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PUBLIC HEARING  
FOR  
DP005 - LIBERTY PROJECT  
BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Fairbanks, Alaska

Taken October 3, 2017  
Commencing at 7:05 p.m.

Volume I - Pages 1 - 40, inclusive

Taken at  
Westmark Hotel  
813 Noble Street  
Fairbanks, Alaska

Reported by:  
Mary A. Vavrik, RMR

## A-P-P-E-A-R-A-N-C-E-S

## Bureau of Ocean Energy Management:

James J. Kendall  
Regional Director

Mark Storzer  
Regional Supervisor  
Office of the Environment

Michael Haller  
Tribal and Community Liaison

Frances Mann  
Chief of Analysis Section II  
Office of the Environment

Lauren Boldrick  
Liberty Program Manager

## Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement:

Kevin Pendergast  
Deputy Regional Director

Steve Pearson  
Oil Spill Preparedness Division

## For Environmental Protection Agency:

Hanh Shaw  
Program Manager  
Alaska Oil, Gas and Energy Sector

Erin Seyfried  
Environmental Engineer

## For U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

Heather Markway  
Project Manager

BE IT KNOWN that the aforementioned proceedings were taken at the time and place duly noted on the title page, before Mary A. Vavrik, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of Alaska.

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Good evening.

3 Welcome, everybody. I don't think I need to use a mic for  
4 my part of this. But welcome to the BOEM public hearing  
5 for the draft EIS for the proposed development of Liberty  
6 in the Beaufort Sea.

7 Now, first of all, my name is Jim Kendall. I'm the  
8 Regional Director for the BOEM office in Alaska. We are  
9 stationed in Anchorage. And what is BOEM? Well, BOEM,  
10 B-O-E-M, is the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. We are  
11 a bureau within the Department of Interior. We are  
12 federal. We are not an oil company. We are not the State  
13 of Alaska. We are not a nongovernmental organization. We  
14 are the federal government.

15 And so what we are going to talk about tonight is a  
16 document we released this past August. It is the Draft  
17 Environmental Impact Statement for this project that's  
18 been proposed. Before I go any further, I've got to  
19 introduce the rest of my team.

20 First of all and very important, we have got Mary  
21 Vavrik over there. Mary, she's our court reporter. And  
22 because this is a public hearing, we are actually taking  
23 down everything that's been said. So please, when you  
24 offer your comments, say your name so Mary can get it for  
25 the record.

1           Lauren Boldrick is right there. Now, Lauren is the  
2 project manager for BOEM. She's supervising the stuff we  
3 do in our federal government agency office to have this  
4 project and review it. I also have Mark Storzer. Mark is  
5 the regional supervisor of environment. He's in charge of  
6 the science and the environmental program for the State of  
7 Alaska within the bureau.

8           We have got Fran Mann. Fran is the supervisor of the  
9 group that actually prepared the document. Really  
10 important. Mike Haller. Mike Haller is my tribal  
11 liaison. He works with the villages on the North Slope  
12 and throughout Alaska.

13           And then something we picked up over the years is  
14 folks get a little frustrated that we talk about who we  
15 work with, the other federal agencies, and we don't bring  
16 them along. So we are trying to get better at that. We  
17 have got two of our colleagues from the Environmental  
18 Protection Agency that actually helped us write the  
19 document. We have got Hanh Shaw and Erin Seyfried. They  
20 are both from Seattle. They helped with the document.  
21 Now, they have a draft discharge permit that's out for  
22 public review that's associated with this project. So not  
23 only are they helping to write the document, but they are  
24 also looking at the discharge permit for public comment.

25           And last, but not least, we have got Kevin

1 Pendergast. Kevin is from the Bureau of Safety and  
2 Environmental Enforcement, and they are the DOI bureau,  
3 the Department of Interior bureau like us, but after we  
4 approve -- if we approve the exploration plan, that  
5 doesn't mean something is going to happen. What it means  
6 is the company, Hilcorp, would be allowed to submit an  
7 application to permit to drill to BSEE, and then they do  
8 all the engineering reviews and things of that nature.

9 Who have I missed?

10 MR. MARK STORZER: Heather.

11 MS. LAUREN BOLDRICK: Heather Markway from  
12 the Corps.

13 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Oh, I'm sorry.  
14 Introduce yourself, please.

15 MS. HEATHER MARKWAY: I'm Heather Markway  
16 with the Corps of Engineers, and we are doing permitting  
17 for the Clean Water Act.

18 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Excellent. And I  
19 forgot one other person.

20 MR. STEVE PEARSON: Steve Pearson from the  
21 Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Oil Spill  
22 Preparedness Division.

23 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Now, it may seem a  
24 little overwhelming that we have multiple agencies in  
25 here, but the document was prepared not just by BOEM. We

1 are the lead agency, but we had help from other federal  
2 agencies; also from the State of Alaska, also from the  
3 North Slope Borough, the Inupiat Communities of the Arctic  
4 Slope, the Corps of Engineers, the Coast Guard. We tried  
5 to involve everybody so we have a good review of the  
6 document and then actually write a good document.

7       Again, this is a draft. It's not final. We put it  
8 out in August, and it's out there up into about  
9 mid-November so that people can look at it and tell us  
10 what more we need to do. We want people to look at it and  
11 say, wait a minute. You ought to consider this. You  
12 forgot this. You can say this a little bit differently.  
13 What does that really mean?

14       Second of all, it's not a decision document. When  
15 the document is done, it's not going to be the last page  
16 the decision is. No. It is a document that will go to  
17 the decisionmaker, the director of my agency in  
18 Washington, to consider as he makes a decision. So this  
19 is a piece of information that we pass to the  
20 decisionmaker for them to consider what are the potential  
21 environmental and socioeconomic impacts of approving this  
22 project.

