Minutes

Village Board of Trustees

September 9, 2009

A Public Hearing was held on the above date by the Village Board of Trustees at 7:00 p.m. regarding any environmental concerns relative to the proposed Schlumberger project. The public hearing was held at the auditorium in Horseheads High School.

Village Board and Staff:

Mayor Donald Zeigler
Trustee Ronald Swartz
Trustee Walter Herbst
Trustee George Koliwasky
Trustee Suzanne Peters

Village Attorney John Groff
Manager's Assistant Rachel Baer
CEO Bob Young

Others:

Steve Boisvert, BergmannAssoc.
Glenn Harvey, Bergmann Assoc.
Ron Sherman, MRB Assoc.
Maureen Ferrell, Erin
Scott Breese, Erin
Bill Collins, Sayre, PA
Jim Benedict, Old Ithaca Rd.
Ruth & Bob Davis, Penn Yan
John Gough, Horseheads
Jill Lewis, S. Wheaton Rd.
Sherman Moreland, Tift Ave.
Barbara Dunn, Appleridge
Jeremy Ackerman, Steuben St.
Richard Moriarty, Highland Ave.
Wayne Young, Corning Rd.
Earl Pratt, Watkins Rd.
George & Mary McEwan, Sunset Circle
Georgia Reynolds, Hibbard Ave.
Lorie & Ray Cass, Redwing Lane
R. Wolfsberger, Schlumberger
Elly Adam, Cortland Lane
Nancy Hulslander, Watkins Rd.
Melanie Steinberg, Penn Yan
Mary Kohan, Holiday Dr.
Walter Hang, Toxics Targeting

Tom Gough, Heritage Rd.
Carol & John Healey, Old Ithaca Rd.
Chris & Fran Mackenzie, Lake Rd.
Fred Thompson, E. Corning Rd.
Randy Heckman, E. Corning Rd.
Mike Hosey, Kennedy Dr.
Sue Warner, Watkins Rd.
James & Maria Yates, Elmira
Sylvia Wells, Harvard Rd.
Billey Goble, Terry Hill Rd.
Ron Bentley, Elmira
George Miner, STEG
Chris Lawrick, Wisteria Way
Doug Baker, W. Broad St.
Megan Cosgrove, Spencer
Barb Skorcezwski, Franklin St.
Colin Gore, Valley Ln.
Howard Miller, Sunset Dr.
Glenn Decker, Elmira
Tom O'Mara, Ovid Rd.
Carl Gross, W. Broad St.
Mike Swasta, Watkins Road
Chris Morelli, Vinel Circ.
Helen Slottje, Ithaca
Lisa Wright, Ithaca
Bryan Allen, UA Local 267
Atty. Groff declared open the public hearing at 7pm. He reminded everyone that this is not a question and answer period. The Village Board as Lead Agency is asking for input regarding this proposed project. This is a required element of the SEQR process. Your comments will help us ascertain how to mitigate any adverse environmental impacts. He noted that Ron Sherman of MRB Associates is the engineer hired by the Village to assist in this project review. Atty. Groff added that the Village Board will continue to entertain written comments regarding the SEQR review until September 21st at noon. The applicant has submitted updated materials regarding their proposal. They are available for public review at Village Hall and at the library.

Atty. Groff said that we ask that you extend courtesy to those people who make comments. In addition, please understand that this project is not an endorsement or criticism of the gas exploration industry. No drilling activities will occur on this site, nor pipelines installed. This public hearing is not about drilling for gas in marcellus shale. So any comments that may be directed to this topic aren’t relevant to this application that is before this Board. We recognize that chemicals used in the servicing of this industry will be stored at this site. In addition explosive materials will be stored. These materials are not in a form in which they can be detonated. What happens is the charges are segregated from one another so that the explosive aspects have been mitigated. We ask that you limit your comments to 5 minutes.

