating costs, Exelon will require a contract
- 11 averaging \$56.75 a megawatt hour, 43-1/2 percent higher
- 12 than the average market price of electricity in the
- 13 last five years. Such a price would amount to a subsidy
- 14 of over \$80 million a year, or an average of \$216 for
- 15 each of RG&E's 370,000 ratepayers.
- 16 However, Exelon has also stated its intent
- 17 for the contract to include an 11 percent rate of
- 18 return on investment in the plant. An article in
- 19 Bloomberg published yesterday quotes Exelon saying it
- 20 would require a contract price of \$71 a megawatt hour
- 21 for a reactor like Ginna, 83 percent above the market
- 22 price for electricity, and resulting in a ratepayer

subsidy of over \$150 million per year, over \$412 per customer. 3 Exelon could do the same thing in D.C., 4 completely apart from any of the proposed ringfencing provisions. Exelon operates the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant in Lusby, Maryland, just 50 miles from Washington, D.C. Calvert Cliffs contains two nuclear reactors, and is approximately the same size as another 8 plant in Illinois that Exelon is threatening to close. 10 As the primary utility for Maryland and D.C., 11 Exelon would inherit a transmission and distribution 12 system in which its predecessor, PEPCO, has notably 13 under-invested in planning and upgrades. The threat 14 that a power plant closure would cause system 15 reliability programs is much more credible if the 16 utility has not been proactive in planning for such 17 contingencies. 18 D.C. and Maryland regulators might be in a much weaker position to challenge such a claim if 19 20 Exelon were granted control of the transmission and distribution system. This exposes D.C. ratepayers to 21

the risk of increasing utility costs, again well apart

- 1 from the commitments that Exelon has made in its
- 2 petition. In fact, these risks are unprecedented for
- 3 D.C. residents since PEPCO has never owned a nuclear
- 4 power plant, nor since utility restructuring had a
- 5 direct financial interest in any merchant power plant.
- 6 The commingling of contrary interests
- 7 Exelon's acquisition of PEPCO represents is
- 8 fundamentally counter to the public interest in D.C.,
- 9 and is therefore grounds for denial. Thank you. I hope
- 10 this information is helpful.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you.
- MR. JUDSON: And I have copies of all of the
- 13 supporting documentation.
- 14 CHAIRMAN KANE: Yes. If you'll give those to
- 15 Mr. Harris. Thank you.
- Now, Mr. Horton?
- MR. HORTON: Good evening, Chairman Kane,
- 18 Commissioners Phillips, Fort, and the staff of the
- 19 Public Service Commission. My name is Earle "Chico"
- 20 Horton, and I am a partner at the law firm of Graves,
- 21 Horton, Askew & Johns, LLC, a boutique firm of highly
- 22 specialized attorneys engaged in providing professional

- 1 services and counsel on corporate and legal issues.
- 2 My firm's practice areas include advising
- 3 small local businesses, or CBEs, in construction,
- 4 zoning, and land use; public and private financing;
- 5 insurance; government contracts; and litigation
- 6 services.
- 7 I am here to testify in support of the merger
- 8 of Exelon Corporation and PEPCO Holdings, Case No.
- 9 1119. I support the merger because PEPCO has been a
- 10 good corporate citizen in D.C. I am very pleased by
- 11 the recent commitment and role undertaken by PEPCO to
- 12 reduce overhead-related power outages by burying its
- 13 overhead power lines in the city. The D.C. PLUG Project
- 14 is a massive undertaking, and I commend PEPCO for its
- 15 partnership with the District government for this \$1
- 16 billion project to improve overall reliability.
- For all D.C. residents and businesses, Exelon
- 18 has committed to continuing the initiative. As an
- 19 attorney who represents a number of small and minority
- 20 clients, reliability is extremely important for these
- 21 businesses.
- I am also glad to hear that Exelon has

- 1 committed to allocate \$100 million to a customer
- 2 investment fund, which will be used to benefit
- 3 customers in the form of bill credits, low-income
- 4 assistance, or energy efficiency programs in the
- 5 impacted service areas.
- 6 What is also of interest to me is a 10-year-
- 7 old Minority and Community Banking Program launched by
- 8 Exelon in 2003 that began with an initial outlay of \$36
- 9 million. I cannot emphasize how vital such programs
- 10 are for local banks because it provides them additional
- 11 resources to support the capital needs of their
- 12 customers, including small and minority businesses.
- 13 Therefore, it is great to learn that Exelon
- 14 has a demonstrated commitment and business strategy to
- 15 advance diversity and inclusion. Since 2003, the
- 16 Exelon Minority and Community Banking Program has grown
- 17 to a \$123 million credit facility and has afforded
- 18 banks many opportunities to expand their businesses
- 19 with Exelon in other areas.
- 20 Currently, this program has arrangements with
- 21 33 community and minority banks in Illinois,
- 22 Pennsylvania, Maryland, and New Jersey. I would like

- 1 to encourage Exelon to consider implementing a similar
- 2 program in D.C. Clients of ours like City First Bank
- 3 or Industrial Bank would love to be a part of this
- 4 program.
- 5 In conclusion, I support the joint
- 6 application of PEPCO and Exelon. I believe the merging
- 7 of PEPCO, a good corporate citizen, with Exelon, a
- 8 robust, well-respected company and industry leader,
- 9 will enhance D.C.'s infrastructure and reliability
- 10 projects now underway, and bring other economic
- 11 benefits like new jobs and increased corporate spending
- 12 with certified minority- and women- owned businesses in
- 13 the D.C. area.
- Again, as a D.C. resident, as a D.C. business
- 15 owner, I strongly support this merger. Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much, Mr.
- 17 Horton.
- 18 Mr. Michael Sindram?
- (No response.)
- 20 CHAIRMAN KANE: James McGarry?
- MR. MCGARRY: Good evening. Thank you,
- 22 Chairperson Kane and members of the Commission, for

- 1 giving us this opportunity to testify. I am here on
- 2 behalf of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network and
- 3 also on behalf of myself as a D.C. ratepayer. The
- 4 Chesapeake Climate Action Network is a nonprofit
- 5 organization that works in Washington, D.C., Maryland,
- 6 and Virginia to fight climate change in the Mid-
- 7 Atlantic region, and we have several thousand
- 8 supporters in Washington, D.C.
- 9 First, as a D.C. ratepayer, as a PEPCO
- 10 ratepayer, I don't see anything in the merger that is
- 11 offering anything new to me as a benefit. In terms of
- 12 commitments on reliability, energy efficiency, I'm not
- 13 seeing any new commitments being offered by Exelon
- 14 incremental to anything that PEPCO has already agreed
- 15 to do. And in fact, I've read analysis that said that
- 16 the commitments that Exelon is making on reliability
- 17 are actually less than the commitments that the PSC has
- 18 already approved for PEPCO.
- So I've also heard people testify about the
- 20 ability of Exelon to keep rates low. But as somebody
- 21 who lived in Baltimore when BG&E and Constellation
- 22 merged with Exelon in 2012, I remember those same

- 1 claims being made.
- 2 However, the fact is that since the
- 3 Constellation/Exelon merger happened, BG&E has gotten
- 4 their rates raised four times, and I think that that is
- 5 possibly a preview of things that could come in D.C. if
- 6 this merger were to go through.
- 7 I haven't seen any commitments being made by
- 8 the company not to raise rates, nor any plans on how
- 9 they would keep rates low, beyond claims that they
- 10 would use synergies, which are poorly defined, to lower
- 11 costs. But I haven't seen any actual proposals on how
- 12 those costs would be lowered.
- In looking at the merger, it seems clear why
- 14 the deal would be good for Exelon and its shareholders.
- 15 Over the past four years, as the energy prices across
- 16 the country have dropped, Exelon's nuclear assets,
- 17 which comprise over 50 percent of their revenue, have
- 18 taken a big hit and have driven the company into the
- 19 red. Exelon's shares have lost 30 percent of their
- 20 value over the last four years, while at the same time
- 21 over that same period PEPCO's shares have actually
- 22 increased by over 70 percent.

- So looking at it from Exelon's point of view,
- 2 I can see why this merger would be a benefit to them.
- 3 However, from the point of view of a D.C. ratepayer, I
- 4 don't see the benefit that I would be getting from this
- 5 merger going through.
- On behalf of CCAN, I absolutely oppose this
- 7 merger because Exelon has taken public policy positions
- 8 that are harmful to the environment and that would
- 9 prevent the promotion of clean renewable energy.
- 10 Washington, D.C. prides itself as a leader in the field
- 11 of renewable energy and has a sustainable D.C. plan
- 12 that would make the city even more of a leader and get
- 13 more of its energy through renewable energy.
- 14 However, Exelon is consistently taking
- 15 positions that would make it more difficult to develop
- 16 wind energy and solar energy, most notably being their
- 17 public position as being the leading voice against the
- 18 extension of the production tax credit. That's a
- 19 federal production tax credit that lowers the cost of
- 20 wind energy.
- 21 They have taken positions against the
- 22 production tax credit because they say it's unfair to

74

- 1 their nuclear assets. And by opposing it, they are
- 2 driving up the cost of wind energy and making it more
- 3 costly for D.C. and other states to meet their
- 4 renewable energy standards.
- 5 They have also opposed renewable portfolio
- 6 standards, the expansion of renewable portfolio
- 7 standards in states around the country. Just last year
- 8 they opposed the proposal in Maryland to increase the
- 9 RPS, again because they said that it unfairly
- 10 discriminated against their nuclear assets.
- I would note that PEPCO did not take any
- 12 position on that bill, and that in my opinion it's
- 13 because they don't own any generation assets and are
- 14 merely a wire company that are responsible for
- 15 providing reliable service to their customers.
- And then lastly, Exelon has also opposed
- 17 community renewable generation. They opposed it last
- 18 year in Maryland, and they opposed it the year before.
- 19 And at a time when D.C.'s community renewable efforts
- 20 are just getting off the ground, this does not seem the
- 21 right time to put a company that opposes such an effort
- 22 in charge of 100 percent of D.C. ratepayers.

		75
1	So with that, I will conclude my testimony,	
2	and ask you to please reject the merger.	
3	CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you, Mr. McGarry.	
4	We have some additional people who have asked	
5	to speak. Jackie Ward?	
6	MS. WARD: Hi. Good evening.	
7	CHAIRMAN KANE: Good evening.	
8	MS. WARD: I come to this representing	
9	myself. But for the past previous four years, I worked	
10	for Councilman Marion Barry as his constituent service	
11	specialist. Therefore, as a constituent service	
12	specialist, one of the things I had to do was to talk	
13	to either Chris or Donna every day about giving someone	
14	a break on their utility bills. I have had a very	
15	close working relationship with both of them through	
16	the past couple of years.	
17	My concern is that the proposed merger and	
18	I also have got to say, for full disclosure, I own	
19	PEPCO stock so my concern with this proposed merger	
20	is that the gains we have made east of the river in	
21	terms of bringing solar to east of the river and giving	
22	people who would not have previously been able to	

- 1 afford that technology, who vanish under Exelon.
- We have worked very hard. If you look two
- 3 blocks down this way on Sheridan Station, if you look
- 4 up, there's about 10 solar arrays on top of that. That
- 5 has contributed since its opening to keeping down
- 6 costs, building costs, 25, 30 percent, which means that
- 7 when you want to say that you want to raise the rent of
- 8 the current taxpayer rate in terms of their rental
- 9 rates, that also keeps down -- that is also a very big
- 10 contributing factor.
- We have been able to put energy efficiencies
- 12 into areas in this ward which never had. We also are
- 13 home to the first geothermal unit, I think, in the city
- 14 at Wheeler Creek, where that is contributing to taking
- 15 down some of the monthly overall apartment building
- 16 costs.
- This is something that is very important to
- 18 us. We need to have groups like Community Solar more
- 19 involved. I understand Exelon takes the position that
- 20 they have a national infrastructure, but I think they
- 21 can alter their policy so that you don't take a one
- 22 size fits all, but it should be more as you go from

- 1 community to community, you alter that policy and you
- 2 make amendments to that policy.
- 3 There's something also very important, and
- 4 that is the importance of our small business people.
- 5 We have people here who are making 5 or 10 percent
- 6 every month above margin. We have also worked -- if
- 7 you go to -- there are six businesses up and down the
- 8 strip who are now working with solar technology, not
- 9 directly the solar arrays, but we put in water tanks
- 10 and stuff like that, and energy-efficient bulbs.
- 11 The kind of work we have been doing with
- 12 PEPCO and with D.C. Office of Environment that has
- 13 manifested itself so that our residents and our
- 14 businesses can take advantage of, I am not too sure
- 15 that if that moves to a corporate level, that they
- 16 would have the sensibility in which to do that.
- I am very glad they give to charities. I'm
- 18 very glad. But again, I see nothing in the proposal
- 19 that addresses our community concerns. It's nice that
- 20 they give to Salvation Army, Allen Memorial. But then
- 21 again, that only takes a small percentage of the ward.
- 22 That does not encompass the ward itself.

78

- 1 And we are not going to give somebody
- 2 approval of a merger because they give to D.C. Police
- 3 Foundation, they give to Allen Memorial Baptist Church,
- 4 they give to Salvation Army. That does not take in the
- 5 entire ward itself. It only takes in 2 or 3 percent of
- 6 the people who really use and access those services.
- 7 What they do access is that if there are
- 8 programs being given to help them as a community, I
- 9 would like to see corporate policies that address those
- 10 needs. And right now, unless Melissa can come up with
- 11 something in the next couple of months, I don't see
- 12 those needs here in our ward being addressed.
- So I like things the way they are. I like
- 14 the way how the current system is. So that's it.
- 15 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you. Thank you very
- 16 much, Ms. Ward, for your work.
- 17 Todd Nedwick?
- MR. NEDWICK: Good evening, Chairman and
- 19 Commissioners. Thank you for the opportunity to speak
- 20 at this forum. My name is Todd Nedwick. I'm the
- 21 housing and energy efficiency policy director at the
- 22 National Housing Trust.