23       So we need help with that. This is for public review  
24 and comment so that you can tell us after you look at it,  
25 you know, how do we make it better so it reflects reality.

1           Now, with that, I'm going to turn it over to Lauren,  
2 the project manager, that has a short PowerPoint that goes  
3 into depth a little bit on exactly what this is and what  
4 you would find in the document. Lauren.

5                       MS. LAUREN BOLDRICK: Hi, everyone. We  
6 have about a 10- or 12-minute presentation, and then we  
7 can start listening to your testimony. We would love to  
8 hear from you and what you have to say. And thank you for  
9 joining us tonight, especially.

10                      (PowerPoint presentation:)

11           Hello, and thank you for joining us today.

12                      (Pause in PowerPoint presentation.)

13                       MS. LAUREN BOLDRICK: Sorry. I'm going to  
14 turn it up. It seemed way louder earlier.

15                      (PowerPoint presentation:)

16           Hello, and thank you for joining us today. The  
17 Bureau of Ocean Energy Management has been working in  
18 cooperation with our stakeholders on the Liberty project  
19 since late 2015.

20           This large scale map shows the proposed Liberty  
21 island location, which is approximately 60 miles from  
22 Nuiqsut and approximately 70 miles from Kaktovik. The  
23 smaller scale map shows that the proposed Liberty island  
24 will be approximately eight miles from Endicott satellite  
25 drilling island.

1 Hilcorp Alaska is planning to initiate commercial  
2 hydrocarbon production of the Liberty reservoir by the  
3 winter of 2021 to 2023. As described in the Liberty  
4 development and production plan, the Liberty development  
5 would be a self-contained Outer Continental Shelf drilling  
6 and production facility located on an artificial gravel  
7 island with a 5.6-mile pipeline to shore that will  
8 continue 1.5 miles over land to the Badami tie-in point.  
9 The Liberty development will include a new onshore gravel  
10 mine, an onshore tie-in pad, and the construction of  
11 onshore and offshore ice roads.

12 The proposed Liberty development includes five  
13 stages: The development of a new gravel mine,  
14 construction of ice roads, construction of a manmade  
15 gravel production island, construction of a pipeline, and  
16 drilling and hydrocarbon production.

17 BOEM accepted scoping comments on this draft EIS  
18 during the 186-day public scoping period which lasted from  
19 September 2015 through March 2016. BOEM received several  
20 thousand comments, which include concerns over subsistence  
21 whaling, impacts to marine mammals and threatened and  
22 endangered species, the possibility of oil spills in the  
23 Arctic environment, and potential impacts to the unique  
24 boulder patch ecosystem. Commenters also suggested  
25 alternate locations for gravel sources, for oil and gas



1 processing, and for the island itself. These comments and  
2 concerns were used to develop and inform the analysis of  
3 additional action alternatives in the draft EIS.

4 As shown on this slide, many other federal, state and  
5 local governments have been cooperating with BOEM on the  
6 development of this draft EIS. BOEM has analyzed five  
7 alternatives in the draft EIS. Hilcorp's proposed action  
8 as described earlier, including normal best management  
9 practices, operator-committed measures, and cooperating  
10 agency typical permit allowances as mitigation measures  
11 constitutes Alternative 1.

12 In addition to the proposed action, NEPA requires  
13 analysis of a no action alternative, meaning that no part  
14 of Hilcorp's proposal would occur. This is Alternative 2  
15 in this draft EIS.

16 The remaining three alternatives were developed as a  
17 result of scoping comments about alternate island  
18 locations, alternate gravel mine locations, and alternate  
19 processing locations.

20 In response to public comments suggesting an  
21 alternative that would relocate the island in order to  
22 avoid or reduce impacts to boulder patch communities, BOEM  
23 asked Hilcorp to identify possible alternate island  
24 locations that would maintain the technical feasibility of  
25 its project. In addition, these alternate locations would

1 minimize impacts to the boulder patch from turbidity and  
2 sedimentation associated with construction activities  
3 and/or move the island and other project components as far  
4 from the densest areas of known boulder patch habitat as  
5 practical.

6 Therefore, based on public comment as well as  
7 responses from Hilcorp, BOEM developed two  
8 subalternatives. Alternative 3A would relocate the island  
9 to a site about one mile to the east, which would result  
10 in the island about one mile further in the densest areas  
11 of the boulder patch as compared to the proposed action.  
12 Alternative 3B would locate the island approximately 1.5  
13 miles closer to shore into state of Alaska waters, placing  
14 the island approximately 1.5 miles further from the  
15 densest areas of the boulder patch as compared to the  
16 proposed action.

17 Scoping comments suggested BOEM analyze an alternate  
18 location for the proposed West Kadleroshilik River mine  
19 site No. 1 to minimize impacts to migratory birds, fish  
20 and wetlands used for subsistence purposes and other  
21 resources. BOEM conducted a thorough review of existing  
22 technical and survey information and, based on this  
23 review, identified three plausible alternate locations for  
24 analysis.

25 (Pause in PowerPoint presentation.)

1 MS. LAUREN BOLDRICK: I'm going to pause  
2 it really quick because I think it's really important to  
3 note that there is a fourth alternative, and I don't know  
4 why it skipped it because we watched this -- okay.

5 So Alternative 4A and 4B analyzed alternate  
6 processing locations. Alternative 4A analyzes processing  
7 at the existing Endicott SDI facility, and Alternative 4B  
8 shows processing at a new onshore facility. And we assume  
9 that this new onshore facility would be where the pipeline  
10 is already proposed to come ashore.