Maureen Ferrell, Erin - I have personal concerns about hydro fracking around our home, now
includes Schlumberger. Horseheads is special. Now the Village is at a crossroads, this choice can change the character forever. I've listened to all who have spoken in the past. I've listened to STEG too, if they don't locate here, this facility might be in Towanda with the jobs. If they were to build someplace else, once the drilling stopped around here local residents would be done. But if they do locate here the Village will face decades of chemicals, sands, chemicals going by our schools and homes. And truck convoys going to and from the site. Yes the natural gas industry is coming to my neighborhood. We encourage the Village Planning Board and the Board of Trustees to require a full EIS at their upcoming workshop to insure that every possible problem is solved before they can do business in our community. Due diligence should be a minimum requirement. We are less polluted than Texas due to regulations. 400 jobs cannot be worth our children's health.

John Kesich, Millerton PA - I have submitted written comments. I heard about a product called green slurry. This product is an environmentally safe fracking fluid that is used on marine gas and oil platforms. Why if they can do this on the ocean can't they use these safe chemicals here. My other point is regarding no drilling on site. How would you feel about a zyclon being located here.

Kevin Keeley, Chamber of Commerce - thanked the Mayor and Trustees for integrity that you've brought to this process. I've worked in economic development all over the country. I like the way this area recognizes both the merits of economic development, and yet understands the commitment that you must have, the vision, the integrity, to leaving after us a sustainable community. So with that I applaud what you are doing. I love this project. I've seen good and bad projects - big and small. This company is a first class international corporate citizen. I've studied them, met with them, etc. They do it right. I have every bit of confidence that they will do this right. You don't succeed in 80 countries without knowing how to do it. So I ask that you endorse this project expeditiously. I would like you to embrace Schlumberger in a way that will give you fulfillment of your obligations as Trustees. Also I'd like you to do this for the grandchildren. This is a strong solid company, its not going to be fly by night. We'll have generations of Schlumberger here. Right now what we have is a world class company with world class jobs.

Bonnie Chollet, Latta Brook Road, - I've been told by three village officials that this is already a done deal and that we have no business being here. I can appreciate the need for economic development. They have also replied that there will be no impact in our environment. I disagree. This is a major decision for not only the Village, but it is a major decision for Chemung County. I am very concerned about the short term vs. the long term effects. We are going to destroy our water, going to destroy our air, etc. etc. Children and adults will be exposed to diesel fuel particles that will cause both significant impacts on asthma and cancer. And I'm very concerned about all of this. If they are in 80 countries it is because they have billions of dollars that some of which will come to the community, but do we want these dollars to effect our grandchildren. What is the problem with insisting on an EIS. I think this is the minimum that we should expect from Schlumberger to guarantee that the air quality, the water quality, the land quality, will not be effected negatively.

Sherman Moreland, Horseheads - I want to answer Chamber of Commerce mentality - we are
looking at a goldrush. You think this project isn’t going to cause problems. Bergmann assoc. submitted a written 28 page assessment report on May 19th. Page 5, maximum trips per hour per day - 275. Just think of that. If you don’t think that will pollute the air and water. In 1982 Westinghouse Corp. had buried chemicals in its property that seeped into the Newtown aquifer and contaminated the entire Kentucky Avenue wellfield. Still testing the water 25 years later. And the Remington Rand situation, sitting on site that was polluted. Midland TX Schlumberger contaminated drinking wells. Erin Brockovich is in Midland TX and they are being sued. There are horror stories coming out of Texas. What about jobs. The CVS project- only 25% of those workers will be local.

Tom Gough, Horseheads - for past 20 years I’ve watched hundreds of my friends leave due to lack of work. These 400 jobs will help to pay for tax burdens and also keep our small business base strong. I know I speak for a lot of people when I say schlumberger welcome. We welcome your employees into our community, we welcome your children and families. Lets give our children a reason to stay.

Joe Matusick, Corning - I’m an engineer for Corning, with a background in environmental chemistry. The haste in which this project is being pushed through is disturbing. Independent party should do environmental impact before this goes through. I’ve grown up here, fished here. The chemicals spilled would have impacts up to Seneca Lake. I work at Sullivan Park - work with hazardous chemicals every day. There is a right and wrong way to do it. I’m not saying it won’t work out, but the Board needs to make sure its done the right way.

Sue Warner, B&K Equipment, Wygant Rd. - natural gas has generated jobs. This project is extremely welcomed. As far as jobs go its probably one of the better jobs you can get without a 4 yr degree. This is a company you can retire from. I appreciate their business. They should be approved.