1 We are a national nonprofit dedicated to safeguarding existing multi-family affordable housing and ensuring that low- income renters can benefit from 3 energy- efficient, healthy homes as well as renewable energy sources such as community solar. 6 The purpose of my testimony is to describe 7 the importance of increased energy efficiency investment and robust support for low-income consumers in the District in order to preserve affordable housing, protect vulnerable residential households, 10 11 preserve environmental quality, and support the economy 12 of the District. 13 These issues are relevant to determining 14 whether the proposed merger is in the public interest 15 and the effect of the merger on two of the seven 16 factors identified by the Commission, specifically, the effect of the merger on ratepayers and the economy of 17 18 the District, and the effect of the merger on conservation of natural resources and preservation of 19 20 environmental quality. 21 Our experience in D.C. demonstrates the 22 potential for significant, cost-effective energy

- 1 efficient improvements in the multi- family affordable
- 2 housing stock. We will soon complete the retrofit of
- 3 Channel Square Apartments in Southwest D.C. The
- 4 retrofit is expected to reduce energy usage by 20
- 5 percent, and the proposed energy efficiency measures
- 6 are expected to pay back in eight years. Channel Square
- 7 is part of an overall effort to green the entire
- 8 Southwest D.C. waterfront community and improve the
- 9 living experience of residents.
- In evaluating whether this merger provides
- 11 benefits to customers, I respectfully ask the
- 12 Commission to give special consideration to the
- 13 potential impact of the merger on low-income D.C.
- 14 families, the vast majority of whom, 77 percent, to be
- 15 exact, are low-income renters.
- Not surprisingly, three-fourths of low-income
- 17 renters are housing cost burdened, meaning they pay
- 18 more than 30 percent of their monthly income on
- 19 combined rent and utilities. Energy efficiency
- 20 improvements can provide lasting relief for renters
- 21 through lower utility bills or lower rents.
- The District has made progress when it comes

to energy efficiency. D.C. was identified by the American Council for an Energy Efficiency Economy as one of four states with the greatest improvement in ACEEE's energy efficiency scorecard, and the District ramping up the programs by the D.C. Sustainable Energy 6 Utility, and the policies emphasized in the District's 7 Sustainability Plan are major contributors to this improvement. While progress has been made, there is 8 9 still room for improvement, given that D.C. ranked 21 10 out of 51 jurisdictions evaluated for the report. 11 While the joint applicants have proposed several commitments in order to meet the public 12 13 interest standard, they are simply insufficient. 14 have proposed a customer investment fund that amounts 15 to approximately \$50 per customer. And when Exelon 16 acquired Constellation and took over BG&E in Maryland, they provided benefits four times higher on a per-17 18 customer basis. 19 The joint applicants have also proposed to 20 merely maintain and promote existing energy efficiency 21 programs rather than take any specific actions to

provide tangible additional benefits above and beyond

22

- 1 the status quo. Therefore, the merger as currently
- 2 proposed falls far short of meeting the public interest
- 3 standard that must be met for Commission approval.
- 4 The applicant's proposal does not provide
- 5 enough direct and tangible benefits to D.C. ratepayers
- 6 or to the economy of the District, and the proposal
- 7 provides few if any environmental benefits to D.C.
- 8 residents above and beyond the current status quo.
- 9 Thank you.
- 10 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you, Mr. Nedwick.
- 11 And Ben Breiterman?
- 12 MR. BREITERMAN: Good evening, Commissioners.
- 13 My name is Ben Breiterman. I'm a third generation
- 14 Washingtonian, currently living in Ward 4, and also
- 15 chief operations officer of Solar Solution, which is a
- 16 solar energy company, CBE, based here in Washington,
- 17 D.C. and operating in six states and Washington, D.C.
- I'm here to oppose the merger between Exelon
- 19 and PEPCO. I don't see the benefit of a huge
- 20 Corporation coming in and managing with a local utility
- 21 like PEPCO, how that benefits the community here. In
- 22 fact, I think it actually makes the rates more

- 1 vulnerable, as Exelon is a generator and producer of
- 2 electricity, whereas PEPCO is simply distributing it to
- 3 everything in D.C. here.
- 4 It leaves PEPCO a little bit less vulnerable
- 5 to changing times in terms of electricity prices, fuel
- 6 source prices, whereas Exelon, as some of the previous
- 7 people up here said, that the nuclear sources are a
- 8 little bit more vulnerable, which can affect the
- 9 pricing on Exelon.
- 10 So whether they're promising rates or they're
- 11 delivering them is one thing or another. And I think
- 12 that Exelon being a generation company, purchasing
- 13 PEPCO tightens their grip on the energy infrastructure
- 14 of the region.
- They can pick and choose what sources they
- 16 want to buy from, where it should be us, the people,
- 17 determining what energy sources we want to buy from.
- 18 And it also just limits the choice of energy sources,
- 19 and also affects the pricing. They have greater
- 20 control over the pricing by both owning the generation
- 21 and now also the poles and lines.
- 22 So in synopsis, I do not support this merger

as it further monopolizes the energy suppliers in this region and also around the country, as Exelon is one of the biggest electric producers in the country. And I don't think that's a direction that we 4 want to go here in D.C. as a community. I think we want to be able to choose our energy sources and have 7 us affect the prices rather than utilities affecting 8 the prices on us. Thank you. 9 CHAIRMAN KANE: Thank you very much, Mr. 10 Breiterman. 11 That concludes the folks who wish to testify, 12 and thank you again for coming out on this -- oh, yes. 13 Is there anyone who had signed up, who was on the 14 original list, and who wasn't here when I called their 15 name? 16 (No response.) 17 CHAIRMAN KANE: Okay. Let me just say again, 18 thank you very much for coming out. 19 As I said at the beginning, the record is

open in this case until nearly the end of March. And

everything, if you have additional thoughts, would like

if you either want to supplement what you said this

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85
    to send those in, they will all be put in the record.
               We will have two more hearings next week and
 2
 3
    the week after.
                (Whereupon, at 7:39 p.m., the public hearing
 4
 5
                was concluded.)
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86 1 CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY PUBLIC I, CHRISTINE ALLEN, the officer before whom the hearing was taken, do hereby certify that the 3 proceedings that appear in the foregoing transcript was taken by me in stenotype and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that said proceedings is a true record of the statements made: that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by and of the 10 parties to the action in which these proceedings was taken; and, further, that I am not a relative or 11 12 employee of any counsel or attorney employed by 13 the parties hereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of this action. 14 Phristine E. aller 15 16 17 18 CHRISTINE ALLEN 19 20 21 22

Page 1

		<u> </u>	
\$	10:15 14:17 68:9	<b>20005</b> 7:15	<b>34</b> 2:17
<b>\$1</b> 68:15	<b>115</b> 54:14,15	<b>20020</b> 1:16	<b>34-1001</b> 4:21
<b>\$1.1</b> 63:19	12th 8:3	<b>2003</b> 69:8,15	<b>34-504</b> 4:21
<b>\$1.6</b> 20:4 22:18	<b>130</b> 36:16	<b>2005</b> 32:19 44:19	<b>36</b> 2:19
25:18 31:14 45:5	<b>1300</b> 20:18 31:4	<b>2009</b> 39:5	370,000 65:15
<b>\$10</b> 22:18	<b>1333</b> 7:13	<b>2011</b> 52:4	
<b>\$100</b> 49:5 69:1	<b>134</b> 20:19	<b>2012</b> 64:18 71:22	4
<b>\$123</b> 69:17	<b>136</b> 37:19	<b>2013</b> 20:3 31:14	4 2:2 82:14
<b>\$135</b> 30:16	13th 5:6	45:13,21 51:16	<b>40</b> 2:20 50:2 52:18
<b>\$14</b> 30:14 46:15 52:8	<b>14</b> 2:5 29:20	60:6	<b>43-1/2</b> 65:11
<b>\$150</b> 53:16 66:1	14-state 12:10	<b>2014</b> 4:15 6:19	<b>44</b> 2:22
<b>\$16</b> 46:1	<b>15</b> 13:22 23:14	<b>2015</b> 1:10 7:19	<b>47</b> 3:3
<b>\$216</b> 65:14	<b>15,000</b> 55:8	<b>2017</b> 55:9	<b>49</b> 3:4
<b>\$36</b> 69:8	<b>158</b> 55:8	<b>2018</b> 11:17	<b>4th</b> 24:1
<b>\$400</b> 53:17	<b>16</b> 62:17	<b>202</b> 7:6	5
<b>\$412</b> 66:1	<b>17</b> 2:6	<b>20th</b> 8:5	<b>5</b> 77:5
<b>\$50</b> 81:15	<b>17530</b> 6:18	<b>21</b> 2:9 81:9	<b>50</b> 14:12 66:6 72:17
<b>\$56.75</b> 65:11	<b>17597</b> 5:15 6:21	<b>24</b> 2:11	501(c)(3 32:5
<b>\$60</b> 52:18	<b>17642</b> 6:21	<b>2427</b> 1:15	<b>51</b> 81:10
<b>\$71</b> 53:13 65:20	<b>17658</b> 6:21	<b>25</b> 76:6	<b>53</b> 17:13
<b>\$80</b> 65:14	17th 10:14 11:5 12:2	<b>26</b> 2:13 7:19	<b>54</b> 3:5
<b>\$95</b> 20:18 30:16	63:4 65:8	<b>26-apartment</b> 37:12	<b>56</b> 3:6
<b>\$and</b> 20:19	<b>18</b> 4:15	<b>26th</b> 10:1	<b>59</b> 3:7
	<b>1880</b> 36:16	<b>27</b> 6:19	37 3.1
1 1 11:14	19 2:8	<b>28</b> 9:5	6
<b>10</b> 2:4 20:5 22:18	<b>1950s</b> 34:15	<b>29</b> 2:15 14:10	<b>6</b> 1:10
25:15,20 40:6	<b>1985</b> 14:10		<b>6:00</b> 1:13 4:2 8:3,5
45:14 76:4 77:5	<b>1993</b> 34:13	3 3 12:4 78:5	<b>60</b> 14:12
<b>10,000</b> 25:7 26:2	<b>1999</b> 13:6	<b>30</b> 23:13 72:19 76:6	<b>62</b> 3:9
<b>100</b> 2:11 24:22 25:4		80:18	<b>6200</b> 37:22
74:22	2	<b>300</b> 20:11	<b>626-5150</b> 7:6
<b>10-year</b> 69:6	<b>2</b> 11:17 78:5	<b>32</b> 2:16	<b>65</b> 55:10,11
<b>11</b> 32:18 53:11 65:17	<b>20</b> 33:2 80:4	<b>33</b> 69:21	<b>67</b> 3:10
<b>1119</b> 1:5 5:3 6:20	<b>200</b> 7:14		

1			
	76:11 84:6	activities 26:9 63:1	affairs 56:22 57:8
7 7 32:18 34:13 40:20	above-captioned	actual 72:11	affect 83:8 84:7
59:14	1:12	actually 13:17 20:3	affected 35:12 45:20
7:39 85:4	above-market 53:6	41:22 71:17 72:21	50:11
<b>70</b> 3:11 72:22	above-market-rate	82:22	affecting 84:7
<b>700</b> 20:8 61:7	64:5	<b>ADA</b> 14:8	affects 83:19
<b>75</b> 3:12	abreast 34:22	add 54:8	affiliated 6:5
	absolutely 73:6	addictions 37:20	afford 60:13 76:1
77 80:14	absorbed 52:1	addition 26:6,10	affordable 13:13
<b>78</b> 3:14	<b>abuse</b> 37:17	additional 8:2 9:22	46:1,3 79:2,9 80:1
8	Academy 1:14	18:14 24:7 46:18	afforded 69:17
8 28:12,14 32:19	accept 12:9	48:2 69:10 75:4 81:22 84:22	African 26:1
49:21,22 50:3,5,16	access 7:1 20:12	Additionally 33:16	afternoon 32:12
56:17 58:15	50:16 60:6,10	37:17 45:17	against 13:10
<b>80</b> 53:14	78:6,7	address 62:11 78:9	73:17,21 74:10
80,000 55:6	accessibility 55:21 56:1	addressed 61:21	age 55:10,11
801 8:7		78:12	agencies 21:11 38:5
<b>82</b> 3:15	accessible 56:2 57:11	addresses 77:19	ages 38:17
<b>83</b> 65:21	Accordingly 43:14	adequate 42:3	aging 56:4
<b>84</b> 3:16	ACEEE's 81:4	adjacent 51:2	ago 19:2 62:22
<b>85</b> 3:17	achieve 30:6,12 43:2	Adjournment 3:17	agreed 71:14
<b>85,000</b> 36:22	achieved 41:21	adjustments 15:7	ahead 8:22 9:8,12
<b>8B07</b> 56:18	acquired 81:16	administration	Akili 3:4 49:17,20
		56:22 58:5	Allen 1:22 2:22
9	acquisition 63:2,5 67:7	administrative 6:1	44:17 45:21 51:16
900 8:4 20:18 31:3	across 28:11 32:15	43:8	77:20 78:3 86:2,18
91 46:2	52:22 72:15	advance 69:15	Alliance 65:8
9th 5:6	act 13:11 26:12	advantage 77:14	allocate 69:1
	51:16 60:4	advantages 15:22	allow 6:19 27:10
Abengoa 64:17	acted 13:10	advising 68:2	allowed 24:10
	action 3:11 59:17	Advisory 18:1	allowing 26:7
<b>ability</b> 6:7 13:12 41:13 51:4 71:20	71:2,4 86:10,14	advocacy 15:5	alone 5:20 33:5
able 8:20 18:11,12	actions 81:21	advocate 15:12	36:22
20:12 25:12 48:15	activist 15:13 50:4	AEDC 28:15	already 6:18 11:20
56:2 58:3 75:22	61:22	23.15	20:17 50:19

	1 48	5	
71:14,18	anybody 8:18 54:20	areas 5:17 68:2	26:3
alter 76:21 77:1	anyone 9:7 84:13	69:5,19 76:12	attention 28:1
<b>am</b> 17:15,20 18:7,11 24:22 31:5,15	<b>anything</b> 71:10,11,14	<b>arm</b> 29:17 <b>Army</b> 2:19 36:14,17	attorney 68:19 86:12
32:14 33:10 40:20 41:5 42:3,20,21 44:17 45:12 49:21	apart 66:4,22 apartment 76:15	37:11,18 38:4,12 39:7,20 40:7,13	attorneys 67:22 attraction 29:19
58:14 59:12,13	Apartments 80:3	54:14 77:20 78:4	audio 8:11,16
67:20 68:7,10,22	apparent 24:1	Army's 38:15 39:11	audit 64:18
71:1 77:14,17 86:8,11	apparently 53:10	arrangements 69:20	AUTHORIZATIO
amazing 49:2	appear 17:19 86:4	array 42:11	N 1:6
AME 2:22 44:17	appeared 27:16	arrays 76:4 77:9	authorized 64:21
51:16	applicants 6:5 23:15	Arrington 2:5 14:3	<b>Avenue</b> 1:15 37:19
amendments 77:2	81:11,19	article 65:18	average 11:15 20:2
<b>America</b> 46:5 61:3	applicant's 82:4	artists 33:9 arts 32:17 33:6	31:12 65:12,14
<b>American</b> 26:1 81:2	Applicants 11:14,18	Askew 67:21	averaging 65:11
among 45:7	12:5	assets 72:16	away 52:10 61:7
amount 50:11 55:12	<b>application</b> 1:4 4:15,16 17:20	74:1,10,13	В
65:13	18:7,10,20 34:4	assist 26:16	Baby 55:9
amounts 81:14	70:6	assistance 33:18,20	backs 53:1
Anacostia 2:13	appreciate 47:3	35:11 37:3,21 38:7	bad 8:21 11:4
14:12 27:5 29:6 33:22 38:21 39:1	49:10 58:5	39:11,16 40:4 45:18 46:9,19 51:4	<b>balance</b> 43:3 52:22
analogy 60:22	appreciation 51:12	69:4	Baltimore 48:10
analyses 11:7	<b>approval</b> 1:6 4:20 14:15 15:10,19	assistant 21:20	71:21
analysis 65:3,7	24:16 63:7 78:2	associated 6:4 27:14	Bank 70:2,3
71:15	82:3	42:22 58:10	<b>Banking</b> 69:7,16
analysts 64:9	approve 18:8 47:5	associates 20:12	banks 69:10,18,21
<b>ANC</b> 56:17 57:21	49:13	Association 18:3	Baptist 78:3
58:1,16	<b>approved</b> 31:15 47:1 71:18	49:9	<b>Barry</b> 75:10
Angel 39:11	approximately 66:8	Associations 17:22 Atlantic 71:7	based 12:1 13:9
Ann 1:18 4:8	81:15	attempting 63:21	14:11,18 25:5,13 47:4 56:20 82:16
Anne 2:2 3:16	area 12:10 21:6 24:5	attempting 63:21	basis 15:18 81:18
annual 20:1 31:12 39:10	25:8 33:4 36:13 38:16 45:1,8 53:15	attended 22:11	basketball 26:3
<b>Anthony</b> 3:5 54:3	65:6 70:13	attended 22:11 attending 10:14	bear 43:7 58:20
		3	

