

**HAROLD HEINZE:** My name's Harold Heinze. I full-time reside in Anchorage. I am a property owner duly noticed at my property up in Talkeetna. That's basically why I drove up here tonight.

In my work life, I am a State employee. I head up the Alaska Natural Gas Development Authority, a public corporation of the State.

What you need to understand about it at this point, it is not that it is just working on propane, which we are, which is basically a fuel for about a third of Alaska; we're also taking space in the two big pipeline projects that are still moving forward. However slow, however glacial, they are moving forward, and we have space in both of those pipelines.

We also have a conditional right-of-way linking us to those projects to bring gas into the Cook Inlet area via Glenn Highway. So all those are on the table.

That's important to you because if those move forward, No. 1, they're the absolute cheapest way to deliver gas to you as Alaska consumers. Absolutely, no contest, hands down.

Second thing is it's their money, not ours, that builds the project. That's the other key. No subsidy is required. Again, if they move forward, great. If they don't, this is an awfully good consideration that we've got on the table.

Now, as a property owner, I have had a chance to look through both the plan of development, the project description, the application for the right-of-way lease, but most importantly I did take the time to read through the draft lease and the draft stipulations of the lease that were proposed by DNR. It's really those I'd like to speak to, the lease and more importantly the stipulations.

The reason for driving up here on this is that because of the way the process is constructed right now, this is the one and only public hearing that will ever be held on the stipulations, this series of seven meetings. It's the only time we as the public will have a chance to speak to the State entities that issue the right-of-way stipulations. And was explained to you earlier, that sets the stage then for enforcement forever. Whatever is or isn't in those stipulations is key.

There's two concerns I have specifically from looking at the details. One is the issue of access. The general right-of-way provision 3835 has mandatory stipulations that the Commissioner is required to put in. I don't believe that the condition related to access has been properly expressed in that draft. I think it needs to be much stronger.

The reason is that we can't look at this area as it is today. You have to look at this area 10, 20, 30 years from now. This is the fastest growing area in Alaska, the north part of the MatSu Valley. I've been here 30 years and I've seen it change dramatically. So we have to think about access not as it is today, but as it is in the future. And the State absolutely as a condition of using its right-of-way needs to enforce that.

The second thing is that I'm not speaking in general about the whole pipeline route. What I focus down on is the 200 miles that basically the pipeline is located in the Parks Highway. It is in the Parks Highway right-of-way. It's not a mile off or 100 feet off or whatever; it's in the right-of-way. That's the way the maps show it. In particular, the 60 miles from the south end of

Denali Park to just north of here by a couple miles, and that whole stretch is an area where people live along the highway. It's where the communities are.

In particular, I'll draw attention to Sunshine where the Talkeetna Y is. There are six, seven, eight businesses located in that area that are vital to the local community. It's important that they have affordable energy. It affects how much we pay for groceries and everything else.

The second issue is by running down the highway it also creates, frankly, some hazard. It creates a safety issue. Again, looking at the stipulations in the draft lease, it's my opinion that they're totally inadequate. I think they need to be straightened up, beefed up. There has to be conditions of not only being involved later on, but in the design criteria. The up-front design needs to be reviewed. There needs to be monitoring programs and follow-up programs and reporting programs and public reporting programs that none of that is mentioned. None of it.

I looked at the design parameters and, yes, in populated areas there is an increase in the wall thickness design, but it was less than 1 percent of the pipeline. And, I'm sorry, I believe over the next 10, 20, 30 years this pipeline, 60 miles here, is going to be a lot more built up and if we don't design it from the beginning for those conditions, I think we're going to regret it in the long run.

Thanks.

**RANDY CROSBY:** Thanks. My name's Randy Crosby, and I live at Mile 128-and-a-half on the Parks.

The pipeline will go - the clearing will go within just, you know, 20 feet of my house or so. I fully understand that, you know, is -- that land is a right-of-way for a highway or something like this pipeline or whatever. I think my biggest concern not only for myself but all the communities, my community of Trapper Creek, the State Park lands, all the creeks and everything, is what the footprints when it's done and revegetated is going to look like.

I think that the clearing that they've done on the highway up north of Willow here is not the right approach. It doesn't look Alaskan to me. I think that when it's done, it should look better than that. It should look, you know -- up north anyhow, you're clearing old-growth forest with beautiful sceneries. It shouldn't just be an industrial clearing that comes through and some seed thrown on top and you guys walk away.

I think that there is some serious consideration that needs to be put into -- and I had discussion with people tonight. They're assuring me that, you know, that will happen down the road. But there's very big issues on the depth of the pipe in relation to the existing roadbed and future roadbeds, the future driveways that will get put in, exits from the highway are all -- should be a big concern.

I do excavation work and up until just recently we had no utilities up there to worry about. Now we have a fiber optic on one side of the road; might have natural gas on the other side or a mixture of gases. It's something that, you know, I think a lot of thought needs to go into the location and design of this pipeline in the big picture, just like the gentleman before was saying. It's a lot bigger than just burying it four feet in the ground and moving on.

I think that a lot of thought needs to go into all the creek crossings. Large clearing by the creek crossings presents all sorts of impacts. I'm sure Fish & Game is looking at it, but how is it going to not only affect the fisheries and stuff, but how is the human population going to affect those areas that now are one way and then when the pipeline comes through, are going to be another way. And I think that that needs to be looked at.

The other impacts that are created when you clear something like that that go along -- both the positive and the negative and look at the whole thing. In the wintertime it will be a snow mobile corridor. Up in Trapper Creek we've worked hard to develop a trail system to get people off of the highway, not encourage them to be along the highway. There is no doubt that this will be used -- depending on how it's designed, that it will be a route that people use heavily. There's negative impacts that come along with snow mobile use in the road right-of-way. I'm very pro snow mobile, but on the other hand, I drive the highway and see the negative impacts that come along with snow mobile use on the highway.

Thank you.

**JOHN STRASENBURGH:** My name's John Strassenburgh. I live in Talkeetna and I own property north of Trapper Creek -- north of Trapper Creek and west of the Parks Highway.

I know a lot of people up there and as I spoke to some of you earlier, I'm real disappointed that you guys didn't hold a meeting up north because -- in fact, I'm not even sure if there was an announcement to the community councils up north. I don't think so. I don't know for sure, but I don't think that folks were notified. I don't think people really know what's happening. The only reason I know is because I'm on the Willow -- the WACO mailing list and Sue Morgan sent me an e-mail along with everybody else. So I just kind of by accident even found out this was going on.

These people are going to be affected. There's going to be people who are going to be affected by this project. I think that they should be given the opportunity at the front end. Mr. Heinze said something about this is the only time stipulations are going to come before a public forum and an opportunity for public hearing. I just really think that people ought to know in the Valley and at least be given an opportunity to participate.

And I also agree with Randy Crosby when he said, take a look at the revegetation. Maybe not something that's going to bring in invasive vegetation. It would be nice to have -- I don't know. I guess you can't really plant trees, but it would be nice if you could put some seedlings in.

So, anyway. That's all I got. Thank you.

(The Public Hearing concluded at 7:50 p.m.)