

Transcript of the Testimony of
INPUT SESSION

Date:

February 18, 2019

Case:

CPS ENERGY

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CPS ENERGY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PUBLIC INPUT SESSION RE: CAAP

VILLITA ASSEMBLY BUILDING
401 VILLITA STREET
SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

FEBRUARY 18, 2019
6:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

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A P P E A R A N C E S

BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRESENT AND PARTICIPATING:

John Steen, Chairman

Janie M. Gonzalez, Trustee, Southwest Quadrant

Dr. Willis Mackey, Trustee, Southeast Quadrant

Edward Kelley, Trustee, Northwest Quadrant

CPS ENERGY SENIOR CHIEFS PRESENT AND PARTICIPATING:

Paula Gold-Williams, President/CEO

Delores Lenzy-Jones, Chief Financial Officer

Fred Bonewell, Chief Security & Safety Officer

Felecia Etheridge, Chief Customer Engagement Officer

Cris Eugster, Chief Operating Officer

Vivian Bouet, Interim Chief Information Officer

Frank Almaraz, Chief Administrative & Business
Development Officer

Carolyn Shellman, Chief Legal & Administrative Officer

CAC MEMBERS PRESENT AND PARTICIPATING:

Robert A. Romeo, Vice Chair & District 8 Rep.

Luisa Casso, District 1 Rep.

Joe Yakubik, District 9 Rep

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1 CHAIRMAN STEEN: This public meeting of
2 the CPS Energy Board of Trustees is hereby called to
3 order.

4 And we do this at all of our meetings at
5 CPS Energy, but we will have a brief safety message, and
6 so I want to call forward Mr. Fred Bonewell, Chief
7 Security and Gas Operations Officer, and Mr. Julius
8 Moore, Mr. Bonewell's Chief of Staff, please, come up.

9 MR. BONEWELL: Good evening. I'm Fred
10 Bonewell. Thank you for being here.

11 In keeping with our tradition of safety,
12 we want to make sure everybody knows about the emergency
13 exits, which are placed all around this room; but should
14 an alarm be sounded, follow Mr. Moore here with this
15 vest and we'll go out to Villita Park where we'll take
16 count of everyone.

17 Again, thank you for being here and we
18 appreciate your attendance.

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Mr. Bonewell, did
20 Mr. Moore want to -- Mr. Moore want to make any remarks?

21 MR. BONEWELL: We're good.

22 CHAIRMAN STEEN: You're good. Okay.

23 Good evening. My name is John Steen. I
24 have the privilege of serving as the chair of the CPS
25 Energy Board of Trustees.

1 On behalf of the Board, I want to welcome
2 you to this public input meeting about SA Climate
3 Ready's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. We
4 appreciate your participation in this process. Before
5 we start, I'd like to introduce our Board, CAC members,
6 elected officials and CPS Energy senior chiefs who have
7 joined us today.

8 So, first, our Board members: Dr. Willis
9 Mackey, raise your hand; Mr. Ed Kelley; and Ms. Janie
10 Gonzalez. You know, we just had a board member that
11 retired after ten years and, amazingly, he's here
12 tonight. Where is Dr. Homer Guevara?

13 (Applause.)

14 Thank you for being here, Dr. Guevara.
15 Thank you. He's a professor and he's got some of his
16 students with him tonight.

17 Our 15-member Citizens Advisory Committee
18 is comprised of individuals throughout the greater San
19 Antonio area; they meet monthly to consider major CPS
20 Energy initiatives and provide a channel for two-way
21 communication between the community and the utility.
22 Robert Romeo is currently the chair of this committee
23 and the District 8 representative. Would members of the
24 CAC stand and be recognized.

25 (Applause.)

1 Okay. And there is Robert Romeo and --
2 and Joe Yakubik.

3 MR. J. YAKUBIK: Yakubik.

4 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Did I get it right?

5 MR. J. YAKUBIK: No.

6 CHAIRMAN STEEN: No.

7 And Luisa Casso. Thank you all do such --
8 y'all do such a great job. It's a volunteer job and
9 they put a lot of time into it.

10 (Applause.)

11 I'd also like to recognize the following
12 elected officials, chamber of contacts and staff:

13 First, Councilman John Courage right here.

14 (Applause.)

15 Councilman Courage, would you like to say
16 a few words?

17 COUNCILMAN COURAGE: No. I think it's up
18 to the public to go ahead and say a lot of words
19 tonight.

20 CHAIRMAN STEEN: All right. And then
21 we -- we're also honored to have Councilwoman Ana
22 Sandoval.

23 (Applause.)

24 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Councilwoman, would you
25 like to say anything?

1 COUNCILWOMAN SANDOVAL: Yes. I think I
2 will.

3 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Yeah. Good. Come
4 forward. Just turn -- spin that mic around and talk to
5 the audience, if you'd like.