Deceme   10:17     4:8		T	Ī	
begin 45:3   Second 17:3   Second 17:4   Sec	became 10:17	4:8	Bowser's 21:21	
begin 45:3 beginning 84:19 behalf 14:8 19:5 20:10 22:1 25:2 bigger 10:21 believe 26:15 36:5 39:18 41:8 42:9 43:14 44:22 47:21 48:3,20 57:16 believes 22:7 bilion 63:19 68:16 brieferman 3:15 briefer 27:11 briefly 2	become 13:4 55:14	_	boy 47:14	
BG&E 71:21 72:3   Si:16   17:5,6,10,15,18   39:22 48:21   39:22 48:21   39:22 48:21   68:3,17,21   69:12,18 70:12   77:7,14   69:12,18 70:12   77:7,14   69:12,18 70:12   60:20 70:6   60	begin 45:3	STANDARD COLOR POLICE POLIC	boys 26:1	
behalf 14:8 19:5	beginning 84:19		<b>Brannum</b> 2:6 16:22	
believe 26:15 36:5     39:18 41:8 42:9     43:14 44:22 47:21     48:3,20 57:16     believes 22:7     Bell 2:21     44:13,14,16 47:8     Ben 3:15 82:11,13     beneficial 15:7 29:8     51:14     benefit 10:22 11:10     12:18 13:15 27:17     31:17 39:13 51:2,3     69:2 71:11 73:2,4 79:3 82:19     benefits 16:1,6     20:19 22:9 28:4     30:16 35:8 42:12     43:21 44:3 47:4     48:20 49:5 70:11     80:11,14 (22 49:8     Bloomberg 65:19     benefiting 19:18     21:9     best 15:1,2,20 18:13     36:5 45:1     better 10:21     better 10:22     better 10:21     better 10:22     better 10:21     better 10:22     better 10:21     better 10:21     better 10:22     better 10:21     better 10:22     better 10:22     better 10:21     better 10:21     better 10:21     better 10:22     better 10:21     better 10:21     better 10:21     better 10:21     better 10:21     better 10:22     better 10:22     better 10:21     better 10:21     better 10:22     better 10:21     better 10:22     better 10:21     better	behalf 14:8 19:5	55000 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 0		
Display 1   Disp				
behind 21:8  believe 26:15 36:5 39:18 41:8 42:9 43:14 44:22 47:21 48:3,20 57:16 60:20 70:6  believes 22:7  Bell 2:21 44:13,14,16 47:8 Ben 3:15 82:11,13 beneficial 15:7 29:8 51:14 benefit 10:22 11:10 12:18 13:15 27:17 31:17 39:13 51:2,3 69:2 71:11 73:2,4 79:3 82:19 benefits 16:1,6 20:19 22:9 28:4 30:16 35:8 42:12 48:20 49:5 70:11 80:11 81:17,22 82:5,7,21 benefitting 19:18 21:9 best 15:1,2,20 18:13 36:5 45:1 bike 51:10 bike 51:10 bike 51:10 bike 51:10 bike 51:12 bike 51:17 bike 60:6,13 bike 51:12 bike 61:8 bike 51:12 bike 61:8 bike 51:12 bike 61:8 bild 2:12 26:21 27:3 bike 61:8 bild 2:12 26:21 27:1 bike fif 17:17 birefly 27:11 birefly 2			50 TO 1 SER SON SON SON	
believe 26:15 36:5 39:18 41:8 42:9 43:14 44:22 47:21 48:3,20 57:16 60:20 70:6 believes 22:7  Bell 2:21 44:13,14,16 47:8 Ben 3:15 82:11,13 beneficial 15:7 29:8 51:14 benefit 10:22 11:10 12:18 13:15 27:17 31:17 39:13 51:2,3 69:2 71:11 73:2,4 79:3 82:19 benefits 16:1,6 20:19 22:9 28:4 30:16 35:8 42:12 43:21 44:3 47:4 48:20 49:5 70:11 80:11 81:17,22 82:57,21 benefitting 19:18 21:9 best 15:1,2,20 18:13 36:5 45:1 bill 2:12 26:21 27:3 33:18 46:18 60:6,13 69:3 74:12 billoin 63:19 68:16 briefly 27:11 briefly 27:11 briefly 27:11 briefly 27:11 brighter 38:2 bring 31:3 36:1 56:7 59:22 70:10 bringing 75:21 brings 42:16 60:6,18 brought 28:1 brown 38:22 39:4 40:14 bucket 52:8 buddy 51:9 buddy 51:9 capabilities 55:20 capability 56:9 capacity 56:7 57:8 capital 23:21 36:14 37:1 69:11 Capitol 8:7 carer 23:5 careful 12:19 carry 19:17 case 1:5 5:2 6:17,20 7:4,18 10:14 1:17 burying 68:12 business 6:6 10:18 14-10 19: 21-9  boutique 67:21 business 6:6 10:18 14-10 19: 21-9 27:4,415 28:3 32:7				
39:18 41:8 42:9 43:14 44:22 47:21 48:3,20 57:16 60:20 70:6 billion 63:19 68:16 billion 63:19 68:10 billion 63:19 69:11 biring 13: 36:1 56:7 calculate 65:9 Calculate 65:9 Calculate 65:9 Campulation: calculate 65:9 cap		300000000000000000000000000000000000000		
A3:14 44:22 47:21	1909 R. DOLD M. St. 20 (St.) - MODERNINGSHOOD BY CANADISO	1		
Billion 63:19 68:16		The state of the s		buys 10:18
believes 22:7  bell 2:21  44:13,14,16 47:8  Ben 3:15 82:11,13  beneficial 15:7 29:8 51:14  binding 10:19  bit 22:20 42:7 54:15 83:4,8  Black 2:11,20 24:22 25:4 40:21  binding 3:5 26:18 54:3,17 39:13 51:2,3 69:2 71:11 73:2,4 79:3 82:19  benefits 16:1,6 20:19 22:9 28:4 30:16 35:8 42:12 43:21 44:3 47:4 48:20 49:5 70:11 80:11 81:17,22 82:5,7,21  benefitting 19:18 21:9  best 15:1,2,20 18:13 36:5 45:1  better 10:21 57:10 75:14 80:21 binding 10:19 bit 22:20 42:7 54:15 83:48 bit 22:20 42:7 54:15 83:48 bit 22:20 42:7 54:15 83:48 bit 22:20 42:7 54:15 binding 10:19 bit 22:20 42:7 54:15 59:22 70:10 bringing 75:21 brings 42:16 60:6,18 brought 28:1 brought 3:1 capabilities 55:2 capabilities 55:2 capabilities 55:2 carpabilities 55:2 carpabil				
believes 22:7  Bell 2:21 44:13,14,16 47:8  Ben 3:15 82:11,13 beneficial 15:7 29:8 51:14 benefit 10:22 11:10 12:18 13:15 27:17 31:17 39:13 51:2,3 69:2 71:11 73:2,4 79:3 82:19 benefits 16:1,6 20:19 22:9 28:4 30:16 35:8 42:12 43:21 44:3 47:4 48:20 49:5 70:11 80:11 81:17,22 82:57,21 benefitting 19:18 21:9 best 15:1,2,20 18:13 36:5 45:1 binding 10:19 bit 22:20 42:7 54:15 83:4,8 Black 2:11,20 24:22 25:4 40:21 bind 3:5 26:18 54:6,11,14,19 55:7 blocks 51:2 76:3 blocks 51:2 76:3 blocks 51:2 76:3 blocks 51:9 blocks 51:2 76:3 blocks 51:9 buddy 51:9 capabilities 55:20 capability 56:9 capacity 56:7 57:8 capital 23:21 36:14 37:1 69:11 Capitol 8:7 care 46:13 care 46:	1950   19	6-28/03/03/04   Nation Andropedy   Residential Andropedy   West   Common Microsoft (Common Andropedy (		
Bell 2:21         binding 10:19         brighter 38:2         Calvert 66:5,7           Ben 3:15 82:11,13         bit 22:20 42:7 54:15         bring 31:3 36:1 56:7         Campaign 39:12,15           beneficial 15:7 29:8 51:14         Black 2:11,20 24:22 25:4 40:21         brings 42:16 60:6,18         Cancelosi 3:5         Cancelosi 3:5         54:3,4,5 55:1           benefit 10:22 11:10 12:18 13:15 27:17 31:17 39:13 51:2,3         blind 3:5 26:18 54:6,11,14,19 55:7         Brown 38:22 39:4 40:14         brought 28:1         Cancelosi 3:5 54:3,4,5 55:1 56:11           benefits 16:1,6 20:19 22:9 28:4 30:16 35:8 42:12 43:21 44:3 47:4 48:20 49:5 70:11 80:11 81:17,22 82:5,7,21         Bloomberg 65:19 buddy 51:9         budgets 11:19 build 33:11         capital 23:21 36:14 37:1 69:11         Capital 8:7         care 46:13 career 23:5           benefitting 19:18 21:9         books 52:22 bulbs 54:18,20 55:2 77:10         burdened 80:17 burying 68:12 bountique 67:21         burdened 80:17 burying 68:12 bountique 67:21         business 6:6 10:18 business 6:6 10:1			ľ	
beneficial 15:7 29:8 51:14  benefit 10:22 11:10 12:18 13:15 27:17 31:17 39:13 51:2,3 69:2 71:11 73:2,4 79:3 82:19  benefits 16:1,6 20:19 22:9 28:4 30:16 35:8 42:12 43:21 44:3 47:4 48:20 49:5 70:11 80:11 81:17,22 82:5,7,21  benefitting 19:18 21:9 best 15:1,2,20 18:13 36:5 45:1 bit 22:20 42:7 54:15 83:4,8  Black 2:11,20 24:22 25:4 40:21 blind 3:5 26:18 54:3,1,5 55:1 brought 28:1 brings 31:3 36:1 56:7 59:22 70:10 brings 42:16 60:6,18 brought 28:1 brought 28:1  Brown 38:22 39:4 40:14 bucket 52:8 buddy 51:9 buddy 51:9 buddy 51:9 buddy 51:9 buddy 51:9 buddy 51:9 buddy 33:11 Capital 23:21 36:14 37:1 69:11 Capital 33:1 69:11 Capital 33:1 69:11 Capital 33:1 56:7 59:22 70:10 Campus 32:17 Cancelosi 3:5 54:3,4,5 55:1 56:11 capabilities 55:20 capability 56:9 capacity 56:7 57:8 capital 23:21 36:14 37:1 69:11 Capital 8:7 care 46:13 care 46			brighter 38:2	
beneficial 15:7 29:8 51:14  beneficial 15:7 29:8 51:14  benefit 10:22 11:10 12:18 13:15 27:17 31:17 39:13 51:2,3 69:2 71:11 73:2,4 79:3 82:19  benefits 16:1,6 20:19 22:9 28:4 30:16 35:8 42:12 43:21 44:3 47:4 48:20 49:5 70:11 80:11 81:17,22 82:57,21  benefitting 19:18 21:9 best 15:1,2,20 18:13 36:5 45:1 better 10:21 55:15,16 63:8   83:4,8  Black 2:11,20 24:22 25:4 40:21 brings 42:16 60:6,18 brought 28:1 brought 32:17 Cancelosi 3:5 54:3,4,5 55:1 56:11 capabilities 55:20 capacity 56:9 capacity 56:7 57:8 buddy 51:9 buddy 51:9 buddets 11:19 build 33:11 build 33:11 board 22:2,22 23:12 40:22 49:8 Bonney 22:13 built 51:18 52:19 bulbs 54:18,20 55:2 77:10 burdened 80:17 burying 68:12 business 6:6 10:18 14:10 10:8 21:0 business 6:6 10:18 14:10 10:8 21:0				
Black 2:11,20 24:22   25:4 40:21   brings 42:16 60:6,18   54:3,4,5 55:1   56:11   56:20   capabilities 55:20   capability 56:9   capacity 56:7 57:8   buddy 51:9   buddy 51:11   57:16 60:11   57:16 60:15   building 32:15 49:9   51:17 76:6,15   building 32:15 49:9   51:17 76:6,15   built 51:18 52:19   buddy 51:9   buddy 51:9   buddy 51:9   building 32:15 49:9   51:17 76:6,15   built 51:18 52:19   buddy 51:9   buddy 51:9   built 51:18 52:19   buddy 51:9   51:17 76:6,15   care 46:13   career 23:5   careful 12:19   care 46:13   career 23:5   careful 12:19   care 12:15 5:2 6:17,20   7:4,18 10:14 14:17   burying 68:12   7:4,18 10:14 14:17   27:14,15 28:3 32:7   27:14,15 28:				•
benefit 10:22 11:10 12:18 13:15 27:17 31:17 39:13 51:2,3 69:2 71:11 73:2,4 79:3 82:19  benefits 16:1,6 20:19 22:9 28:4 30:16 35:8 42:12 43:21 44:3 47:4 48:20 49:5 70:11 80:11 81:17,22 82:57,21  benefitting 19:18 21:9 best 15:1,2,20 18:13 36:5 45:1 better 10:21 55:15,16 63:8  blind 3:5 26:18 54:3,4,5 55:1 56:11  Brown 38:22 39:4 40:14 bucket 52:8 buddy 51:9 buddy 33:11 Capital 23:21 36:14 37:1 69:11 Capital 8:7 built 51:18 52:19 bullt 51:18 52:19 bullt 51:18 52:19 bullt 51:18 52:19 bullt 51:18 52:19 burdened 80:17 burying 68:12 7:4,18 10:14 14:17 burying 68:12 business 6:6 10:18		Black 2:11,20 24:22		-
blind 3:5 26:18	1 11		brings 42:16 60:6,18	10.00
31:17 39:13 51:2,3       54:6,11,14,19 55:7       Brown 38:22 39:4       capabilities 55:20         69:2 71:11 73:2,4       block 51:1       40:14       capability 56:9         79:3 82:19       blocks 51:2 76:3       bucket 52:8       capability 56:9         benefits 16:1,6       Bloomberg 65:19       buddy 51:9       capability 56:9         20:19 22:9 28:4       Bloomberg 65:19       budgets 11:19       37:1 69:11         43:21 44:3 47:4       Blue 18:4 19:1 41:1       build 33:11       Capital 23:21 36:14         48:20 49:5 70:11       board 22:2,22 23:12       building 32:15 49:9       carebon 29:1         82:5,7,21       board 22:2,22 23:12       built 51:18 52:19       care 46:13         benefitting 19:18       books 52:22       bulbs 54:18,20 55:2       careful 12:19         21:9       books 52:22       burdened 80:17       case 1:5 5:2 6:17,20         better 10:21       bought 54:18,20       burying 68:12       7:4,18 10:14 14:17         55:15,16 63:8       boutique 67:21       business 6:6 10:18		blind 3:5 26:18	brought 28:1	
block   51:1   block   51:2   76:3   block   51:1   76:6   75:8   capacity   56:7   57:8   capacity	31:17 39:13 51:2,3	54:6,11,14,19 55:7	CONTROL SERVICE SERVICES STARTED SERVICES SERVIC	capabilities 55:20
benefits 16:1,6         Bloomberg 65:19         buddy 51:9         capacity 56:7 57:8           30:16 35:8 42:12         Bloomingdale 18:3         buddy 51:9         capital 23:21 36:14           43:21 44:3 47:4         Blue 18:4 19:1 41:1         build 33:11         Capitol 8:7           48:20 49:5 70:11         board 22:2,22 23:12         building 32:15 49:9         carbon 29:1           80:11 81:17,22         40:22 49:8         built 51:18 52:19         care 46:13           benefitting 19:18         books 52:22         bulbs 54:18,20 55:2         careful 12:19           best 15:1,2,20 18:13         boomers 55:9         burdened 80:17         care 1:5 5:2 6:17,20           better 10:21         bought 54:18,20         burying 68:12         7:4,18 10:14 14:17           55:15,16 63:8         boutique 67:21         business 6:6 10:18         27:14,15 28:3 32:7		block 51:1	0.000.000	capability 56:9
20:19 22:9 28:4 30:16 35:8 42:12 43:21 44:3 47:4 48:20 49:5 70:11 80:11 81:17,22 82:5,7,21  benefitting 19:18 21:9  best 15:1,2,20 18:13 36:5 45:1  better 10:21 55:15,16 63:8  bloomingdale 18:3  budgets 11:19 build 33:11  Capitol 8:7 carebon 29:1 care 46:13 care 46:13 care 46:13 care 46:13 care 46:13 care 40:13 bulbs 54:18,20 55:2 77:10 burdened 80:17 burdened 80:17 burdened 80:17 burying 68:12  business 6:6 10:18 14:10 10:8 21:9  budgets 11:19  build 33:11 Capitol 8:7 care 46:13 care 46:13 care 23:5 careful 12:19 case 1:5 5:2 6:17,20 7:4,18 10:14 14:17 business 6:6 10:18 14:10 10:8 21:9		blocks 51:2 76:3		capacity 56:7 57:8
Bloomingdale 18:3   Budgets 11:19   37:1 69:11   Capitol 8:7   carbon 29:1   51:17 76:6,15   build 51:18 52:19   career 23:5   careful 12:19   case 1:5 5:2 6:17,20   7:4,18 10:14 14:17   27:14,15 28:3 32:7   27:14,15 2		Bloomberg 65:19		capital 23:21 36:14
48:20 49:5 70:11       board 22:2,22 23:12       building 32:15 49:9       carbon 29:1         80:11 81:17,22       40:22 49:8       built 51:18 52:19         benefitting 19:18       books 52:22       bulbs 54:18,20 55:2         21:9       books 52:22       bulbs 54:18,20 55:2         best 15:1,2,20 18:13       born 49:21       burdened 80:17         better 10:21       bought 54:18,20       burying 68:12         55:15,16 63:8       boutique 67:21       business 6:6 10:18	and the second transfer of the second transfe	Bloomingdale 18:3	budgets 11:19	
80:11 81:17,22 82:5,7,21  benefitting 19:18 21:9  best 15:1,2,20 18:13 36:5 45:1  better 10:21 55:15,16 63:8  board 22:2,22 23:12 40:22 49:8  Bonney 22:13 built 51:18 52:19 bulbs 54:18,20 55:2 77:10 burdened 80:17 burdened 80:17 burying 68:12 business 6:6 10:18 27:14,15 28:3 32:7  business 6:6 10:18 27:14,15 28:3 32:7	100 company and 100 company and 100 company and 100 company	Blue 18:4 19:1 41:1	<b>build</b> 33:11	Capitol 8:7
82:5,7,21  benefitting 19:18 21:9  best 15:1,2,20 18:13 36:5 45:1  better 10:21 55:15,16 63:8  80nney 22:13 books 52:22  Boomers 55:9 born 49:21 bought 54:18,20 boutique 67:21  built 51:18 52:19 bulbs 54:18,20 55:2 77:10  burdened 80:17 burdened 80:17 burying 68:12  7:4,18 10:14 14:17 27:14,15 28:3 32:7		board 22:2,22 23:12		carbon 29:1
benefitting 19:18         Bonney 22:13         built 51:18 52:19         career 23:5           21:9         books 52:22         bulbs 54:18,20 55:2         careful 12:19           best 15:1,2,20 18:13         Boomers 55:9         burdened 80:17         carry 19:17           better 10:21         bought 54:18,20         burying 68:12         7:4,18 10:14 14:17           55:15,16 63:8         boutique 67:21         business 6:6 10:18         27:14,15 28:3 32:7		40:22 49:8		care 46:13
21:9 best 15:1,2,20 18:13 36:5 45:1 better 10:21 55:15,16 63:8 books 52:22 77:10 burdened 80:17 burdened 80:17 burdened 80:17 burying 68:12 careful 12:19 carry 19:17 case 1:5 5:2 6:17,20 7:4,18 10:14 14:17 business 6:6 10:18 27:14,15 28:3 32:7		<b>Bonney</b> 22:13	<b>built</b> 51:18 52:19	career 23:5
best 15:1,2,20 18:13       Boomers 55:9       burdened 80:17         36:5 45:1       born 49:21       burying 68:12         better 10:21       bought 54:18,20       business 6:6 10:18         55:15,16 63:8       boutique 67:21       27:14,15 28:3 32:7	_	books 52:22	,	careful 12:19
36:5 45:1 born 49:21 burying 68:12 case 1:5 5:2 6:17,20 7:4,18 10:14 14:17 55:15,16 63:8 burtique 67:21 burying 68:12 27:14,15 28:3 32:7	best 15:1,2,20 18:13	Boomers 55:9		V-100000-100-100-100-100-100-100-100-100
better 10:21 bought 54:18,20 business 6:6 10:18 27:14,18 10:14 14:17 business 6:6 10:18 27:14,15 28:3 32:7	, ,	<b>born</b> 49:21		
55:15,16 63:8 business 6:6 10:18 27:14,15 28:3 32:7	NEXT TEMPORE SECTION S	bought 54:18,20		
	55:15,16 63:8			
	Betty 1:18 2:2 3:16		14.10 19.8 21.9	37:8,14 52:20 65:4