Ruth Young, Sayre St. - very concerned of hexavalent chromium in fracking fluids. Chromium is metal that shows that in parts per billion exposure occurs by inhalation and skin contact. The general public may be exposed by drinking contaminated ground water wells. It alters gene expression. In other words it is an endocrine and known carcinogen, causes birth defects. I asked this question at another meeting. You should ask Schlumberger in your EIS. Yes or no - you will or will not be storing this at your site in Horseheads. You will or will not be washing this toxic waste from the trucks. I think that is appropriate to ask.

Steve Campbell, Orchard Hill Rd. - I am President and Chief Operating Officer of Welliver McGuire. We employ about 200 people. I'm here because Schlumberger invited us. We aren't certain if we will get project. They were very careful that the contractors they chose be local. They were very aware of the fact that in our community in our location many of the construction workers are union constructors and make their living that way. It would be a huge boost to our company and to the union employees who work for us. There are pluses and minuses to every company. You can't eliminate chemicals. You just have to protect yourself. They are doing a very good job of protecting the environment from whatever processes and chemicals. They would be a welcome addition mostly for economics. This community needs this.
Cecile Lawrence, Apalachin, NY - everyone within th 300 mile Schlumberger facility radius has a legitimate standing here. So I encourage anyone within this 300 mile radius to respond. Air travels and water travels. My focus is on health impacts. If an EIS is not done it will set a very bad precedent. On the number of jobs what will be the time that these jobs will be performed and the per hour rate. Will they be 15.00/hr jobs. I object to the term that chemicals are a fact of life. That does not have to be this way. I’m concerned on number of trucks going back and forth effecting rates of asthma in the area. The health impacts on kinds of chemicals will be lasting beyond many lifetimes. Cancer causing chemicals. I’m concerned about attitude of Schlumberger as revealed in their prospective that the fact that this site is in close proximity to Elmira aquifer and proposes by DEC as a hot spot. Asthma rates in Chemung County are almost twice that as the rest of New York.

Barbara Dunn, Appleridge in Horseheads - concerned about an incident that happened to me. I was walking toward Watkins Road from Hanover Square. Suddenly realized that there were 2 large trucks that came towards me on the road and these new trucks said Schlumberger. It hit me that this is happening - it is here right now and I don't trust them. That was my feeling and still is. It would be helpful if I had a map that this was or was not the route that the trucks were going to take everyday.

Megan Cosgrove, Spencer, NY - I'm a nurse. Many days at work I wish that I wasn't one because of the suffering. I work with a lot of cancer patients. Need to put human face on this. We will all be effected by truck traffic. Diesel fumes to cause higher rates of lung cancer and stroke and heart attack. I just like to encourage you to include in your thinking about this project the health impacts on the community and how people and children, how will the diesel truck traffic effect them. Its really really important to think about this.

David Carper, Aurora, NY - father designed secure landfills which hold toxic stuff we try to dispose of. They are good for 100 years then start leaking. We are running a race between environment and economic disaster. You people need to understand that. This proposed site is very near a school district. To not do an EIS seems absurd. I change the oil in my car. No matter how careful I am I always spill just a little bit. What is going to spill on this project site and into the aquifer. We did an EIS in our town for someone who wanted to do a historic renovation. No hazardous chemicals there, no truck traffic. But we did do an EIS.

Autumn Stochak, Van Etten, NY - husband and I bought farm and moved winery business to Chemung County. Hopefully will be first winery in Chemung County. I wanted to bring up a point about benefit of economic impact. It also effects agriculture and tourism. I think its ironic that environmental concerns on this project are always balanced with idea that this is an economic boon to the area. I urge you to take a step back and see if 400 jobs is as great as people say. In a letter quoting Bill Coates - entry positions like equipment operator, logging longs hours - typically make more than 50,000/year. They would have to work 10 hours a day every single day to earn that. This is a dangerous, dirty and drug ridden industry. Is this the kind of jobs we want in our county. Focusing on energy development puts counties behind economically. Hydro fracking is controversial. Please consider the long term impacts of this
project and take the time to take a hard look at Schlumberger.