11 Then I'm going to start over on Alternative 5.

12 (PowerPoint presentation:)

13 Scoping comments suggested BOEM analyze an alternate  
14 location for the proposed West Kadleroshilik River mine  
15 site No. 1 to minimize impacts to migratory birds, fish  
16 and wetlands used for subsistence purposes and other  
17 resources. BOEM conducted a thorough review of existing  
18 technical and survey information and, based on this  
19 review, identified three plausible alternate locations for  
20 analysis.

21 In the draft EIS, BOEM used four types of mitigation  
22 measures in its analyses. These include lease  
23 stipulations, operator-committed measures, typical  
24 requirements from our cooperating agencies and resulting  
25 consultations, and project-specific measures.

1           This draft Environmental Impact Statement analyzes  
2 the impacts of the various alternatives with the intent of  
3 disclosing those impacts to the public and to the  
4 decisionmakers. In the case of the Liberty Draft  
5 Environmental Impact Statement, the decisionmaker is  
6 ultimately the Secretary of the Interior. The draft EIS  
7 also considers mitigation measures that could minimize  
8 impacts of the action alternatives.

9           Impacts to the resources in the action area range  
10 from negligible to major, depending on the resource and  
11 the scope of the analysis. A very large oil spill is not  
12 considered part of the proposed action or alternatives and  
13 is extremely unlikely. Impacts from a very large oil  
14 spill would be major.

15           Comments that suggest additional information for  
16 analysis or that note issues not considered in the draft  
17 EIS are very helpful and considered substantive comments.  
18 These will be used to inform the preparation of the final  
19 EIS.

20           To make a comment, go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and  
21 search for Document No. BOEM-2015-0068-0164. Click the  
22 "comment now" button on the upper left corner of the page  
23 to add your comment. The comment period closes on  
24 November 18, 2017.

25           BOEM would like to thank you for your attendance and

1 participation tonight.

2 (End of PowerPoint presentation.)

3 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Okay. Now, the way  
4 this process works, the document has been out there since  
5 August. We are totally in the receiving mode. So when  
6 people have gone to the document, they have checked it  
7 out. This is what we want to hear people say. That's why  
8 it's a public hearing. It's a little different than a  
9 scoping meeting when we are out trying to get information  
10 on what the document should look like.

11 Now we have a document that's out there. It was  
12 released in August. Now we're looking for input on how to  
13 make it better. Depending on how many folks showed up,  
14 sometimes we had names, one right in a row. Sometimes we  
15 had a lottery system. But for here, since we have a nice  
16 compact group, I think we can just go through the ones of  
17 the people that have signed their name that wanted to  
18 speak and then open it up for anyone else that wants to  
19 add something.

20 So why don't we start with the first one here. We  
21 have got a Freddie Brower.

22 MR. FREDDIE BROWER: Yeah.

23 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Okay. Freddie, I've  
24 met you before.

25 MR. FREDDIE BROWER: My name is Freddie

1 Brower. I lived up there on the Slope most of my life. I  
2 moved down here to Fairbanks. And the impact in that area  
3 would affect a lot of fish. Like it's already affecting  
4 the fish on the Kuukpik River. We are catching fish that  
5 are deforming and all that. It would be nice to have all  
6 that chemical in a container and also in a good area where  
7 it won't leak through the ground and go into the ocean.

8 I worked up there on the Slope with ConocoPhillips.  
9 I see a lot of pipe leaks, pipes exploding. My most  
10 concern is putting -- putting this pipe in the water from  
11 island to main shore. My uncles and great uncles were for  
12 the oil people to be on land, but now they are finding oil  
13 on -- out in the ocean. It's nice they are using the  
14 island, some islands that are already there and adding on  
15 the islands.

16 My grandfather on my mother's side, my mother's dad,  
17 lived there in that area for a good 30 years before they  
18 moved down towards Barrow. I hear the stories of my great  
19 uncle, my uncle, that they all lived there in that area in  
20 sod houses.

21 My biggest one is how thick these pipes will be  
22 because you can put them at two inches, they still -- they  
23 will still burst and break. It's nice you got one big  
24 pipe and a small one, and that would be helpful if you are  
25 going to go from the island to the mainland out onto the

1 ocean putting this pipe out in the ocean. That would be a  
2 big help getting this oil from there to there. That's  
3 pretty much --

4 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you. That's  
5 very observant. In fact, I don't have the technical specs  
6 with me, but what you described is what's in the document,  
7 pipe in pipe. And Lauren, how deep is the pipeline going  
8 to be buried to meet the sea floor?

9 MS. LAUREN BOLDRICK: About seven feet.

10 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Seven feet. So it's  
11 pipe in pipe just like you described. It's buried  
12 underneath the sea floor. Thank you.

13 Our next speaker was -- I think this says Marsha  
14 Sharrah. Did I say that right?

15 MS. MARISA SHARRAH: Marisa Sharrah?

16 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Yes. Okay. Sorry.

17 MS. MARISA SHARRAH: No, you're fine. I  
18 hear it a lot all the time.

19 I just have a statement that I prepared to read for  
20 you guys tonight. My name is Marisa Sharrah. I'm the  
21 president and CEO of the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of  
22 Commerce, and we are a business advocacy organization that  
23 represents over 700 local and statewide businesses that  
24 rely on economic opportunities to support a strong, stable  
25 business environment.

1           We were lucky enough today to have to have John  
2 Barnes from Hilcorp at our Chamber membership meeting  
3 today and gave a presentation that talks about the double  
4 pipe and other safety precautions that are incorporated  
5 into this project. He gave a very thorough overview. And  
6 they have a really great video that shows some of their  
7 plans and some schematics that they have for their plans  
8 for the technology on this project that I would encourage  
9 you to go out and look at to maybe ease your mind of some  
10 of your concerns that you had mentioned.

11           The Chamber advocates for programs and policies that  
12 will create a pro-business environment that encourages  
13 private sector investment and job creation.