68:8 84:20	59:3,7 62:6	Chico 3:10 67:19	72:13
cases 16:16	67:11,14,17	chief 23:9 27:4	clients 68:20 70:2
Catherine 2:7 17:2	70:16,20 75:3,7 78:15,18 82:10	82:15	<b>Cliffs</b> 66:5,7
19:3,5	84:9,17	children 25:7,10	climate 3:11 59:17
Cathy 23:9	Chairperson 14:7	37:13,22	71:2,4,6
cause 52:19 66:14	70:22	choice 83:18	<b>clock</b> 9:20
<b>CBE</b> 82:16	challenge 23:16	<b>choose</b> 83:15 84:6	close 64:10 66:9
CBEs 68:3	66:19	Chris 22:12 75:13	75:15
CCAN 73:6	challenged 64:8	Christ 36:20	closely 63:1
celebrating 36:16	challenges 23:11	Christian 36:19	<b>closing</b> 3:16 30:18
center 37:12 38:22	Chamber 49:7	Christine 1:22	36:3 53:8
39:4,5	<b>chance</b> 13:21 59:2	86:2,18	<b>closure</b> 64:15 66:14
CEO 19:6,20 22:12	<b>Chang</b> 11:6,13	Christmas 37:21	clothes 38:1
29:15 54:6	12:4,11,12,15,22	Christopher 19:20	clothing 39:14
certain 6:16 27:22	13:14	Church 2:22 36:19	Club 19:21 22:11
33:10	<b>change</b> 4:21 48:15 50:9 71:6	44:17 78:3	50:14 59:15,19
certainly 9:2 13:20	changing 83:5	churches 60:15	<b>Club's</b> 59:11
CERTIFICATE 86:1	Changing 83.3	citing 10:19	coaching 20:13
	12:1,8,20	citizen 14:20 18:1	<b>coal</b> 61:18
certified 70:12	<b>Channel</b> 80:3,6	19:1 59:13 68:10 70:7	Coburn 3:3
certify 86:3	<b>Chapel</b> 2:22 44:17	citizens 13:12 25:11	47:9,10,12 49:16
cetera 12:17 60:17	45:21	33:14 45:2	code 4:20 23:15
<b>chair</b> 15:14 40:20,22	<b>chapter</b> 40:21 59:18	city 15:12,16,18,20	<b>cold</b> 5:11
<b>chairman</b> 1:18 2:2 3:16 4:3,9 10:5,11	<b>charge</b> 21:20 74:22	20:9 41:10 46:4,5	collaborations 30:8
13:19 14:1,6	<b>charged</b> 42:22 46:16	59:20 68:13 70:2 73:12 76:13	colleague 14:3
16:8,11,12,19,22	charitable 20:2		colleagues 21:11
17:2,5,13,22	22:14 31:12 45:4	Civic 17:21 18:3	61:22
18:9,21 21:14 24:17 26:20	46:21	claim 66:19	collected 39:15
27:1,2,9 29:10	<b>charities</b> 45:5 77:17	claims 72:1,9	<b>college</b> 8:7 24:10 50:1
31:19 32:4,6,10,13	Charles 40:14	clarify 31:20	Columbia 1:2 3:5
34:5,10 36:7,11 40:12,16,18	charter 47:15	clarifying 32:6	5:1 8:6 18:10,16
44:11,15 47:7,10	chatted 27:15	<b>class</b> 60:12	20:4 22:10,15 23:4
49:15 53:21	Chesapeake 3:11	clean 28:22 42:13	26:18 28:10
56:11,14 58:8,12,17,19,21	59:17 71:2,4	73:9	29:8,19 30:5 31:8 36:16 37:2 38:9
56.6,12,17,19,21	Chicago 13:9	clear 27:17 32:8	39:2 42:11 43:3,4

45:10 49:8 50:9	47:4 49:11,19 54:4	57:5,6,8,14,16,21	77:19
54:6,10,13,18,21 55:8 60:1	59:9 62:10 67:18 78:19 82:12	58:4 59:11,22 60:4 61:13,22	conclude 75:1
combined 30:14	Commission's 5:7	69:7,16,21	concluded 85:5
46:20 80:19	6:7 7:11,12	74:17,19 76:18	concludes 84:11
comes 60:22 61:2	8:15,17	77:1,19 78:8 79:5 80:8 82:21 84:5	conclusion 12:9
80:22	commitment		18:15 27:16 31:2
coming 5:11 52:1	11:15,18 12:5	community-based 19:14 22:6 60:16	70:5
56:5 82:20	15:18 22:13,18 23:16 28:17 30:22	companies 19:10	<b>conclusions</b> 11:12,22 12:20
84:12,18	31:6,11 35:21 40:5	22:5 33:13 36:1	conclusive 10:20
commander 36:13	44:2 46:20 68:11	44:22 45:15 48:22	
commend 68:14	69:14	54:13	conducting 57:19
comment 6:15 9:9 11:22 12:8,19	<b>commitments</b> 30:14 67:1	company 1:5 4:18 5:1 14:9 19:9 21:7	<b>confident</b> 22:17 23:9 31:15 42:3
	71:12,13,16,17	22:4,8 45:7 48:16	confirming 53:10
comments 3:16 7:20 9:3,22 11:12 54:9	72:7 81:12	51:6 54:12 57:13	conflict 27:6
55:4	committed 20:1,21	63:12 70:8 72:8,18	conglomerate 64:17
commingling 67:6	25:17 30:5,19 45:15 68:18 69:1	74:14,21 82:16 83:12	Congress 2:20 40:21
Commission 1:1		company's 28:21	conjunction 43:13
4:6,9,13,20 5:2,15	committee 24:4	31:2,5	connection 55:1
6:14,16,18 7:8 12:15 14:17,22	communicate 56:8	competition 6:9 13:7	conservation 6:12
16:4,16 17:19	communication 55:15,16	complete 80:2	79:19
18:8,18 28:2 33:18	communications	completely 66:4	consider 70:1
38:9 40:11 41:19,20 49:13	57:18	complexity 23:8	considerable 63:14
56:15 59:22 62:4	communities 19:15	components 42:19	consideration 80:12
67:19 70:22 79:16	33:14 34:1 38:17	comprehensive	considerations 29:5
80:12 82:3	49:1 57:3	12:22	considered 15:9
commissioned 64:18	community 4:5,13 5:9 7:11 8:1,4,6	comprise 72:17	60:20
commissioner 1:19,20 4:10,11	14:19 15:13 19:12	comprised 12:6	considers 16:4
24:20 34:11 40:18	20:2 21:2,8 22:14	computer 59:1	consistent 43:15
47:11 49:19	25:11,17,19 26:9,13 31:6,13	concern 13:5 55:18	consistently 73:14
56:17,18 57:22 58:1,16	33:8 36:2 38:21,22	60:18 61:20 75:17,19	Constellation 71:21
Commissioners	39:3,4,16,20 40:2	concerned 59:13	81:16
10:2,11 14:7 19:4	43:4,7,11 45:2,15 46:7,12 47:4 50:4	61:5,8	Constellation/
24:21 27:1 29:14	51:15 52:2,4,9,11	concerns 15:6,9 41:7	<b>Exelon</b> 72:3
32:13 44:6 46:16	56:22	42:6 55:4 61:17,21	constituent 75:10,11