Bob Davis, Penn Yan, NY - my family has been here forever. I retired from Procter and Gamble - even larger than Schlumberger. I can understand why Horseheads wants this company here. Its going to bring jobs - but fairly low level. Company will bring in its own management. Every 3 or 5 years they will chance. Won't have deep roots. Will they be worth having. The company is never going to intentionally pollute the soil or water. But one thing you have to be aware is accidents always happen. They are inevitable. They will happen here. How will Horseheads respond to these accidents. Will the company even inform the Village of what is happening on site. Not sure if you have thought that through. Is your fire department equipped to deal with spills. If your not prepared to respond you shouldn't allow them to build. Should have people on duty 24 hrs. a day who can deal with spills. My guess is your not into that at all, but it will have to be done. I don't have a problem with company per se, more problem with the drillers. But I do have an interest in Horseheads. I hate to see a spill happen that can't be addressed immediately and decisively.

Jeff Streeter, Streeter Assoc., Elmira - I am one of the potential contractors for this project - I'd like to reiterate economic impact. They are committing to use local people. This doesn't happen all the time. Also 14.00/hr. is a lot more than people are making at walmart or any other store. Do the math, consider time and a half, possibly double time. That is how they can make 50,000. Some other jobs will be making a lot more. Our unemployment rate will go down. Other people living here will buy homes and invest in this community, etc. Environmental impact is a concern. I worry about that too. I worry about this area dying because we pass up opportunities. Its difficult in New York to attract businesses. They can find other spots. If we don't advance the community we will eventually shrink. What about poverty rates. I'm sure they are worse now than 30 years ago. I don't think Schlumberger will intentionally dump anything - other things mentioned were from 30-50 years ago when no regulations were in place. Things have changed considerably. Corning Inc. has been a forerunner in developing cleaning up diesel emissions. I have children here. I'm concerned that ultimately there will be no economic opportunities. If I was old and retired I would have a different outlook. But now I have a long way to go and would like to see this community embrace this opportunity. There are risks with everything. We have chemicals at our business. We do due diligence with storage, etc. We could just go out of business and not do anything just to be safe. I'm not dismissing that there are concerns. But I do support that we have a great opportunity here with a very responsible company.

George Miner, STEG - STEG supports Schlumberger. Their proposed investment will generate substantial tax revenues and have a positive impact on this region that provides goods and services. The question before the Village is not marcellus shale. That is a question before DEC. The question in front of this Board is site plan review. This same industrial zone has been home to a munition depot, Corning Pyrex, Sysco Foods, Pepsi, FedEx. This company projects 400 new jobs, and the economic multiplier effect is substantial. There have been statements made that are troublesome. This project has been reviewed by DOT, DEC, Historic Preservation, County Health, County Public Works, County Planning, Soil and Water. The environmental impact has been reviewed by a host of professionals in a highly regulated business environment. We have helped several companies get financial assistance to invest here. When did we stop welcoming people to come and live and work here. 75% of these jobs
will go to area residents. That means hundreds of jobs. That means 100 new people will move here, buy houses, etc. These people will send their kids to our schools. Why is that a bad thing. We have welcomed people who have moved here for other companies. This project is not different. We should welcome them to this area. We have an opportunity to expand the economic impact to this region from individual property owners to benefiting as an entire region. Please join me in welcoming them to our community.

Sylvia Wells, Harvard Rd. - I work for Schlumberger. You need to know that up front. I've been there a week. I worked for Corning Inc. I had the experience of being downsized. I like this community and I didn't want to leave. However, in order to survive I took some jobs that, with my education, I would never take. I took them because I had the experience of getting unemployment for the first time. So I decided I would forget about my education and just start from the bottom and work my way back up. We are here criticizing the potential that they have to offer. I am proud that these people are open minded enough to look at a company like Schlumberger. We have to think about future of Village and Town of Horseheads. We need to think about having our families stay here instead of relocating. Our progressiveness when we have a top company come to the Village. We have embraced Corning - who went through the same thing. It doesn't matter what their name is. We should be embracing this company. We should hold their feet to the fire, but at the same time don't push them away. Because if they aren't here they will go someplace else, then they will still do the business they are doing in this area. I’m saying thank you to Schlumberger and thank you for giving your opinion. Now I'm asking you to embrace and see the positive about it. Lets help the Village can be all it can be so our children and our grandchildren can be all they can be. This is about moving forward and being progressive.