14           The oil and gas industry plays a critical role in the  
15 environmental health of our state. Additional production  
16 will translate into increased revenue for the state of  
17 Alaska in the form of royalties and will increase the life  
18 span and efficiency of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline system.  
19 New activity on the North Slope will translate into  
20 positive impacts in Fairbanks as the support industry  
21 begins to spend more through the ramp-up and execution  
22 phases of this project.

23           The increase in activity will bring back hundreds of  
24 needed jobs for Alaskans looking to return to Slope work,  
25 for craft laborers, for companies like Alyeska Pipeline



1 Service Company and Flowline Alaska. And growth in our  
2 oil and gas industry will create hundreds, if not  
3 thousands, of direct, indirect and induced jobs while  
4 offsetting the negative impacts of recent annual declines  
5 in oil production. This kind of project is exactly what  
6 our community and our state needs to start an economic  
7 recovery.

8 The Fairbanks Chamber believes responsible  
9 development and management of Alaska's natural resources  
10 is critical to supporting a growing economy and improved  
11 quality of life for all Alaskans. We encourage pursuing  
12 the development and balanced management of Alaska's  
13 natural resources while protecting Alaska for future  
14 generations.

15 North Slope producers have demonstrated excellent  
16 environmental and safety records, and this project builds  
17 on more than 30 years of proven technology and safe  
18 operations in Alaska shallow waters.

19 Hilcorp integrates environmental values into their  
20 day-to-day operations with the recognition that operating  
21 safely and responsibly is the only way to sustain their  
22 business. Their employees are Alaskans that take pride in  
23 operating in a safe and environmentally responsible way.

24 The Chamber will be providing more detailed comments  
25 in writing before the comment period closes. And we

1 appreciate this opportunity to provide comments at today's  
2 hearing.

3 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you very much.  
4 Next on the list -- I hope I will pronounce this right.  
5 Roger Burggraf.

6 MR. ROGER BURGGRAF: Right.

7 DR. JAMES KENDALL: I got it right?

8 MR. ROGER BURGGRAF: You got it.

9 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you. The floor  
10 is yours, sir.

11 MR. ROGER BURGGRAF: Well, I support  
12 development in an environmentally sound manner, and I feel  
13 that this -- we need to keep the pipeline going and we  
14 need to have jobs. And so long as it's done in an  
15 environmentally sound manner, I support the actions that  
16 Hilcorp is proposing.

17 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you. Next on my  
18 list is Jim Plaquet.

19 MR. JIM PLAQUET: Yeah. I'm Jim Plaquet.  
20 I live here in Fairbanks. I came down here tonight  
21 because I worked on the Northstar project back in the year  
22 2000. So that was 17 years ago or whatever. And I know  
23 what we had to put into that project to make it a go. I  
24 mean, we had to not impact the environment up there at  
25 all. So you know, for spills or stuff, we always had

1 containments underneath all the equipment. So we took  
2 that project really serious and make sure, because we are  
3 Alaskans and we don't want to hurt our country.

4 So that's -- so that's the reason why I fully support  
5 Alaska's Liberty project and urge the approval of the  
6 draft EIS that would allow the Liberty project to move  
7 forward.

8 Prudhoe Bay is in decline, and it's essential that  
9 new areas be opened for development. The essential needs  
10 of Alaska's working families all across the vast and  
11 beautiful state depend on the responsible development of  
12 our natural resources. For us, environmentally  
13 responsible development of the Liberty project means jobs  
14 and the opportunity to improve our schools and public  
15 services. The Liberty project would mean hundreds of jobs  
16 of Fairbanks workers. Liberty would create jobs that we  
17 want, high-paying jobs, and so we can all enjoy a livable  
18 wage.

19 Thank you for letting me testify.

20 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you. If you  
21 don't mind, if you want to pass your notes to us, that  
22 would be great. It would help us a lot. Thank you.  
23 Thank you very much.

24 Next on the list -- I'm going to get this one  
25 right -- Donna Brady Robertson. Is that right?

1 MS. DONNA BRADY ROBERTSON: That is true.

2 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you. The floor  
3 is yours, ma'am.

4 MS. DONNA BRADY ROBERTSON: My mother's  
5 company built the first gravel island on the North Slope  
6 eons ago. And I can say that over the time -- my company  
7 has never really done any work on the North Slope, but  
8 I've seen that there is a lot of engineering solutions, a  
9 lot of good science, and a lot of -- a lot of really good  
10 Alaskan know-how that has evolved over the years on the  
11 North Slope. So I feel very confident that we all have  
12 the same thing that we want: Good jobs, extraction of the  
13 resources at a very minimum impact to the environment.

14 And I believe that we can do all this and that we  
15 should do all of this because we can't depend on  
16 Washington, D.C. to support our families and the  
17 lifestyles that we need.

18 So good luck.

19 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you very much.  
20 Now, this is a nice group. That was the last  
21 individual -- Donna was the last that signed in, but since  
22 we have a good group here and we have time, we don't have  
23 to go by a list. If anyone thought of something you would  
24 like to say, the floor is open. We have a mic for people  
25 that aren't boomy like me. So the floor is open, any

1 comments that you can offer. The whole goal is to have  
2 this document as good as we can get it so when we give  
3 this to the decisionmaker they can look at this and have a  
4 good understanding of what we are dealing with. The  
5 better the document, the better the decision.

6 So if anyone else has anything to say, the floor can  
7 be yours. Sir.

8 MR. WARREN CHRISTIAN: My name is Warren  
9 Christian. I'm president of Doyon Associated and  
10 president of North Slope Contractors' Association. I'm a  
11 long-time resident here in Alaska. I grew up here. When  
12 I was a kid, I used to play in the pipe, the Trans-Alaska  
13 Pipeline pipe that was stored in the backyard. I grew up  
14 on the North Slope. I've had jobs up there my whole life,  
15 everything that had a name: Badami, Northstar, Point  
16 Thomson, Kuparuk, Alpine. We were part of the first  
17 project to directional drill underneath the Colville River  
18 which was a pipe-in-pipe process.