constricted 13:8	contributors 81:7	Councilman 75:10	69:20 82:1,14
construction 68:3	control 4:21 66:20	counsel 15:3	customer 30:15
Consultant 11:12	83:20	16:13,14 22:13	32:22 33:1 41:5
	convenient 39:5	59:21 68:1 86:8,12	44:1 46:21 53:17
consultants 11:6	conventions 26:3	counter 63:5 67:8	66:2 69:1
consumer 28:3		country 30:4 52:4	81:14,15,18
46:15	convinces 12:9	64:8 72:16 74:7	customers 16:2
consumers 16:2,3,5 79:8	<b>Coop</b> 50:4	84:2,3	33:19 39:6 41:6,13 42:15,17
	coordinator 57:1,8	couple 47:19 48:4	43:6,14,22 44:5
<b>contains</b> 13:1 66:7	copies 7:3 13:22	54:8 55:3 61:15	46:17 69:3,12
contemplates 11:3	67:12	75:16 78:11	74:15 80:11
contingencies 66:17	<b>copy</b> 7:5 18:4 59:1	course 9:16	
continually 41:17	core 20:13	court 8:13	D C 1 0 1 ( 2 0 1 1
continue 19:11 20:7	corporate 14:20	cover 53:18 65:9	<b>D.C</b> 1:9,16 2:9,11 4:20 7:14 10:12,21
21:12 25:16 26:15	33:14 60:12 61:3,9	craft 60:4	11:17 13:11 15:13
33:10 40:5 42:18 48:8 57:20	68:1,10 70:7,11 77:15 78:9	Crane 19:20 20:16	17:21 18:1
continues 30:6 42:4		22:12	20:19,21 21:19,21
64:22	<b>corporation</b> 1:4 2:13 4:17 19:21 27:5	CREA 60:4,13 61:6	22:1,7,12 23:1,5,15,17
continuing 25:18	29:6 61:7 68:8	create 10:21	24:9,15 25:1,5,7
68:18	82:20	creation 30:20	29:16,20,22
continuous 25:14	corporation's 4:6	Creative 47:15	30:3,9,17,20
30:7	63:1	credible 66:15	31:9,22 32:1,7 33:4,21 37:7,11
contract	correct 17:4 58:11	credit 69:17	38:13,16 40:3,21
53:7,11,12,16	Corridor 47:14	73:18,19,22	41:1 44:18
64:5,10,22	cost 28:5 52:17	credits 33:18 46:18	45:18,20 46:3
65:4,10,17,20	53:16,18 63:19	69:3	47:2,13 48:14
contracting 28:14	65:5 73:19 74:2	Creek 76:14	49:6,7,22 53:1 59:17,18 63:6,8
contractors 20:21	80:17	criteria 11:10	66:3,7,10,18,21
contracts 68:5	cost-effective 15:2 79:22	criterion 11:9,10	67:3,8 68:10,13,17
contrary 67:6	1.00 No. 10.2 No. 10.	,	70:2,13,14
contribute 40:2	costly 74:3	critical 33:16	71:3,5,8,9 72:5 73:3,10,11 74:3,22
contributed 21:2	<b>costs</b> 35:16 42:22 43:9 65:10 66:22	crucial 33:20	77:12 78:2 79:21
76:5	72:11,12 76:6,16	current 7:19 34:13	80:3,8,13 81:1,5,9
contributing	council 15:13 16:12	63:3 76:8 78:14 82:8	82:5,7,17 83:3
76:10,14	18:1 43:3 59:20		84:5
contributions 20:2	60:5 81:2	currently 12:16 23:14 36:13 62:3	<b>D.C.'s</b> 70:9 74:19
22:14 31:7,13		25.11.50.15.02.5	data 12:2,8

	1	56.0	
dates 35:17	42:20	disaster 38:4,7	documents 11:2
<b>David</b> 60:22	<b>Deputy</b> 29:17 31:20	disclosure 75:18	18:14
Davids 61:2	<b>Derek</b> 3:3 47:9,12	discounted 39:8	<b>Doddy</b> 1:19 4:10
<b>Davis</b> 16:20	describe 79:6	discriminated 74:10	<b>donations</b> 39:14 45:11
day 45:9 50:4,5 58:3	deserves 63:8	discrimination	done 10:13 18:13
75:13	designated 5:2	36:21	20:10 25:15 48:7
DC 2:15	desire 19:10	discussed 47:5 48:11	49:2 51:13 60:21
deadline 9:6	detail 8:10 63:20	discussing 14:14	65:3
deal 60:21 72:14	details 44:21	45:3	<b>Donna</b> 75:13
debate 49:12	determine 5:7	<b>discussion</b> 24:14 42:8	doubts 11:8
<b>Debbi</b> 22:21	determined 5:15	distributing 46:17	draftiest 50:8
decade 62:22 64:16	53:9,19	83:2	driven 72:18
<b>December</b> 10:14,16	determining 79:13	distribution 4:22	driving 74:2
11:5 12:2 63:4 65:8	83:17	13:9 66:11,21	drop 52:8
decision 19:8	develop 23:2 73:15	<b>District</b> 1:2 5:1,21	dropped 72:16
decision-making	<b>developed</b> 43:12 64:12	6:11 8:6 17:22 18:10,16 20:4,8,12	due 35:17 41:15
11:11		22:10,15 23:4	duration 11:15
decisions 61:3,10	<b>development</b> 2:13 20:15 27:5 29:6,18	28:10,11 29:8,19	during 23:20 39:15
decommissioned	30:6 31:21 41:12	30:5 31:4,8 32:20	59:15
52:17	43:8	34:12,17 35:12,21 36:5,15 37:2 38:9	
dedicated 79:1	differences 38:18	39:2 41:4 42:11	E eager 21:12
deep 15:17 61:11	different 27:20	43:3,4,16 45:1,10 49:8 50:8 55:8	<b>Earle</b> 3:10 62:8
deepened 13:5	difficult 73:15	59:19 60:1,5 68:15	67:19
deeply 33:2	Dimes 45:6	79:9,12,18 80:22	east 33:22 75:20,21
defined 72:10	<b>direct</b> 12:18 43:21 44:4 67:5 82:5	81:4 82:6	easy 50:16
delivering 83:11	direction 84:4 86:7	<b>District's</b> 30:20 31:16 81:6	economic 2:13,15
<b>Delivery</b> 1:5 4:18	directly 77:9	diversity 28:18	19:21 22:9,11 27:5,22
demand 53:11 63:17	director 21:18,20	69:15	29:6,16,18,21 30:6
demonstrated 69:14	32:15 62:14 78:21	<b>Dixon</b> 2:5 14:3,5,7	31:10,21,22 50:14
demonstrates 79:21	directors 22:2,22	16:9,10 18:9	70:10
denial 67:9	disabilities 55:17	document 17:12	economically 64:8
Department 18:2	56:1	documentation	economies 30:4
23:3,13 59:19	disadvantaged	27:14 67:13	economy 5:20 20:20 30:17,20 31:16
<b>depend</b> 14:13 33:12	38:14	documented 64:17	30.17,20 31.10

48:2,21 49:6 65:8	65:6,12,22 83:2,5	51:4,15,21 52:15	62:15 79:11,20
79:11,17 81:2 82:6	electronically 59:4	59:16 60:4,7,11	82:7
Edison 33:5	email 7:15	61:18 62:18 69:4	environmentalist
Edmund 2:16		71:12 72:15	59:14
32:11,14	<b>emerged</b> 30:3 62:21	73:9,11,13,16,20	equally 40:4
,	64:15	74:2,4 76:11 78:21	
eDocket 7:16	emergency 37:3	79:4,5,7,22	equipment 41:14
education 15:15	39:16 46:9	80:4,5,19	especially 23:20
19:16 25:9 32:17		81:1,2,4,5,20	33:21 35:2 36:4
33:20	emeritus 17:21,22	82:16 83:13,17,18	45:2,19 62:3
	emphasis 23:4 26:11	84:1,6	
<b>Edwin</b> 16:17	<b>emphasize</b> 24:6 69:9	energy-efficient	essence 60:6
effect 5:18	•	33:19 77:10	essential 24:2
79:15,17,18	emphasized 13:14	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
	81:6	enforcement	establish 15:4
<b>effective</b> 57:15 58:1	<b>employ</b> 23:17	23:18,20 24:3	established 33:11
effectively 6:8		engage 57:5	39:3
effects 5:16	<b>employed</b> 86:9,12	8 8	establishing 33:19
	employee 22:22	engaged 67:22	
efficiencies 28:5 76:11	86:12	engineering 43:8	establishment 13:7
	<b>employees</b> 14:12,13	enhance 31:16 56:4	establishments 49:7
efficiency 46:19	26:10 35:5	70:9	et 12:16 60:17
50:17 69:4 71:12	And the second s	enhancing 30:19	
78:21 79:7 80:5,19	<b>employment</b> 19:16	31:11	evaluated 81:10
81:1,2,4,20	20:9,13 28:9 29:3	51.11	evaluating 80:10
efficient 28:6 79:4	empowered 38:19	enjoys 35:7	evangelical 36:18
80:1	enable 20:6	enormous 55:11	Ŭ.
N. 19 (1983) (1984) (1984)	N 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20		<b>evening</b> 4:4 5:11
efficiently 41:15,22	enacted 43:4	ensure 14:22 42:4	10:11 17:10 19:4
effort 74:21 80:7	encompass 77:22	43:13,19 64:22	21:17 24:20 26:22
	-	<b>ensuring</b> 30:5 79:3	27:1,2 29:14 34:10
efforts 28:22 31:12	encourage 23:17	J	36:10,11 38:8
33:3 44:3 46:7	24:16 47:5 49:13	entail 65:5	40:17 44:7,14,15
63:15 74:19	62:2 70:1	enter 27:7 64:5	47:10 49:18 54:4
eight 80:6	encouraged 7:10	entertain 18:19	56:15 59:6,7 67:17
either 10:2 75:13	28:16 30:21		70:21 75:6,7 78:18
84:21		entire 78:5 80:7	82:12
	encouraging 23:5,8	entities 60:15	
electric 1:5 4:18,22	endeavors 33:8		evening's 8:10
41:11,18 43:14	energy 1:5 4:18	entity 1:6 4:19 28:7	evenly 35:16
53:6 55:3 64:4	10:22 12:10	entrance 9:10	event 48:14
84:3	13:7,9,11,12 16:1	environment 59:20	
electrical 42:15	28:7,21,22	73:8 77:12	events 23:21,22 26:8
	42:10,21 43:15,17		everybody 10:10
electricity 53:15	46:8,19 50:4,6,17	environmental 6:13	23:7
	40.0,17 30.4,0,17	22:9 29:2 59:11	

	Pag	e 10	
everyday 25:11	63:9,12,21	exposure 33:7	35:22 51:14
everyone 14:5	64:1,3,21	express 19:7 22:3	field 59:10 60:14
everything 83:3	65:10,16,19	54:11	73:10
84:22	66:3,5,9,11,20	extend 35:17	Fifth 17:22
evidence 10:20 63:9	67:1 68:8,17,22 69:8,13,16,19	extension 73:18	fight 71:6
	70:1,6,7	2.	S
evidentiary 5:4,5	71:13,16,20,22	extensive 15:15	<b>file</b> 9:2 27:13
evolving 29:4	72:14 73:7,14	extremely 68:20	<b>filed</b> 4:15,19
exact 80:15	74:16 76:1,19		filing 7:12
exactly 53:8	81:15 82:18 83:1,6,9,12 84:2	F face 61:10	filings 7:21 65:3
examined 28:3	Exelon/PEPCO		final 8:4
example 25:18 30:13	10:15 13:1,16 29:7	faced 50:6,7	finally 31:5 35:19
63:11,20		facilitate 29:18	46:14
exceed 25:18	<b>Exelon's</b> 28:16 30:21 40:5 43:15	facility 26:6 69:17	financial 5:19 26:5
exceeds 20:3	50:14 63:5,17 65:3	fact 15:4,21 28:6	40:6 44:2 67:5
except 61:12	67:7 72:16,19 73:1	55:18,22 67:2 71:15 72:2 82:22	financially 37:5
exception 50:1	exerting 63:14		86:13
•	exist 40:7	factor 28:11 76:10	financing 68:4
exceptionally 20:15	existing 11:19 42:15	factors 5:13,14	firm 14:10 47:12
excessive 15:14	79:2 81:20	79:16	67:20,21
exchange 33:8	<b>expand</b> 69:18	failed 64:14	firm's 68:2
executive 21:18	expansion 42:10	fair 42:21	first 9:7 10:8 38:5,6
32:15 62:14	43:1,17 74:6	fairness 43:13	47:21 54:10 70:2
Exelon 1:4,5	expectation 31:3	falls 82:2	71:9 76:13
4:6,16,18 13:4	1 - 1	families 32:19 33:21	fits 76:22
19:9,21 20:1	<b>expected</b> 30:15 80:4,6	35:14 37:3,4 38:2	five 6:7 9:15 65:13
21:7,12 22:5,8 23:10 24:3 25:3	expeditiously 24:16	80:14	fixed 50:7
28:19 30:12,13	expenditiously 24:16 expendable 50:12	family 19:10 22:5	flawed 11:14,19
31:11,16		39:21 54:13 80:1	
33:10,13,16 34:3	expenditures 44:4	fast 34:9	Fleet 2:16 32:11,12,14 34:6
35:20 38:10 39:18 40:8 41:6,9,15	expensive 46:4	favor 48:16	
42:10 43:11,20	experience 15:14	<b>FBI</b> 21:21	floating 52:6
44:21 45:12,14	62:17 79:21 80:9		fluctuation 50:10
46:16,22 47:6	expert 18:11 41:18	February 5:6	52:16
48:11 50:21	experts 12:22 13:14	federal 73:19	focus 31:10 62:18
51:8,10 52:14 53:5,9,18 54:13	expired 64:11	Federation 17:21	folks 17:8 84:11
55:21 61:4 62:21	exposes 66:21	feeds 37:6	food 39:14
		feel 18:18 22:17	

	T		
fooled 52:12	fundamentally 67:8	girls 26:1	grounds 67:9
footprint 12:7	<b>funding</b> 23:3 33:17	given 19:20 26:7	groups 10:22 45:6
force 18:4 19:1 41:1	funds 26:16 30:15	33:6 78:8 81:9	76:18
43:6 53:6	50:16	gives 60:21	growing 41:10
foregoing 86:4	Furthermore 52:21	giving 25:22 45:4,13	<b>grown</b> 69:16
form 69:3	<b>future</b> 30:7 31:17	46:21 71:1 75:13,21	growth 13:10 33:7
formal 1:5 5:2,5	42:1	glad 8:22 68:22	guarantees 10:20
6:20 7:9 10:14 14:17		77:17,18	13:2
	gain 10:22 24:7	Glenda 2:17 34:7,12	guys 58:6 61:1
former 14:3 15:13 17:11 18:2 59:9	gains 75:20	goals 30:12	Н
forms 60:7,11	galaxy 51:11	<b>Goliath</b> 60:22 61:4	Hague 2:12 26:21,22
Fort 1:19 4:10 10:11	Gallery 33:5	Goodwill 2:8	27:3,10 29:11
12:21 14:8 32:13	games 26:3	19:5,6,13	Hall 32:16
34:11 40:18 47:11	games 20.3 gap 23:11	20:6,10,11	halo 61:16
49:20 67:18	Gas 53:6 59:17 64:4	21:3,4,10 26:18	hand 54:20
fortunate 45:9	Gene 2:4 10:9,12	<b>gospel</b> 36:20	hands 54:22
<b>forum</b> 78:20	generally 12:6	gotten 72:3	hands-on 25:8
<b>forward</b> 15:1,6 21:8 39:21 48:9 50:20		<b>government</b> 32:1,7 68:5,15	hang 53:9
62:9	generating 42:13 generation 28:21	graduate 24:8	happen 53:1,8
fought 51:15	29:1 32:21 41:4		happened 72:3
foundation 2:9	74:13,17 82:13	granted 66:20	happy 10:10 14:5
21:19 22:2,7 23:2	83:12,20	Grate 37:6	50:18,22
24:15 33:11 78:3	generator 52:14	Graves 67:20	Harbor 37:18
<b>founder</b> 40:20 50:3	63:13 83:1	<b>Gray</b> 17:11	hard 7:5 35:13
fourth 41:3	generators 62:19	great 30:9 48:1 54:7 57:2 69:13	51:15 76:2
freedom 38:19	George 11:3		<b>harm</b> 64:1
friend 35:6	geothermal 76:13	greater 2:8,11 10:22 19:5,6,13 20:11	harmful 73:8
friends 48:10	gets 35:14	21:3,4,10 25:1,5,7	harm's 13:17
fuel 83:5	<b>getting</b> 9:21 51:20 73:4 74:20	33:4,7 38:16	Harris 67:15
fulfill 22:17		40:3,5 49:8 83:19	haven't 72:7,11
full 13:20 22:3 75:18	giant 13:9 gifts 39:14	greatest 81:3	having 4:6 26:12
fund 23:2 24:11 44:2	8	green 52:5 65:8 80:7	52:17,18 57:10
46:15,22 69:2	<b>Ginna</b> 53:7 64:6,7,22 65:4,21	grip 83:13	headquartered
81:14	Ginna's 64:15	ground 74:20	62:16
	54446 5 5 1.15		