A resident from Van Etten - there is no reason why we should not hold their feet to the fire and do a thorough EIS now. This is the only time. You can embrace the economic stuff, but this is a time to make a thorough study for impacts and mitigation.

Daniel Harper, Corning - I work for Schlumberger, been there for 2 years. I can empathize with why you would be concerned. I traveled across the country to follow them. They promise and follow through with their employees. I hate people thinking we are drug addicts. Schlumberger hold themselves to highest standards of safety. Just to get to point where you are a worthwhile employee takes months with all the training. I spent all day covering things I already know just to be sure I know it. When they say they will hire locally you can believe it. I know more qualified people that aren't getting jobs because they aren't local. Employees are thrilled to be working for them. I hate to think they are getting a bad rap, that we are not safety concerned, not taking jobs seriously. With my limited education I don't get this opportunity very often. They are safety oriented. Safety adds hours onto my day every single day.

Wendy Hovey, Hibbard Rd. - our children are in their 30's now. As the area has grown my husband and I have hoped for their return to this community. A few years ago children considered coming back. I hope that with an EIS you will slow down this process and give it the due diligence and care it deserves. I don't want things to stay the same. I want progress. But I want it to be kind that will draw children back to this community. Not sure Schlumberger represents this kind of progress. An EIS will inform your decision.
Walter Hang, Toxics Targeting, Ithaca - my company compiles data. As a courtesy, I'll give you data that I've compiled. This area already has traffic accidents that has caused spills. Leaking tanks that weren't cleaned up. So I provided you with a report. You can look at DEC data. Number of federal superfund sites, hazardous substance site. Relying on DEC to enforce the law is not substantial. There are hundreds of dumps that have never been cleaned up.

Helen Slottje, Ithaca - this is over a primary aquifer. The board could mandate the use of green slurry. On the issue of economics, this is a boomtown analogy. Once gas is gone there will be nothing left except effects on neighborhood. Should be concerned about inflation. I ask that you remember your talking about a non-renewable resource. Its not forever.

Stan Jolson, with Schlumberger for 18 yrs. - used to live in Gillett Wyoming. Just want to say I'm glad to be part of this community. Please understand that Schlumberger is a wonderful company to work for. This misinformation is unreal. Please support Schlumberger.

Brian Allen, Local 267 Steamfitters - I have 5 children, 4 started school today. I think it's a very special commitment on Schlumberger's part to make commitment to use local labor. Concerns I have all were addressed at their open house. I'm in full support of this project. The construction trades are supporting this project.

Dan Samm, Meadowbrook Pkwy. - I have worked for Hardinge, Westinghouse, Toshiba and Schweizer. This is a great opportunity working for Schlumberger. I've been with them for one month.

Fred Thompson, LaChase Construction - had the opportunity to work on their temporary facility. They are very admirable people. Very professional organization. They are good honest hardworking people. Very dedicated to doing the right thing for the community. I'm very impressed with the organization. I encourage anyone that has questions to research these people. A lot of the information being shared was on things that occurred decades ago. In reviewing the drawings, I can tell you that they have gone above and beyond. They surround themselves with top notch consultants. The tax base they will bring will be huge. Shouldn't compare them to other companies that have had bad spills, etc. They have made their own reputation. I take offense to the comment that this industry is drug ridden. Our company has a drug policy, I know Schlumberger does as well. They will require all contractors to submit to drug tests. I think we should be welcoming them.

Susan Molter, Watkins Rd. - When someone raises a concern other people often get defensive and think that we are against the project. I am very happy to have fellow residents get jobs. I'm very happy that a business in the Village gets extra revenue. All of us have much more in common than differences. Every person in this room wants safe air and water. My question you've heard before. I asked it and also put in writing. Once drilling resumes in NY, which means hundreds of trucks going to the sites, building roads, etc. - question is how many trucks
per 24 hr. day will be going in and out of this project facility. When I asked this the second time at a meeting the Bergmann reps finally said submit your question in writing. So you now have my question several times. I implore you to please get the answer to this question from Schlumberger. Diesel exhaust has many bad things in it. I've given you before the chart that lists chemicals in diesel exhaust. We have a school right there. The exhaust from these trucks will effect our air quality. I just learned this week of a study on asthma in New York State. My two solutions - require some testing of air quality before anything starts. We have technology in existence to filter diesel exhaust. You could require it of all the trucks coming in and out of Schlumberger.