19 I'm really happy to see Mr. Brower here because the  
20 local people up there, they were -- they had a lot of  
21 input, and it was very good working with them to make sure  
22 that we did it right and that they were satisfied with the  
23 way we were going to execute the project.

24 We've come a long way in safety and environmental  
25 stewardship of our land up there. Back in the old days,

1 we didn't do half the things that we do now. Now our  
2 employees are number one up there. The safety of our  
3 employees and the safety of the land around us is very  
4 critical. And everybody takes it very serious up there,  
5 from the oil companies to the contractors.

6 Very much in support of this project. It will bring  
7 jobs to Alaskans and put more oil in the pipeline. And  
8 with Alaska's economy right now, that would be great. I'm  
9 very much in support of this.

10 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you very much.  
11 In terms of full disclosure, last night we were in  
12 Nuiqsut. Tonight we're here. Tomorrow night we'll be in  
13 Kaktovik, then Barrow and next Tuesday in Anchorage. So  
14 we are trying to get input from everybody, not only those  
15 outside the Slope, but also that actually live on the  
16 Slope on the land. So excellent comments.

17 Again, the floor is open. Who else would like to  
18 join? Yes, ma'am.

19 MS. KIM BROWER: Alaska hire first. Kim  
20 Brower. I'm sorry. I'm supposed to say my name. That's  
21 not my name. Yeah. I was baptized. No. No. I'd just  
22 like -- because they are always promising Alaskans will  
23 get the jobs first, but then I hear a lot of stories that  
24 they bring a lot of people from Lower 48, and they don't  
25 really respect the people. They kind of have an attitude.

1 And you know, we have enough attitude around here.

2 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Home grown?

3 MS. KIM BROWER: Yeah. You know, like  
4 when you are used to being in Alaska and you go down to  
5 the states, you see the difference. And then when they  
6 bring it up here, so -- because we have got to pay the  
7 bills in our state, you know. What we make here and they  
8 take it down there, they are living, you know, with double  
9 money compared to our bills here. So they always promise  
10 Alaska hire first, but I don't think that happens.

11 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Good comment. It's in  
12 the record. Thank you. Okay. Who else do we have? We  
13 have a good group here tonight. Any comments? Sir?

14 MR. CHRIS JOHANSEN: I'm Chris Johansen.  
15 I live here in Fairbanks. I'm a pipeline engineer, and  
16 I've been working on the Slope with Warren and a lot of  
17 these other people for 40 years. A lot longer than I care  
18 to remember. And I've reviewed the estimate on this  
19 project and the pipe in pipe, and I also reviewed all the  
20 other projects, the offshore projects up there. And we're  
21 making progress over the years. We're getting better and  
22 better at it.

23 This isn't a new project. They look at the mistakes  
24 and the good things that happened in the last four that  
25 they built and incorporating all those ideas and the

1 concepts and all that kind of stuff into this one to make  
2 sure that it is safer and it's more environmentally sound.  
3 And I'm completely confident they can do it and do it like  
4 they say they're going to do it and it's going to last for  
5 a long time. The pipe-in-pipe concept is outstanding, and  
6 it's going to prevent any kind of oil spills out there. I  
7 believe there is a vacuum pull between the pipes so they  
8 can tell if there is a leak from the inside pipe.

9 DR. JAMES KENDALL: I'm going to turn to  
10 my engineer from BSEE who has helped on this document.

11 MR. KEVIN PENDERGAST: They can detect any  
12 change in pressure.

13 MR. CHRIS JOHANSEN: So there is a vacuum  
14 between the outside casing and the inside pipe. And so if  
15 the inside pipe starts to leak, they can detect it from  
16 either end and immediately shut everything down before  
17 anything gets outside the outer casing. So it is an extra  
18 set of protection that doesn't exist in most other places  
19 on the North Slope. So --

20 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Excellent. Who else?  
21 We are going to be here till 10:00, and we are not going  
22 anywhere for people that come in later or people that you  
23 think of something you wanted to say. And I should have  
24 said at the beginning, if you would rather just sit in  
25 front of Mary and give your comment and not in front of



1 the whole crowd, that's welcome, too. Anyone else?

2 MS. DONNA BRADY ROBERTSON: I'm sure he's  
3 going to have a couple comments in a second as soon as he  
4 can speed read through all the data because he was quite  
5 eloquent in the previous hearing.

6 MR. JESSE NEE: This one is almost over,  
7 right?

8 DR. JAMES KENDALL: We are here till  
9 10:00. We will stay here all night because this is really  
10 important. You know, this is -- this could be the first  
11 real development on the Outer Continental Shelf of Alaska.  
12 You know, there is some federal property that's tapped  
13 into from Northstar, but this would be the first fully  
14 operable production facilities on the Outer Continental  
15 Shelf, the federal property in the U.S. Arctic. So this  
16 is the first one. It's very important. We want to make  
17 sure everything is done right. That's why we go out with  
18 this document.

19 As Lauren pointed out in her presentation, the  
20 comment period has been extended twice at the request of  
21 not only the villages of the North Slope so that they  
22 could get more comments into it, but also Hilcorp to work  
23 with the Native communities. And we are trying to get the  
24 best document we possibly can. It's a joint effort  
25 between federal, state, local communities and the people

1 that come to these meetings and give us comments or send  
2 us comments through the website. It's that important.