	0		
health 5:19	highly 67:21	house 34:14	impacts 29:2
healthy 49:12 79:4	hike 52:19	households 39:13	impaired 55:7
hear 9:12 10:6 20:15	hiring 20:21 23:13	79:10	implementing 70:1
40:4 68:22	historically 31:7	housing 3:14	importance 28:20
heard 42:7 54:7	60:11	37:9,10 45:22 46:2,3 78:21,22	77:4 79:7
71:19	history 14:18	79:2,10 80:2,17	important 15:5
hearing 1:12 5:5,12 8:4,10,22 10:14	hit 72:18	hub 33:9	28:11 35:2 46:11 48:22 55:4,14 56:3
85:4 86:3	hold 26:8	huge 53:19 82:19	68:20 76:17 77:3
hearings 4:5,13 5:9	holding 4:13 5:4,10	human 36:20 41:14	impressed 10:16
7:11 8:1,2,10 62:1	63:16	humble 11:12	33:1
85:2	<b>holdings</b> 1:4 4:7,17 19:9 22:4 25:3		impression 60:21
heat 44:8	29:7 38:11 39:19	I I I 27.7.45.2.61.14	improve 41:17 42:4
heavily 14:13 52:16	40:1 54:12 61:8	I'd 27:7 45:3 61:14	47:22 63:15 68:16 80:8
held 1:14	68:8	ideas 30:1	improved 28:4
Hello 49:18	holiday 38:1 39:12	identified 11:20 79:16 81:1	improvement 20:16
help 23:16 26:1 29:18 30:12 34:17	holidays 38:2	I'll 16:19 27:10 58:3	48:12 81:3,8,9
35:15,17 39:15	<b>home</b> 34:13 37:15 61:19 76:13	Illinois 63:12,19	improvements
41:15 45:9 51:4	homeless 37:7,9,13	66:9 69:21	80:1,20
52:9 78:8	homeowner 10:12	illustrates 64:1	<b>improving</b> 28:4 48:5
helped 15:4 19:17	homes 37:6 50:8	I'm 4:8 8:9,22 9:6	inauguration 23:22
helpful 67:10	79:4	10:8 12:11,12	Inc 1:4 14:9
helping 24:7 38:13	homework 10:13	17:5,19 18:6,8,12 19:5 21:18 25:1	incentives 63:17
helps 39:7	12:19	27:3,5 29:15	include 19:8 37:3
Hempling 11:7 12:22 13:14	honor 11:11 28:17	34:8,12,16,19	65:17 68:2
hereby 86:3	honors 11:9	41:18 44:8,19 47:18 50:3,4,18	included 18:5
hereto 86:13	hope 12:13 15:8	54:5 56:16	includes 53:11
hesitation 24:13	16:6 58:6 60:19 62:4 67:9	57:21,22 59:1,9	including 6:6 10:17 11:2,5 15:22 30:14
Hi 75:6	hopefully 17:16	61:5,8 62:12,13 71:12 77:17 78:20	42:18 59:16 60:8
high 24:9 50:6	Horton 3:10 62:8	82:13,18	69:12
higher 53:14 65:11	67:16,17,20,21	imagine 50:21	inclusion 28:20
81:17	70:17	impact 6:9,10 27:22	69:15
highest 39:1	hostage 63:16	39:19 80:13	inclusive 28:22
52:3,5,7	hour 53:13 65:11,20	impacted 32:20 33:3	income 33:19 39:6 50:12 79:3 80:18
		69:5	30.12 /9.3 80.18

incomes 50:7	instrumental 24:6	76:19	joining 44:22
Incorporated 4:7,17	insufficient 81:13	involvement 15:16	joint 1:3 4:16 6:5
22:4 38:11	insurance 68:5	Irv 3:7 58:19	11:14,18 12:4 70:5
incorporation 30:2	integrate 55:14	isn't 42:17	81:11,19
increase 24:10 50:10 74:8	intelligently 17:16	issued 6:18	Joseph 2:9 21:16
increased 70:11	intensive 37:14	issues 27:22 63:3	Jr 1:15
72:22 79:7	<b>intent</b> 65:16	64:20 68:1 79:13	judgments 18:12
increases 41:13 42:1	interacting 25:9	it'll 9:20	<b>Judson</b> 3:8 62:8,10,12 67:12
increasing 28:14	interconnection	it's 8:19 32:1 35:20	July 24:1
66:22	43:9	36:5 47:21 48:1,14 49:3,11 51:11 52:8	jump 51:9
incremental 71:14	interest 5:8,14 15:1	56:5 60:21 73:22	June 4:15 6:18
indeed 58:21	16:7 19:7 43:19 61:11 63:6,7	74:12 77:19	64:11
independent 11:6	67:5,8 69:6 79:14	I've 11:2 44:21	jurisdictional 6:5
13:7 32:2	81:13 82:2	48:10 51:5 54:6 71:15,19	jurisdictions 81:10
index 11:16	interested 6:16,19 30:9 86:14		justice 59:11
indicated 7:3 35:7		J	justify 12:2
58:9	interests 15:20 18:15 36:5 45:1	<b>Jackie</b> 3:12 75:5	
individual 9:19	60:12 61:8,9 67:6	<b>Jackson</b> 27:6,12	K
Industrial 70:3	international 36:17	<b>Jacque</b> 3:6 56:14,16	Kane 1:18 2:2 3:16 4:3,8 10:5,11
industry 49:9 64:9 70:8	intervene 6:16,19	James 3:11 70:20	12:21 13:19
influence 63:14	introduction 17:20	<b>January</b> 1:10 8:2,5	14:1,6,7
information 3:9	59:9	Jarvis 22:21	16:8,11,19,22 17:2,5,13 18:21
46:8 62:13 67:10	Introductory 2:2	Jersey 69:22	21:14 24:17,20
infrastructure 42:16	invaluable 45:11	Jesus 36:20	26:20 27:1,2,9
70:9 76:20 83:13	invest 48:22	<b>Joanne</b> 1:19 4:10	29:10 31:19 32:4,6,10,13
inherit 66:11	invested 31:17 33:14	<b>job</b> 20:7,13 30:20,22	34:5,10 36:7,11
initial 69:8	52:16	37:14 49:2	40:12,16,18
initiative 59:22	investing 47:1	<b>jobs</b> 20:18 31:4 48:2 49:4 52:1 70:11	44:11,15 47:7,10 49:15,19 53:21
68:18	investment 30:15 44:1 46:15,22	Joe 21:18	56:11,14
initiatives 20:22 31:9 61:5	53:12 61:14 64:13	Johnnie 2:20	58:8,12,17,19,21
innovative 30:1	65:18 69:2 79:8	40:16,19	59:3,7 62:6 67:11,14,17
input 4:14 6:15	81:14	Johns 67:21	70:16,20,22 75:3,7
instead 48:16	involuntary 30:22	join 38:8	78:15 82:10
msteau 40.10	involved 20:14	·	84:9,17

		4.444.4.444	
<b>Keith</b> 2:14 29:13,15	leaving 13:16	litigation 68:5	57:14
<b>Kettle</b> 39:12,15	legal 22:13 68:1	little 19:2 22:20	<b>love</b> 70:3
kinds 46:10 56:6	legally 10:19	35:15 38:2 54:15 61:1 83:4,8	low 29:1 33:18 71:20 72:9 79:3
King 1:15	legislation 15:4 43:5 63:16	live 20:12 25:11	low-cost 16:2
known 7:8 64:14,20	legislature 15:16	34:14 38:17 40:19	lower 41:22 72:10
	Lena 54:1	46:12 47:14 60:9	80:21
L.PHILLIPS 1:20	lend 56:19	lived 34:13 49:22 71:21	lowered 72:12
lack 56:9	less 11:16 45:9 71:17	lives 19:15	<b>lowers</b> 73:19
land 68:4	83:4	living 37:7,12 38:2	low-income 35:11
Lanier 23:9	let's 52:12	46:1 80:9 82:14	45:18 46:18 60:8
large 61:3	letter 14:8 15:18	LLC 1:5,6 4:19	69:3 79:8 80:13,15,16
largest 62:21 63:13	27:8,11 29:11	67:21	luncheon 19:21
last 26:2 33:2 36:21	level 20:3 31:14 33:1	local 6:10 13:12 20:2	Lusby 66:6
38:6 45:4 48:4	40:5 45:13 46:21 60:14 77:15	21:8 31:6,8,13 33:9 42:13 44:2	Luther 1:15
64:16 65:13 72:20 74:7,17	Lewis 2:18 34:7	45:5 46:11 48:2,21	Euther 1.13
lasting 80:20	36:9,12	61:5,8 64:4 68:3 69:10 82:20	M
lastly 74:16	libraries 7:5	located 12:6 64:6	ma'am 58:11,18
later 46:6 59:4	Library 8:3	location 8:7 29:22	main 41:6 42:6
Laughter 17:14 44:10	<b>life</b> 35:14 40:3 56:4,9 63:11	locations 26:8	maintain 28:17 46:20 81:20
launched 69:7	light 54:18,20 55:2	long 15:15 34:22	major 48:14 61:2
law 15:15 23:18,20	Lighthouse 3:5	63:12	81:7
24:3 60:5 67:20	26:18	longer 59:12	majority 80:14
leader 15:11 21:1	54:6,10,13,19,21	longstanding 21:5	man 12:11
70:8 73:10,12	lighting 61:18	long-term 10:19 15:17 32:22 44:2	management 5:22 28:5 37:8,14 47:12
leading 73:17	lights 37:18 57:9 likely 64:15	64:10	managing 32:16
leads 12:19	limited 60:11 61:20	long-time 15:12	82:20
League 45:6	limits 83:18	34:12	manifested 77:13
learn 38:19 69:13	line 32:8	long-winded 17:11	<b>Marcee</b> 56:12
least 20:4 31:1 42:1 50:11	lines 68:13 83:21	lose 55:11 56:8	<b>March</b> 7:19 10:1
leave 38:6	list 16:19 18:17 58:9	losses 31:1	45:6 84:20
leaves 83:4	84:14	lost 72:19	margin 77:6
200100 05.1	listen 8:18	lot 12:12 25:21 51:12 54:7 56:9	Marion 75:10

Mark 16:20	medical 46:9	81:20	million 20:4,18,19
market 53:15,17	meet 11:18 36:20	merged 5:20 71:22	22:18,19 25:19
61:12 65:6,12,21	37:5 42:5 50:14	merger 1:7 4:6,7 5:8	30:14,16 31:14
marketing 29:17	60:9 63:7 74:3	10:15,21 11:8	45:5 46:1,15 49:5 52:9,18 53:16 55:9
markets 6:10	81:12	12:17 13:8	65:14 66:1
Marshall 1:14	meeting 50:14 82:2	15:7,11,19,21 16:6	69:1,9,17
	meetings 26:8	18:15 20:17 21:9	mind 29:5 42:14
<b>Martha's</b> 58:10,15	meets 26:2	22:3,8,16 24:15	
Martin 1:15		25:2 26:14 27:8,18	<b>Minds</b> 47:15
Maryland 25:8	megawatt 53:13 65:11,20	28:6,8,13 29:7 30:11,14,18,22	mine 51:9
62:16 66:6,10,18	1	31:3,15 34:3,17,19	minimizes 43:5
69:22 71:5 74:8,18	Melanie 47:13	35:4,10,19,22 36:3	minority 68:19
81:16	Melissa 78:10	38:10 39:18 40:9	69:7,12,16,21
<b>Mason</b> 11:3	Meloy 2:7 17:2,4,6	41:5,8 44:20,21	70:12
massive 68:14	19:3,4,6 21:15	45:17 47:1,6,19	minutes 9:15,20
CONTROL OF	Melton 2:10	48:11,12,20	miss 8:17
match 45:13	24:19,20,22	49:3,12,13 51:14	
material 7:4 27:13	member 15:13 18:4	54:11 55:5,13,19	mission 19:14,18
materials 27:14	23:19	56:3,19 57:19 58:6 60:19 62:3 68:7,9	29:16 36:19 38:20
Mattavous-Frye	members 14:21 22:2	70:15 71:10	Moffit 54:1
16:15	23:10 26:11 27:12	72:3,6,13 73:2,5,7	Monday 8:2
matter 1:3,13	39:16 70:22	75:2,17,19 78:2	money 46:17 49:1
matters 6:15		79:14,15,17,18	50:22 51:20,21
	membership 24:14	80:10,13 82:1,18	52:6,8
mature 55:10	Memorial 77:20	83:22	monitored 63:1
Maximilian 11:6	78:3	mergers 13:15	The supplier of the section of the s
maximum 9:15	men 2:11 19:18	merger's 31:2	monopolizes 84:1
may 6:16 9:22 13:11	24:22 25:4,22	merging 13:4 70:6	monopoly 11:4
37:20 53:12	37:19		month 23:14 46:6
	mention 6:22	met 60:3 82:3	77:6
Mayor 17:11 21:21 31:21 56:21	mentioned 9:4 16:13	metropolitan 18:1	monthly 60:3 76:15
	26:14 31:20 35:6	21:6 23:3,13 40:21	80:18
<b>Mayor's</b> 29:17	36:4 61:1	Michael 2:10,21	months 78:11
McGarry 3:11	mentions 61:13	24:19,21 44:13,16	mortgage 37:4
70:20,21 75:3	mentoring 25:5,9	70:18	
meaning 80:17	26:4	microphone 8:12	mothers 37:13
means 76:6	merchant 62:19	Mid 71:6	motions 6:20
meant 57:14	67:5	middle 60:12	motto 25:22
measures 80:5	merely 13:16 74:14	miles 61:7 66:6	move 37:8