Tom Santulli, Chemung Co. Executive - someone said earlier this was a done deal. In this business there are no done deals. Nothing happens until it happens. I think you've done superb job allowing public input. These decisions are not easy. We do want to provide jobs. We administer social programs that make people dependent on government. If we are going to do anything, it is to give someone a job with benefits, then their life becomes better. That being said, we also have a responsibility to do everything to have a clean environment. I would put my job on the line, my reputation to say that there is not one person in this room that doesn't care about the environment. We all have families, all drink the water. I made my home here. I love this community. Sikorsky, Schweizer, Demets Candy, Synthes, those jobs pay very good money. I also think we have a golden opportunity here if we do it right. What about school buses with their engines running - someone is breathing that air. Now you are talking about these trucks. The last speaker asked about the number. That number should be given - its no secret. Public should know all of that. DEC is going through investigation on marcellus shale. Frack drilling is going to happen. It behooves us to be a part of it. All you have to do is talk to the merchants so far from this business. A lot of money will be spent here. All those other companies from years ago - we know what transpired. I think the world is much smarter today. Nobody wants to ruin this environment. Schlumberger does not want to jeopardize what will happen to them or contaminate our aquifers. They would be out of business. Nobody would stand for that stuff. They will be held to a benchmark while you are here. I think this is an opportunity to change the face of this community. Traffic - we have made a commitment to work together to make sure that traffic flows and new roads are built. Lets not let this project escape. Lets bring back our young people.

Lisa Light, Tompkins Co. - 38% of our county is leased to gas industry. It would appear that this facility with its 300 mile radius would service gas wells in my county. Without a full EIS this Village loses an opportunity to evaluate all the risks. That woman who mentioned the drug problem. She was referring to public studies of workers in the field. Published studies done by Cornell University. When drilling begins we should expect an increase in crime. That is what they said. Go to the Cornell website. I strongly advise the Village to be sophisticated about this process.

Mike Hosey, Kennedy Dr. - I am here representing Elmira Savings Bank as President and CEO. Our bank is doing very well, having a record year. We've granted loans in this community. Our peers across the country are not as fortunate because of unemployment, etc. I believe we are prudent in our lending activities. People should be able to afford a mortgage payment. We have 17 new businesses in Big Flats with 400 positions. People need to have jobs to make their mortgage and to live. I would invite any of you to drive down Grand Central Avenue until you get
to Wegmans. Some of those are no longer working neighborhoods. I notice houses for sale. Houses for sale on Lincoln Rd for 90-100 days. Then signs go down. They will put people in houses and we need to welcome them. I encourage you to facilitate the process. Need to get them in here as quickly as possible. They will mitigate any risk.

Mary Beth Mappa, Branchport, NY - I invite you to go to northern PA to see what you can expect as this new industry takes over. I really urge you to do an EIS to protect as much as you can. I invite you to talk to the police forces in those towns about the crime rate.

Ethan Winn, Ithaca - I support demanding a full EIS. I'm not in opposition. Mainly here as observer. I think its great Schlumberger can prove they are a first class company. They aren't supposed to rush their business partners. They answer questions openly in public dialogue. If demanding an EIS would jeopardize this project then that brings into question the first class nature of this company.

Richard Moriarty, Highland Avenue - I am retired, but nevertheless happy to see this company come to the Village. I also know that we have to be diligent in everything. I grew up near the Love Canal. I'm fully aware, but also I'm aware how things have changed. I know what they did up there to clean it up. There are going to be chemicals here, but I'm also confident that in this day and age there will be controls and they will be watched. All these agencies will keep tabs on them. If we don't have it here, they will go on someplace else. Are we willing to give up some peace quiet, but I recognize that is progress. If it is done in the right manner we can advance as a community. I think we need oversight, but we should have confidence in the people around us.