3 MR. FREDDIE BROWER: I got another  
4 question. Out on the island, you guys are -- I know you  
5 guys will have the spill response team. I was watching  
6 the spill response up there when I was working there at  
7 Eni out by Kuparuk area. I saw their spill response was  
8 pretty not -- it was pretty good, but I would imagine a  
9 little bit more your spill response like via boats and  
10 more of the deals going on.

11 I know they got -- they're on the island drilling  
12 already and oil coming out of it. I would like to see  
13 more of those smaller boats with the booms and all that  
14 out there just in case, you know, it ever happens. And I  
15 pray and hope it doesn't.

16 DR. JAMES KENDALL: That's a good comment  
17 because the Bureau of Safety and Environmental  
18 Enforcement, BSEE, that's also helping us write this  
19 document, they are the bureau that reviews that oil spill  
20 response plan. So your comments are very good, and they  
21 are in the record. Thank you.

22 MR. ROCKY RILEY: I've got a question. My  
23 name is Rocky Riley. I'mn from the village of Minto. And  
24 I understand like Louisiana and Texas, all these guys,  
25 they have a -- like they take 80 percent of the -- what do

1 you call it? They get revenue from the offshore fields,  
2 right?

3 DR. JAMES KENDALL: It depends on -- most  
4 of it goes to the federal government, but if it's within  
5 an 8(g) area close to the state, which this one is, a  
6 significant part of it -- I believe 27 percent, I think,  
7 goes to the state.

8 MR. ROCKY RILEY: And that's the same that  
9 Louisiana and Texas gets, also?

10 DR. JAMES KENDALL: If they were in the  
11 8(g) area, yes.

12 MR. ROCKY RILEY: It's not higher than 27  
13 percent?

14 DR. JAMES KENDALL: There is the GOMESA  
15 rule that is -- I'm not up to speed on that, but for this  
16 one if the development, which this is, is within -- close  
17 to the state boundary, it falls within that 8(g) area.

18 MR. ROCKY RILEY: Oh, yeah. So what's  
19 Alaska going to be getting out of it?

20 DR. JAMES KENDALL: It depends on what the  
21 production is and how much revenue there is.

22 MR. ROCKY RILEY: It's 27 percent.

23 DR. JAMES KENDALL: I believe it's 27  
24 percent of the revenue. The royalties and the rentals go  
25 to the state.

1                   MR. ROCKY RILEY: I got a comment to make.  
2 It's kind of not fair to Hilcorp really, the comments I'm  
3 going to make, because it's probably been an ongoing  
4 problem what my friend Brower said about the fish, you  
5 know, not being -- not being healthy. So I think that  
6 probably should be looked into, you know.

7                   I really support the project, to be honest with you,  
8 but you know, our fish tastes better than oil. So I think  
9 that really should be looked into, not only by Hilcorp,  
10 but by all the companies on the Slope. ConocoPhillips and  
11 BP, Exxon, all these companies, they really should make a  
12 study and see what's causing that and about the old pipes  
13 that he was talking about, some of the old pipes that's  
14 leaking. We hear about it in the news, you know. And so  
15 they really should have a plan in place where they have a  
16 -- they're vigilant on replacing pipe that's not -- not in  
17 good shape, you know, because --

18                   MR. FREDDIE BROWER: That's what I do up  
19 there. I'm with a corrosion team, and I do work up there  
20 on the Slope. And there are -- in the ConocoPhillips  
21 area, Kuparuk area, we are real good on patching the  
22 pipeline.

23                   I tried working over in Prudhoe Bay area. I just get  
24 a lot of attitude there, and so as soon as I heard that --  
25 way before Conoco was there it was ARCO. And it's nice.

1 They are always updating all the corrosion pipe, which I  
2 do. And not going into our water. That's the main thing.  
3 As soon as a spill happens, we are on it. So it's nice  
4 that -- I'm for it. I wouldn't want to live like the old  
5 way like we used to when I was younger. That was a lot of  
6 hard work.

7 MR. ROCKY RILEY: About attitude, too,  
8 about attitude about the workers, I used to work up there.  
9 I took a job up there with an Arctic Slope subsidiary.  
10 And I went up there and I was maintenance and -- and I was  
11 a pretty good diligent worker, did a good job on  
12 everything they asked me to.

13 And there was -- it was a big crew. There were three  
14 Native guys on there. There was two guys from the Arctic  
15 Slope, actually from Barrow, and myself. And every day we  
16 would go out on the bus and went to the job site.

17 And these guys, you know, these guys from the Lower  
18 48, you know, all these other guys, like if somebody  
19 forgets something, they would let their friend go get  
20 whatever they forgot and let them come back.

21 One day these two Eskimo guys, they said, Rocky, you  
22 know, we forgot our lunch. We forgot to pack a lunch.  
23 We're going to run and pack a lunch real quick. Don't let  
24 the bus leave. So all these guys were on the bus. And  
25 the bus driver heard them. And so he --

1           So those guys went in to get their lunch, and the bus  
2 driver started pulling out, and I walked up front and I  
3 grabbed the shift stick. I said, wait. Wait for these  
4 guys. And so he got pretty upset at me. And I wouldn't  
5 let go of his stick shift until those guys got back and  
6 they got back on the bus.

7           I said, you shouldn't be treating these guys -- these  
8 guys own this company. This is Arctic Slope subsidiary  
9 here. You should not treat these guys like that, I told  
10 these white guys, you know. And they kind of all ganged  
11 up on me, and the bus driver turned me in for  
12 insubordination. So I lost my job. I lost a really  
13 good-paying job, two on/two off.

14           So I was back here. So I didn't know what to do, so  
15 I start my own business, and I started fixing up houses  
16 for handicapped people in the Fairbanks area. Nobody  
17 wanted to do it. So I fixed up homes for black people,  
18 white people, Hispanic people, no matter what color they  
19 were. So I learned how to contract. And then I began to  
20 do other things.