movement 36:18         neither 44:4 86:8         occur 23:21         82:15           moves 77:15         net 30:22         offer 35:17 37:10,17         opinion 7	
moves 77:15   net 30:22   offer 35:17 37:10,17   opinion 7	
	/4:12
moving 15:6   Network 3:11 59:17   44:19   opportur	
MI D 24.7,9	),14,15 29:3
much-needed 45:8 newly-minted 56:17 offering 71:11	
	nity 19:19 4:7 59:8
. == .0	71:1 78:19
multi-million-dollar night 42:16 office 15:3,16 17:8 oppose 7.	3:6 82:18
14:11 NIRS 62:15 65:3 21:21 29:17 59:20 opposed	51:8
myself 26:17 36:6 non 6:5 74:5,8,	16,17,18
nonprofit 33:6 43:5 86:2 opposes 7	74:21
60:15 62:15 71:4   officers 23:14   opposing	74:1
N.E 8:8 nonprofits 32:18 offices 5:7	6:1
N.W 7:14 33:12 39:8 oh 12:11 17:5 34:8 oral 9:15	
1 11441011 70.7	5 6:18,21
national 2:20 3:14 /2.8 80.9,15   Okay 12:11 32:4	79:9 81:12
31:10 36:14,22 North 8:7 34:7 58:12 59:3 orders 6:	
notably 66:12.73:16	tion 19:14 5:4,6,10,21
NOTADIY OC 1	30:19 36:14
nation's 23:21 note 44:8 46:15 37:21 3	88:13 55:21
native 41:3	52:16 71:5
natural 6:12 79:19	tions 9:15 :5 22:14
nature 13:11   nothing 13:2 77:18   online 7:1   25:16 2	26:9,17 31:9
nearly 20:11 84:20     On-one 26:4	):7,8 45:8
necessary 41:16   open 7:18 84:20   60:17	52:11 56:6
Nedwick 3:13 November 11:13 opened 45:22 original s	24.14
78:17.18.20 82:10   nuclear 3:9 6:6   nuclear 3:9 6:6	
52.10,17 55.7	2:8 45:7
neighborhood 34:21 63:18,22 64:6 operate 65:1 47:20 4	8:6 49:9
35:3 66:5,7 67:3 72:16 operates 66:5	
neighborhoods 74:1,10 83:7 operating 27:4 otherwise 70:2	
0 41:21 63:10 82:17 Ours 70.2	
61:12:19 obtain 63:21 operation 14:11 outages 3	4:21 68:12
operations 6:1,6 outcome	86:14

outlay 69:8	particularly 10:6	27:21 35:13,17	PEPCO's 14:18
outreach 26:8 46:7	parties 30:8	38:16,18 44:8	20:3,16 28:17
outside 12:6	86:10,13	46:13 51:1 54:17	31:14 32:20
	partner 23:20 32:16	55:6,10,12,16,20	35:15,20 41:2
overall 68:16 76:15	57:3,13,20 67:20	56:1,8 57:6,7,18	45:3,13 46:21 51:4
80:7		60:8,13,14 61:1	72:21
over-burdening	partnering 39:21	71:19 75:4,22	per 22:19
41:12	partnership 2:15	77:4,5 78:6 83:7,16	53:13,16,17 63:19
overcome 23:11,16	19:11,17 29:16,21	2	66:1 81:15,17
37:20	30:21 31:10,22	People's 15:3	percent 23:14
overhead 68:13	32:3,17 68:15	16:13,14 59:21	53:11,14
	partnerships 30:8	<b>PEPCO</b> 1:4	65:11,17,21
overhead-related	59:11	4:7,17,21,22 10:18	72:17,19,22 74:22
68:12	part-time 24:9	11:1,4 13:3,8 18:4	76:6 77:5 78:5
oversight 42:4	_	19:8,9,11,17 20:10	80:5,14,18
owned 67:3 70:12	party 6:17 7:9 16:15 32:7 43:7	21:1,12	percentage 77:21
owner 48:21 70:15		22:3,4,8,21,22	period 72:21
owning 83:20	pass 58:6	23:10,15,19 24:2,6,12 25:2,15	permanent 37:9
	passed 16:3 60:5	26:7,10 28:15	•
owns 63:22	past 25:6,15 29:20	30:1,11,13	Persichini 2:9
	38:1 72:15 75:9,16	31:1,7,16 32:22	21:16,17,18 24:18
P	pastor 44:17,19	33:5,11 34:4,20,21	person 57:14,15
<b>p.m</b> 1:13 4:2 8:3,5	Patrol 37:6	35:5,6,7,22	personal 44:8
85:4		38:10,11,20	personally 51:5
pace 41:12	pattern 13:1	39:3,7,10,18,19	62:17
page 2:3 3:2 17:11	Patterson 3:6	40:1,8 41:5,6,8,13	
18:17	56:14,15,16	42:4 43:6,20 44:20	persons 6:16,19 7:7
	58:8,11,14,18	45:4,11 46:6,11	10:18
pages 17:13	Paul 22:13	47:6 48:3 49:1	petition 12:16 67:2
panels 51:17	pay 39:6 42:18	50:20 51:3,5,10,13,19,20	petitioned 64:3
paper 7:3 18:17	51:21 80:6,17	,22 54:12 55:2,21	philanthropic 16:5
paragraphs 12:13	paying 51:19 57:10	56:21 57:2,6,17	25:13 33:3 44:3
paraphrase 27:11	payment 35:15	59:16 61:4,10	<b>Phillips</b> 4:11 10:12
parent 19:9 22:4,8		63:2,5,8 64:1,14	12:21 32:14 34:11
24:2 54:12	payments 37:4	66:12 67:3,7	40:19 47:11 49:20
	payroll 50:19,21	68:8,9,11,14	67:18
parents 34:14	pays 24:10	70:6,7 71:9,14,18 74:11 75:19 77:12	phone 48:5 56:2
Park 62:16	Pennsylvania 69:22	82:19,21 83:2,4,13	physical 26:6
participation 19:2	people 8:19,22	PEPCO/Exelon	pick 83:15
particular 62:18	9:1,7,12 21:3	14:16 15:11	•
	25:10,21 26:12,13		picture 11:7

placed 28:20 plainly 63:9 plan 73:11 81:7 planned 27:8,17 29:7 planning 15:17 29:18 31:21 64:13 66:13,16 plans 72:8 plant 52:17,18 53:7,18 63:22 64:6 65:18 66:6,9,14 67:4,5 plants 63:18 player 62:21 playing 60:14 please 9:10 12:14 13:17 48:17 54:19 58:20 75:2 pleased 17:19 18:8 19:22 20:15 31:5 34:19 40:4 45:12 68:10 PLUG 68:13 plus 49:4,5 point 7:21 15:11 27:19 37:11 73:1,3 poles 42:19 83:21 police 2:9 18:2 21:19 22:1,7 23:1,3,13 24:15 78:2 policies 43:13 78:9 81:6 policy 73:7 76:21 77:1,2 78:21 pres	orly 72:10  oulation 56:5  oulations 38:14  rtfolio 28:22 2:22 63:16 74:5,6 ition 43:10,15 7:4,15 59:12 6:19 73:17 74:12 6:19 itioned 29:22 itions 24:7,11 3:7,15,21 itive 29:2 39:19 5:5 sibility 28:8 sible 15:2 sibly 72:5 ted 8:14,16 ential 13:6 28:13 9:22 80:13 entially 49:5 omac 1:4 4:17 rerty 38:3 39:2 vell 16:17 ver 1:5 4:18 9:15 35:1,18 2:13,16,18 53:7 2:19 63:13,18,22 4:6,21 66:6,14 7:4,5 68:12,13 ctice 68:2 11:5 ach 36:19 decessor 66:12	predicted 64:9 preferences 63:18 premier 29:22 premised 11:19 prepare 64:14 preparedness 46:10 presence 16:14 presented 11:14 preservation 6:13 preserve 79:9,11 president 17:21 18:2 president 17:21 18:2 previous 64:10 75:9 previous 64:10 75:9 previous 64:10 75:9 previous 64:10 75:9 previous 53:12 previous 64:10 75:9 previous 53:15 72:15 previous 53:15 72:15 previous 63:9,19,20 prides 73:10 primary 66:10 print 59:2 printed 58:22 prior 21:19 23:18 private 30:9 59:13 private 30:9 59:13 private 48:5 66:16	problems 57:10 64:15 procedural 7:20 proceed 62:3 proceedings 6:17 86:4,7,10 process 5:10 11:11 28:21 procurement 28:15 produce 12:18 20:18 30:16 43:21 49:4 producer 83:1 producers 84:3 production 73:18,19,22 professional 67:22 profit 53:19 profound 30:12 program 24:8 37:6,11,19,22 45:18 46:9 59:12 69:7,16,20 70:2,4 programs 22:21 23:4 25:12 28:18 33:20 35:11,15 39:11,13 43:12 46:19 52:6 66:15 69:4,9 78:8 81:5,21 progress 80:22 81:8 project 45:22 46:2 68:13,16 projects 20:7,17 65:4 70:10 prolonging 18:7 promise 45:14 52:20
--	---	--	--

promised 45:12	67:22 74:15	question 64:19	reactor 64:7 65:21
50:22 57:19 61:6	provisions 66:5	quick 53:3	reactors 66:8
promises 13:2 60:13	PSC 11:10 53:5	quickly 52:14	reactor's 65:9
promising 35:21	64:3,18,20 65:7	quite 42:7	real 25:22 52:14
83:10	71:17	quo 82:1,8	53:3
promote 81:20	psc-	quotes 65:19	reality-based 11:7
promotion 73:9	commissionsecret ary@dc.gov 7:15	quotes 03.17	really 24:5 46:13
promotional 35:9	public 1:1 4:5,9,14	R	78:6
pronounce 17:3	5:8,14 6:2,15 7:2,4	<b>R.E</b> 64:5	reason 8:9 31:15
proposal 11:9	11:9 13:15,17	radical 60:10	35:4,10
13:1,3,17 74:8 77:18 82:4,6	14:16,22 16:7 21:22 23:5 28:7	raise 53:15 54:19	reasons 34:18 36:4 47:19
proposals 43:21	30:9 32:12 38:9	72:8 76:7	reassurance 50:15
72:11	40:10 43:19 47:15	raised 11:8 49:21 72:4	Strong relation and Angles relations to the State of Stat
proposed 1:7 4:7	59:21 63:7 67:8,19 68:4 73:7,17 79:14	rake 53:19	reassure 23:19
5:7,16 10:15 12:17	81:12 82:2 85:4		receive 6:14 25:13
14:16 15:21 38:10	86:1	ramping 81:5	receiving 39:14
44:1 60:19,20 62:3 66:4 75:17,19	publicly 20:1	ranked 81:9	recent 68:11
79:14 80:5	public-private 32:3	rate 13:5 39:8 41:10,13 50:9	recently 19:19
81:11,14,19 82:2	public's 15:1	52:3,5,7,19 65:17	<b>Reckline</b> 2:18 34:8 36:9,10,12
protect 79:10	published 65:19	76:8	recognition 14:18
proves 13:3 46:22	purchased 34:14	ratepayer 65:22	recognition 14.18
provide 15:22 20:1	purchasing 83:12	71:3,9,10 73:3	recommend 18:8
22:9 29:3 33:16 35:13 39:16 46:17	<b>purpose</b> 1:6,15	ratepayers 5:18 6:11 63:19 64:2 65:5,15	The control of the co
48:1 80:20 81:22	4:14,19 79:6	66:21 74:22 79:17	recommendations 18:5,18
82:4	pursuant 1:13 4:20	82:5	record 4:8 7:13,18
provided 37:22	pursue 23:5	rates 13:12 39:1	9:3,18 13:21 17:16
38:11 39:10 46:2	push 48:8	41:7,16,18,19,22	27:8 29:12 45:4
63:11 81:17	puts 13:17	42:6 44:5 50:10 61:17 71:20	64:12 84:19 85:1
<b>provider</b> 14:19 16:5		72:4,8,9 76:9	86:7
providers 43:7	Q	82:22 83:10	recorded 8:11
provides 11:1 34:20	qualified 14:19	rather 13:15 81:21	recording 8:16
39:5 69:10 80:10 82:7	qualify 7:9	84:7	recovered 44:5
providing 20:7 28:9	quality 6:13 14:19	reach 57:4	Recreation 32:17
31:12 32:18 33:17	40:3 56:4,9 79:11,20	reaching 57:6	red 39:12,15 72:19
37:8 38:21 45:8	77.11,20		reduce 42:1 68:12

80:4	rely 35:12 45:19	research 13:5 28:19	result 64:19
reduced 86:6	Remarks 2:2	reservation 34:2	resulting 65:22
reduction 13:6	remember 71:22	reside 33:22	resurgence 29:22
refer 6:22	remind 23:12	Residence 46:1	retail 6:10
referring 20:8	reminding 18:22	resident 34:12 41:4	retailer 52:15
reflected 41:22	remiss 46:14	49:21 56:16 58:15 59:13 70:14	retrofit 80:2,4
reflecting 15:6	renewable 12:5,9	residential 79:10	return 53:11 65:18
regarding 17:20	16:1 28:21	0.5.000.00	reveals 13:1
42:8 49:12	43:12,15,17 50:3 51:15 60:4,7 63:15	residents 15:7,21 18:16 20:8,21	revenue 72:17
region 36:14 37:1 55:7 61:10 71:7	73:9,11,13	28:10 29:9 30:21	Reverend 40:14
83:14 84:2	74:4,5,6,17,19	34:17 35:12,21	44:14,16 47:7
regional 15:17	79:4	36:6,22 45:1,16,19 46:3,8,12 48:8	review 18:19 65:1
regular 26:12	renewables 42:9	50:5,16 53:2 60:1	reviewed 44:21
regulate 6:8	rent 37:3 76:7 80:19	63:6 67:3 68:17	<b>RG&amp;E</b> 53:17
regulated 11:4	rental 39:6 76:8	77:13 80:9 82:8	64:10,12,21 65:5
regulators 66:18	renter 60:15	resilient 30:4	<b>RG&amp;E's</b> 64:15,20 65:15
regulatory 15:16	renters 79:3 80:15,17,20	<b>Resource</b> 3:9 62:13	
reject 12:16 13:18	rents 80:21	resources 6:13 12:5,6,10 36:1	<b>Ribbon</b> 18:4 19:1 41:1
75:2	report 81:10	41:14 45:8 47:2	ride 51:10
related 30:22 86:9	Reported 1:22	69:11 79:19	ringfencing 66:4
relationship 56:20	-	respect 43:11 63:2	risk 11:21 66:22
75:15	reporter 8:13	respected 38:18	risks 6:4 67:2
relative 86:11	represent 44:3	respectfully 80:11	river 32:16 33:22
relatively 60:10	representatives 9:14	responders 38:6	75:20,21
relevant 54:9 79:13	represented 50:19 61:4	response 10:4	<b>Robert</b> 2:6 16:22
reliability 6:3	representing 27:6	16:18,21 17:1	17:18
11:9,15,18,20,22	75:8	40:15 54:2 56:13 70:19 84:16	robust 70:8 79:8
28:4 41:2,7,17 42:2,5,7 47:22	represents 67:7	responsibility 23:1	Rochester 53:6
48:5,13 64:19,20	68:19	responsible 74:14	64:4,7
66:15 68:16,20	require 64:4	responsive 57:7	role 15:5 68:11
70:9 71:12,16	65:10,20	rest 51:22	roll 51:7
reliable 13:4 20:16 74:15	required 11:16 43:18	restructuring 62:20	rooftop 42:12 51:17
relief 80:20	requirements 42:5	67:4	room 1:15 23:7 26:17 54:18 81:9