Resident from Park Hill, Erin - we have an amazing gift to grow food on this land. In general gas drilling is bringing one resource to abundance for the short term and at the expense of potential water contamination, etc. Even the land downtown for growing vegetables. There is economic gain, but loss too. Road deterioration and also economic losses in terms of agriculture. We have more than enough resources to feed ourselves. I encourage the board to be stewards of the land. The EIS is a big part of that. Through my study of horticulture, I'm pretty confident that there are no wounds that the earth can't heal. It is resilient. This impact will be beyond our generation.

Gary Burlow, Ridge Rd. - I'm on well water and city water. If they drill wells on the site for water, should have an EIS to study this.

Bill Ostrander, Chemung Valley Audubon Society - visiting this site since I was in high school as a bird watcher. There are Sandpipers there. Because of development which has already occurred on this site this species no longer finds it suitable to breed there. They do stop during migration for brief periods of time before continuing someplace in Canada. Since then that species has downgraded to threatened species status in NYS. The fact that previous development on this site has had no environmental quality review or it has stated no impacts on wildlife demonstrates lack of ability of environmental review to bring out what is actually there.
Several years ago I nominated this site as an important bird area. The only one in Chemung County that was accepted was this site.

Ron Shumberman, works in Corning and Painted Post - I have well water. Reading about hydro fracking and how it effects people’s well water. I’m hearing stories about this. If our well water is poisoned we are up the creek. All this investment is gone for us. Multiply this effect by many communities. Please ask for an EIS at least.

Bill Collins, Athens, PA - I think Horseheads is a tremendous community. If you find risks are too great, please send them down to Athens, PA. We’ll welcome them.

Don Ferrario, car dealer - I grew up in Towanda. I live in Sayre. I’ve been on some municipal authorities. I’m amazed that you would listen to this many people. Everyone has had a sincere approach. There are certain things we want that government has to provide. Having grown up in Towanda I can tell you taxes are quite different in New York. My point is while I do want you to take care, we need businesses to split this cost of government in more ways to keep costs down for business and individuals to live here. Otherwise business will go to other places. This is an industrial area.

Heather Dunbar, Niagara County - I’m very impressed by this Board listening to everyone’s comments. I think you should take your own citizens very seriously. My concern is that the erosion of process in looking at this project. What kind of culture you may end up with.

Mike Swasta, Watkins Rd. - thanks for this second public hearing. I’ve spent many hours reviewing materials. I have also learned about fracking process and serious threat to environment. I hate to see this region blighted by drill sites. Economic benefit at what cost when weighed against cost of environment. This proposed project deserves a thorough responsive review. Will these hazards be mitigated. With mitigation there is always risk because its never 100%. Risk or greater risk can be avoided by not inviting environmental hazard than already exists at holding point. We must not repeat past mistakes. Remains unanswered questions generated by professionals doing reviews. Completely revised package was not delivered last week. They just got it tonight. Need complete expanded EIS. Will submit rest of these comments in writing.

Peter Ladley, Town of Elmira - their services aid hydraulic fracturing. Its essential that a minimal standard include an EIS for citizens of Horseheads and contiguous municipalities. You should insist on an unimbedded independent scientific team that monitors all environmental and public health aspects of this operation, not just for the EIS, but as an ongoing procedure. That includes monitoring proprietary chemicals, rather than leaving this to self-policing that plans to profit from their services.

Julie Spicer, Bowman Hill Terr. - a candy factory is not a chemical holding company. Producing food products is not the same as housing dangerous chemicals. There is a recreational area
near there. Ridge Road School is right near there. The Board should consider EIS study. What
consideration have you had in support of the health, safety and well being and future of our
children. The only guarantee we have right now is they will be bringing in hazardous chemicals.
Coming in by train and truck, storing them and redistributing them. This locale is adjacent to a
recreation area. Will the school be notified of a leak or accident. Plus what safety precautions
are in place to get the kids out of there.

Rachel Trikler, Hammondsport - surprised that there would be debate about whether to do an
EIS. Very significant reasons why this project will have greater impacts because of amount of
chemicals being used. Chemicals they use will be trucked to well site and be diluted. But while
stored on this site they will not be diluted. So if there is a spill on this site the consequences are
much more significant than if it would be at drilling site.

As there was nobody else who came forward to speak, Atty. Groff declared the public hearing
closed at 10:00 p.m.

/rmb