21           And that time the guy shot the pipeline in Livengood,  
22 because my village is downriver from the spill, for a PR  
23 move they came there to hire workers. And they found out  
24 I had a company. So they said, hey, we want to hire you  
25 and you hire the Minto guys to come onto our oil spill. I

1 said, okay, sure, fine.

2 So I went and took the job, and we did a good job for  
3 them. One day I was out in the field and my secretary  
4 called me and said, there is a guy here wants to see you.  
5 And so I went back -- went back to the little trailer  
6 office. And I'll be darned if the guy that fired me up on  
7 the Slope was waiting. I come walking in the door. He  
8 say, Rocky, what are you doing here? I said, oh, working  
9 with the oil spill. He say, oh, yeah. I'm trying to get  
10 on with this company here. He didn't know it was my  
11 company. Oh, yeah, that's my company. So anyway, to make  
12 a long story short, I didn't hire him.

13 But over the winter, Geokinetics and Clean Harbors  
14 came to Alaska to do a seismic survey program in the  
15 Nenana area. They brought a truckload of people from  
16 Calgary, Houston, way over eastern Canada. And you talk  
17 about attitude. These guys are four or five truckloads of  
18 attitude they brought with them. And so --

19 But they hired me again to break trail for the  
20 surveyors and the drillers. You guys remember how much it  
21 snowed last year. And those guys couldn't do nothing.  
22 They would come out there with little bitty shoes on them.  
23 We'd have to build a fire for them. I had 40 guys working  
24 for me, 40 Native guys. And they were from all over the  
25 Interior.

1           And I was real diligent. Every time I got up to make  
2 a speech, I was real diligent to tell them, don't mistreat  
3 the Native people. I'd say, if you guys mistreat anybody  
4 on my crew, I said, you guys -- I said, I'll make sure you  
5 guys go down the road. I acted like I had more power than  
6 I really did.

7           But that's what worries me about Alaska. I hear guys  
8 come back from the Slope, and they would tell me stories.  
9 I'd say, yeah, I heard it all before, you know. But I  
10 would like to see the state be more diligent to protect  
11 Alaskan people. Usually the Alaskan people treat the  
12 Natives pretty good. It's a lot of times the guys from  
13 the outside that's usually not very good. They don't  
14 treat the Native people too good. They look down on them.

15           So I -- that's -- that's something that I don't want  
16 to see happen. You know, I don't like to see it happen  
17 personally.

18           I went to a big old Indian school in Oklahoma. There  
19 was no high school in my village, so they sent me to  
20 Oklahoma to a big boarding school. There was 2,500 kids  
21 there, and they were all kids from all over the states.  
22 And all those kids -- it was a bad school. All the kids  
23 that got kicked out of other schools got sent to that  
24 school. So it was -- it was my education. And so --

25           You know, if you guys heard of Chief Joseph, when



1 they caught him when he was trying to run into Canada,  
2 that was where they put him in jail was where I went to  
3 school. That used to be a jail.

4 And so anyway, give you a little history on -- on  
5 Alaska Natives and the way we view things, you know, it  
6 really grieves me that Doyon and Arctic Slope and these  
7 Native corporations allow their workers to be walked all  
8 over. They really need somebody overseeing that. They  
9 really got to grab ahold of that.

10 That's my first speech to my company. I tell them,  
11 you guys don't mistreat women. Don't mistreat white  
12 people. Because I have all Natives working for me. I  
13 shouldn't say that, but I do. I put -- because I know  
14 they have a hard time getting a job. And that's my speech  
15 to them is not to mistreat anybody. And so that's what  
16 those guys should be doing. The unions, too. They should  
17 be standing up for the Native people and for the Alaskan  
18 people. They really shouldn't be letting these outsiders  
19 coming in.

20 I got some really quality guys working for me right  
21 now, and those guys should be working at Clear or Eielson  
22 or on the Slope. They are that good. But they couldn't  
23 get on. So anyway, that's my speech. I'll let it go from  
24 there.

25 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Well said. Thank you.

1                   MR. ROCKY RILEY: I hope the Native people  
2 get treated better in the future in the state. I don't  
3 want to see them run over, you know.

4                   DR. JAMES KENDALL: We don't need to  
5 repeat history.

6                   MR. ROCKY RILEY: No, we don't. Thank  
7 you.

8                   DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you.

9                   MR. JESSE NEE: So my question is, so  
10 where this island is going to be located at, what are the  
11 nearest Native villages to it?

12                   DR. JAMES KENDALL: What I'm going to do  
13 is turn that over to our project manager, Lauren Boldrick.

14                   MR. JESSE NEE: Oh, is that you? Right  
15 on.

16                   MS. LAUREN BOLDRICK: Nuiqsut is, I think,  
17 60 miles to the west and Kaktovik is 70 miles to the east.  
18 So it's right in the middle.

19                   MR. JESSE NEE: So they don't have any  
20 direct benefit from the projects, then? Because this is a  
21 federal lease, right?

22                   MS. LAUREN BOLDRICK: Yes.

23                   MR. JESSE NEE: Okay. I was just curious.  
24 Kind of interlaced into what he was saying if they were  
25 going to be able to benefit from it somehow, you know, if

1 it was an ASRC lease or something of that nature, but  
2 apparently it's not, so -- but I mean, everybody -- there  
3 is -- I mean, the projects going on right now, and this  
4 one specifically, is a good chance for all Alaskans to be  
5 included in the work, you know. There's plenty of work to  
6 go around, so -- and he's a good spokesman for the Native  
7 people. I know -- I mean, in our union, the pipe fitters,  
8 we have special shareholder hire requirements where people  
9 get -- the Native people can get treated with preferential  
10 hire if they are a shareholder and we are working in,  
11 like, ASRC or areas like that. So there is enough work to  
12 go around for everybody and share the wealth.