	1 48	e 21	
rosy 12:3  Roundtree 45:22 46:7  RPS 74:9 ruled 6:20 rules 11:17	second 4:4,12 7:22 35:4 40:22 47:22 52:13 secretary 7:13 secretary's 9:10 17:8 sectors 62:18	15:2 16:5 30:15 32:12 33:1 34:20 38:9 39:4 40:10,13 41:2,17 47:22 48:13 57:7 59:21 62:13 64:13 67:19 69:5 74:15 75:10,11	84:13 significant 25:14 28:20 48:4,15 79:22 significantly 21:2 similar 70:1 simply 81:13 83:2
S S.W 8:4 safe 38:17	secure 41:14 security 23:22 seeing 71:13 seem 74:20	services 6:3 14:13 32:18 37:2 68:1,6 78:6 serving 22:6 36:15 sets 41:19	Sindram 70:18 sir 14:4 sister 48:16 six 6:9 30:17 77:7
safeguarding 79:2 safety 6:2 21:22 23:6 24:3 Salvation 2:19 36:13,17 37:11,18 38:4,12,15 39:7,11,20 40:7,13	seems 53:9,19 72:13 seen 72:7,11 sell 55:2 Sellars 2:14 29:13,14,15 31:19,20 32:2,5,9	seven 5:13,17 6:12 79:15 several 6:14 71:7 81:12 share 7:10 46:8 shared 19:22 31:6	82:17 size 41:15 66:8 76:22 skills 37:14 skip 12:12 sleeves 51:7
54:14 77:20 78:4  Sandra 16:15  savings 16:2 41:21     46:18  scale 16:1  scenarios 12:3	send 9:17,22 85:1 senior 44:17,19 45:2 46:1,12 seniors 33:21 35:2 51:18 sense 18:6	shareholders 5:19 72:14 shares 35:20 72:19,21 sheer 41:15 Sheffey 3:7	small 47:13 60:16 68:3,19 69:12 77:4,21 solar 13:10 29:1 42:10,11,18,21 43:4,7 51:17 59:18,22 60:6 61:7
scene 38:5 schedule 7:20 school 24:9 47:15 schools 60:16	sensibility 77:16 separate 32:1 serious 10:13 seriously 15:8	58:19,20,22 59:5,8 62:7 shelter 37:9 Sheridan 76:3	73:16,75:21 76:4,18 77:8,9 79:5 82:15,16 soliciting 4:14 solidly 12:1
scorecard 81:4 Scott 11:6 Scott-Rice 2:20 40:16,17,19 SE 1:16 season 38:1 39:12	serve 16:11 21:4 31:6 33:15 36:13 38:13 46:11 49:1 58:3 served 18:3 36:22 40:22 42:15 51:16 56:21 57:3	shining 42:17 short 12:17 62:2 63:8 82:2 shows 45:14 63:9 sic 14:8 Sierra 59:10,19	Solomon 38:22 39:4 Solom 2:4 10:9,10,12 13:19,22 Solution 82:15 somebody 71:20 78:1
seasonal 39:11 seated 4:9	serves 5:1 39:20 service 1:1 3:9 4:5,9 12:1 14:16,19,22	sign 9:8 signed 9:5,6,12	<b>someone</b> 75:13 <b>sorry</b> 17:5 34:8 62:9

	1 ag		
sound 16:1	59:16 60:3	strides 48:4	supplier 28:18
sounds 51:11	stand 18:9	stringent 11:16	<b>suppliers</b> 13:8 84:1
source 83:6	<b>standard</b> 63:7,16	strip 77:8	supply 13:9
sources 61:18 79:5 83:7,15,17,18 84:6	81:13 82:3 <b>standards</b> 42:3 74:4,6,7	stronger 41:8 strongest 30:3	support 14:15,17 15:10,19 18:7,10,19 19:11
Southeast 44:18 45:20 46:3	standing 5:20 22:16	strongly 14:15 15:10 28:16 47:5,21	20:3 21:10 22:3 24:12,15 25:13,14
Southwest 8:3 10:12 80:3,8	started 4:3 14:9 15:5 starting 47:16	70:15 structured 12:16	26:6,14 27:8 28:6,13 31:8,13
space 33:8	State 23:22	struggling 37:5,20	33:12,17
spaces 62:22	stated 11:13	studied 11:2	34:3,16,19 35:4,10,19 36:3
span 61:15	12:4,11,12,15	stuff 77:10	38:10,12,21 39:10
Spanish 64:17	24:21 25:18 26:1 28:16 65:16	sublimated 61:9	40:6,9 41:5,7 42:10 44:20 45:17
speak 8:12 25:1 34:16 44:7 47:18	statement 10:3 13:20 17:15 18:5	<b>submissions</b> 10:18 <b>submit</b> 13:20 59:3,4	47:18 48:19 54:11 56:19 58:2 61:6
75:5 78:19 speaker 10:8	statements 86:8	submitted 11:5	68:7,9 69:11
speaking 58:13,14	states 74:3,7 81:3	65:1,7	70:5,15 79:8,11 83:22
59:13	82:17	submitting 17:15	supporters 71:8
special 1:6 4:19	state's 63:15	<b>subsidies</b> 43:5 51:19 63:17	supporting 12:1,8
23:21,22 35:15 80:12	Station 76:3	subsidy 63:21 65:13	22:16 25:2 27:13
specialist 75:11,12	statistic 11:20	66:1	38:6 67:13
specialized 67:22	status 7:10 82:1,8	substance 37:17	supports 29:6 sure 41:11,21 57:22
specific 22:21 81:21	statutory 16:15 stay 37:5	substantial 16:4	77:14
specifically 28:12	stenotype 86:5	25:14	surpasses 31:14
56:21 79:16	stock 75:19 80:2	substantially 63:10	surprisingly 80:16
speech 19:20	story 29:21	success 30:6 31:18	surrounded 34:1
spending 70:11	straightforward	suffocate 63:15	survive 13:3
<b>spoke</b> 22:12	18:6	suggesting 53:12	Sustainability 81:7
spread 35:16	strategy 69:14	suit 62:4	sustainable 38:17
Square 80:3,6	street 7:14 8:8 39:1	Suite 7:14	73:11 81:5
staff 9:10 14:22 27:12 46:11	47:14 51:9	sun 42:17	sworn 5:5
59:10,20,21 67:18	streets 37:7	superior 33:1 supplement 9:17	synergies 72:10
stakeholders 31:17	strength 21:7	84:21	synopsis 83:22 system 7:16 11:15
			System 7.10 11.13

	1 ug	April 8 (Sec. )	
28:4 42:20 64:19 66:12,14,21 78:14	62:12 testimony 5:6 9:17	52:15,21 53:10 83:10	Trade 49:8 training 20:7,13
	10:17 11:5,13	they've 48:7,12	28:9 37:15
T	12:22 27:14 44:20	third 32:21 35:10	
Table 58:10,15	63:4 75:1 79:6	42:8 43:7 82:13	transaction 1:7 5:8,17 29:8 43:19
taking 26:2 73:14	thank 5:10 10:5		
76:14	13:18,19 14:1,6	thoughts 84:22	transcript 8:14 86:5
<b>Takoma</b> 62:16	16:7,8,10,16 17:9	thousand 49:4 71:7	transform 19:15
STAN PORTOTO STANDARD STANDARD STANDARD	18:20,21,22	thousands 19:18	transition 21:22
talent 26:16	21:13,14 24:17	39:13	transitional
talk 22:20 75:12	26:19,20	threat 43:17 66:13	37:10,12
talked 27:15 48:6	29:9,10,11		transmission
51:8	31:18,19	threatening 66:9	66:11,20
tangible 12:18 27:17	32:4,6,9,10 34:4,5 36:6,7	three-fourths 80:16	
43:21 44:4 81:22	40:9,10,12,17	thrive 13:3	transmitter 52:15
82:5	44:6,9,11 47:6,7	throughout 33:3	treatment 37:18
tanks 77:9	49:13,15 53:19,21	39:17 40:2	treats 35:5
targets 11:19	56:9,11 58:6,8,17	Thurgood 1:14	treaty 64:13
Task 18:4 19:1 41:1	59:8 62:5,6,10	thus 43:16	Tree 39:12
	67:9,11,15	A 15-2	
tasked 27:12	70:15,16,21 75:3 78:15,19 82:9,10	tightens 83:13	troubling 53:4
tax 73:18,19,22	84:8,9,12,18	Tim 3:8 62:8,12	true 86:7
taxpayer 76:8		today 4:12 14:14	trust 3:14 14:18
teach 50:16	that's 7:19 8:11 45:12 49:6 55:11	22:16 23:8,11	78:22
team 21:22	57:22 59:3 73:18	34:16 47:18 60:9	trustworthy 49:7
,	78:14 84:4	62:1	trying 53:5 57:4
technology 15:15,22	THEARC 2:16	<b>Todd</b> 3:13 78:17,20	tsunami 56:5
29:4 43:1 55:13,16 76:1 77:8	32:16 33:12 34:1	tonight 7:11 8:18,20	
a diamental and a second		9:1,2,6,8 27:6,21	Tuesday 1:10
tenants 39:9	themselves 53:9 55:15	44:19 47:3 49:10	tuition 24:10
tend 49:6		54:7 56:18 62:11,12 63:21	tune 8:18
terms 21:9 71:11	thereafter 86:6		turn 8:13 9:18
75:21 76:8 83:5	therefore 41:20	Tony 54:5	turned 57:9
testified 10:20 27:21	42:17 67:9 69:13 75:11 82:1	top 76:4	
63:4	, ,	touched 25:6 47:20	Turning 37:11
testifiers 12:3	there's 24:5 48:14	<b>Tower</b> 7:14	turnout 5:12
testify 17:19 68:7	53:4 55:8 76:4 77:3	Town 32:16	type 50:15
71:1,19 84:11	They'll 9:11	toys 38:1 39:14	typewriting 86:6
testifying 9:19 61:22	·		
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	they're 48:9 51:8	track 26:2	U

underground 20:22	urge 15:10		welcome 2:2 4:4
under-invested	usage 80:4	W ward 3:12 28:12,13	we'll 4:3 9:11,18,19
66:13	utilities 80:19 84:7	32:18 34:13 35:13	well-grounded 11:8
understand 40:1 42:12 43:10,18	utility 5:19,22 6:8	40:20 49:21,22	well-respected 70:8
76:19	10:22 13:15 18:11 37:4 39:6 41:11	50:3,5,16 56:17 58:15 59:14	we're 5:13 8:11 9:14
understanding	62:18,19 63:8,13	75:5,6,8 76:12	10:5 32:2 47:16 51:20,21 55:2,19
35:20 49:3	64:4 66:10,16,22	77:21,22	Wesley 8:4
understands 23:7	67:4 75:14 80:21 81:6 82:20	78:5,12,16 82:14	West 2:17 3:4 7:14
undertaken 68:11	01.0 02.20	<b>Washington</b> 1:9,16 2:8,9,11,15 7:14	34:7,8,10,12 36:8
undertaking 68:14	V	19:5,7,13 20:11,19	49:17,18,21 53:22
underway 20:17	<b>value</b> 72:20	21:3,4,5,11,19,20	we've 7:2 25:15
70:10	vanish 76:1	22:1,7,12 23:1 24:14 25:1,5,7	32:19 34:21 54:15
unduly 42:22	<b>vantage</b> 15:11 27:19	29:16,20 30:17	Wheeler 76:14
unease 12:2	various 11:2	31:9,22 33:4 37:7 38:12,16 41:1	whereas 83:2,6
uneasy 10:17	vast 80:14	44:18 45:20	Whereupon 85:4
unemployment 52:3,5,7	versus 61:3	49:8,22 59:17 63:6	<b>whether</b> 11:8 79:14 80:10 83:10
unfair 73:22	via 46:18	66:7 71:5,8 73:10 82:16,17	white 56:5,12
unfairly 74:9	vice 27:4 40:22	Washingtonian	whole 9:17 45:2
unharmed 13:16	victims 38:7	32:21 41:3,4 82:14	wholeheartedly 34:3
Union 24:1	view 73:1,3	wasn't 84:14	58:2
unit 76:13	views 7:7,10,12 29:7	watchdogging 62:17	wholesale 6:10
<b>United</b> 45:7 59:18	Vinson 2:6 16:22 17:18	water 77:9	wholly 26:14
units 46:2	Virginia 25:8 71:6	waterfront 80:8	whom 50:5,6,7
Universal 36:18	visible 21:1	ways 6:14 9:3 30:13	80:14 86:2
University 8:6 11:3	vision 38:15 55:11	52:22	whose 11:7 19:14
unless 78:10	visit 46:7	WDCEP 30:2	wider 60:7
unprecedented 65:5	<b>visits</b> 46:10	weaken 13:11	wife 47:13
67:2	visually 55:7	weaker 66:19	Williams 14:8 56:22 58:5
upgrades 66:13	vital 69:9	wealth 47:12	Willie 1:20 4:11
<b>upon</b> 33:11,12	vitally 24:2	weather 8:21 48:14	wind 13:10 29:1
<b>upper</b> 60:12	voice 73:17	<b>website</b> 7:1 8:15,17,19	73:16,20 74:2
upwards 49:4	vulnerable 79:10	week 8:2 65:2 85:2,3	winter 46:10
Urban 45:6	83:1,4,8		wire 74:14

		1	T
wires 42:19	youngest 47:16	W. 100 C. 1	
wish 84:11	youth 23:3,5,8,17		
witness 19:19			
witnesses 2:3 3:2 9:5	Z zip 23:15		
women 2:20 19:18 37:19 40:21 70:12	zoning 68:4		
wood 44:9			
work 21:12 23:2 24:3,9 25:10 26:12 35:13,22 38:19 41:16 45:5 51:7 57:13 77:11 78:16			
worked 26:10 59:15 75:9 76:2 77:6			
workforce 20:14 28:17			
working 23:9 35:7 45:9 57:14 75:15 77:8			
works 35:6 50:4 71:5			
world 61:2			
worse 63:10			
worship 38:19			
writing 7:12 61:14			
written 9:17,22			
www.depsc.org 7:1			
www.dcpsc.org/ edocket.asp 7:17			
Y yesterday 65:19			
York 37:19 50:1 53:4 63:22 64:3,18,20 65:7			
you'll 27:10 67:14			
young 37:12			