13 But I just want to speak up in support of the  
14 project, you know. I mean, I was born and raised in  
15 Alaska, so -- and grew up in the Bush and subsistence  
16 hunting. And, you know, all the meat in my freezer came  
17 from out in the woods. So I mean, I know that the two can  
18 coexist, you know, a subsistence lifestyle but, you know,  
19 I still make my living in the oilfield. So I mean, you  
20 can still conduct those activities in the land but be able  
21 to do it in a good way and be respectful to the earth.

22 So you know, I've worked with a lot of people from  
23 down in the states and other places in the world, and they  
24 always say that Alaska has the cleanest oil patch they  
25 have ever seen because a lot of other places they don't

1 treat the land like we do up here. There is a lot of  
2 state oversight to keep it that way.

3 And I think also about the pipe corrosion, the state  
4 has a pretty robust program to monitor that. When those  
5 pipes start getting to a certain state, they will be  
6 mandated to replace them or they've got to put them out of  
7 service.

8 I just wanted to speak up in favor of the project and  
9 show my support for it. And all Alaska needs these jobs  
10 and carry us into the future and, you know, I hope to be  
11 up there building some of those pipelines.

12 So that's all I've got.

13 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Your comments are very  
14 important. That's why we were in Nuiqsut last night and  
15 we will be going to Kaktovik tomorrow night. And you  
16 missed the first part of the presentation, but we did this  
17 document with help, including the EPA, the Corps of  
18 Engineers, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental  
19 Enforcement, the state. So we have a lot of people  
20 helping to make this a good document and make sure  
21 everyone benefits.

22 MR. JESSE NEE: What was the feeling from  
23 the people in Nuiqsut about the project?

24 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Mixed. They had  
25 concerns, obvious, very much concerns. They do hunt

1 offshore subsistence, and for the project to go through,  
2 it would have to be very respectful, responsible and not  
3 interfere with subsistence, whale migrations, et cetera.

4 MR. JESSE NEE: So what's the depth of the  
5 water that the project is in?

6 MS. LAUREN BOLDRICK: 19 feet. It's  
7 within the barrier islands.

8 MR. JESSE NEE: That just speaks that it's  
9 going to be -- for spill containment it's not like out in  
10 the Gulf of Mexico or something. If Hilcorp has a robust  
11 spill response team and measures set in place, they should  
12 be able to contain it, you know, in water of that depth  
13 and it being protected by the barrier islands from the  
14 severe season, so -- that's my opinion, anyway.

15 DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you for your  
16 comments. Anyone else? We are here till 10:00. You can  
17 wander around and come back. We are not going anywhere.  
18 If you would prefer to give any comments or thoughts  
19 directly to Mary, you can sit right there in the chair.  
20 Some people prefer not to stand up. It's your document  
21 just like it's ours.

22 How about if we break for ten minutes, and if  
23 anyone can wander around get some water or whatever and  
24 come on back. But we are not going anywhere.

25 (A break was taken.)

1 MS. SYDNEY DEERING: My name is Sydney  
2 Deering, and I am the president of the UAF Society of  
3 Petroleum Engineers. And I am representing both myself as  
4 well as my colleagues. I advocate very strongly for the  
5 continuation of the project, as it directly affects our  
6 ability to find employment within Alaska. Many of us are  
7 studying school here in Alaska not only because we are one  
8 of the top universities for petroleum engineering in the  
9 world; we are also a prime opportunity for people to find  
10 employment within the state.

11 By encouraging projects such as this, what we do is  
12 allow students the opportunity to find employment within  
13 the state. And projects such as developing a new field or  
14 reservoir are a large enough scale that it has a direct  
15 effect on the younger generation of Alaska. And so I  
16 advocate very strongly for this project to continue, as it  
17 directly affects my as well as my colleagues' ability to  
18 stay within the state, which is what our aims are to do.  
19 However, if we cannot find employment, we will be forced  
20 to leave.

21 So by supporting this, it directly supports student  
22 employment and the continuation of Alaskans staying in  
23 Alaska.

24 MS. JOAN NAGEL: First of all, you know, I  
25 never came to anything like this, so I'm trying to get my

1 grip as to the reality of what's going on here. But from  
2 what I understand, I would just like to put my input.

3 When I worked up on the North Slope 30 years ago, it  
4 was all union. And what they did is after a while the oil  
5 companies started bringing in all nonunion, and the wages  
6 went down and down. And they brought people in from other  
7 countries, and they brought all these different people in.  
8 And all the people, the union workers that worked up on  
9 the North Slope, they keep siphoning us out and bringing  
10 all the people from the Lower 48 or other countries.

11 And I would just like to see that -- because of my  
12 age -- I mean, I'm not going to be going up there when  
13 they are doing this, you know, ten years from now. I'm  
14 too old. But I'm more concerned about the people that are  
15 younger than me, the people that are in their 20s and 30s  
16 now, teens that would be going up there to work up there.  
17 I'd like to see it go to the people who live here and the  
18 people who belong to the unions because the unions are  
19 what started to build those 30, 40 years ago. And I'd  
20 like to see their children and their grandkids have that  
21 opportunity.

22 (Proceedings adjourned at 9:35 p.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, MARY A. VAVRIK, RMR, Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska do hereby certify:

That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me at the time and place herein set forth; that the proceedings were reported stenographically by me and later transcribed under my direction by computer transcription; that the foregoing is a true record of the proceedings taken at that time; and that I am not a party to nor have I any interest in the outcome of the action herein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my hand and affixed my seal this \_\_\_\_\_ day of October 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MARY A. VAVRIK,  
Registered Merit Reporter  
Notary Public for Alaska

My Commission Expires: November 5, 2020



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