6 COUNCILWOMAN SANDOVAL: I do want to give
7 a thank you to the CPS Board being here today to -- and
8 for hosting this forum on this very important issue. I
9 think it's great that you're willing to hear directly
10 from the public and you've taken the time to be here. I
11 also do want to thank the attendees and everyone who
12 participated in the development of this plan. I see
13 some members of the working groups here: Kristi
14 Villanueva from the West Chamber; Dr. Femi; and I also
15 see our Whataburger representative, Mr. Belarmino, a big
16 shout out to you as a corporate entity for being part of
17 this process.

18 I -- I will give my -- my two cents is
19 that whatever -- what we adopt in the end, what the city
20 does adopt in the end is something that will improve
21 quality of life for everyone here and that's -- that's
22 what we're working toward. I know there may be some
23 sense out there that this is about over regulation or
24 taking cars away from people. I have seen environmental
25 innovation spur jobs, spur new economies; and that is my

1 hope for San Antonio and what I'm working toward, and I
2 hope you will work with me on that.

3 So thank you very much, CPS, for doing
4 this.

5 (Applause.)

6 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Councilwoman
7 Sandoval.

8 And a couple of other officials you
9 mentioned: Kristi Villanueva from the West Chamber of
10 Commerce, please stand and wave. Glad you're here.

11 (Applause.)

12 And then Richard Perez from the San
13 Antonio Chamber of Commerce.

14 (Applause.)

15 And Suzanne Scott from the San Antonio
16 River Authority.

17 (Applause.)

18 And then our CPS Energy senior management,
19 you'll hear from her in a minute, but -- Paula
20 Gold-Williams, who is our great President/CEO.

21 (Applause.)

22 Dr. Cris Eugster, who is our chief
23 operating officer.

24 (Applause.)

25 Felecia Etheridge, our chief customer

1 engagement officer.

2 (Applause.)

3 Fred Bonewell, our chief security, safety
4 and gas officer, he -- he spoke earlier. There he is.

5 (Applause.)

6 To my left is Carolyn Shellman, our chief
7 legal officer.

8 (Applause.)

9 There's Vivian Bouet, who is our interim
10 chief information officer.

11 (Applause.)

12 Frank Almaraz, our chief administrative
13 and business development officer.

14 (Applause.)

15 And I'm very pleased to -- to introduce to
16 you all Delores Lenzy-Jones, who is our chief financial
17 officer. Please come forward.

18 (Applause.)

19 I want to introduce you to the community.
20 It's -- it's her very first day. Correct?

21 MS. LENZY-JONES: Yes. Day one.

22 CHAIRMAN STEEN: And she's got an
23 unbelievable resume, and -- and -- and you were where?
24 When we -- we lured you here, where were you?

25 MS. LENZY-JONES: At CGIS.

1 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Yes. But she's a --
2 she's a San Antonian. Now, I know you're a toastmaster.
3 Do you mind in- -- introducing yourself somewhat? We're
4 proud to have you. Go ahead.

5 MS. LENZY-JONES: Good evening. I'm
6 Delores Lenzy-Jones and I'm excited to be back in San
7 Antonio. I grew up here, went to Fox Tech High
8 School -- La Tecla -- and I went to St. Mary's
9 University as well as UTSA, and it's really exciting to
10 be back here.

11 I am a first-generation college graduate,
12 and my parents were hard workers and I'm sure they would
13 be excited to know that I'm back in San Antonio helping
14 to contribute along with a fantastic CPS Energy team to
15 the greater good of the community.

16 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Very good. Thank you so
17 much.

18 (Applause.)

19 All right. This evening's public input
20 session is your opportunity to share with us your
21 thoughts on the CAAP. In a few minutes, I'll -- I'll
22 invite the registered speakers to the mic -- microphone
23 so that we may hear your comments.

24 To be registered you must have filled out
25 a form at the registration table between 5:00 and 6:00

1 p.m. If you were not able to register by 6:00 p.m. you
2 may leave written comments by completing the written
3 comments form at the registration table by 8:30 and
4 leaving your form in the written comments box.

5 And, Ms. Gold-Williams, you were saying
6 also we're welcoming people to write letters --

7 MS. GOLD-WILLIAMS: Yes, sir.

8 CHAIRMAN STEEN: -- and any other form of
9 communication?

10 We want your input in whatever form we can
11 get it.

12 First, Doug Melnick, who is the City of
13 San Antonio's Chief Sustainability Officer, will provide
14 a brief presentation on the Climate Action and
15 Adaptation Plan. Please hold your comments until the
16 registered speakers are invited to the microphone.
17 Mr. Melnick?

18 MR. MELNICK: Thank you.

19 I'd like to -- to thank the Board, Paula
20 for providing us this venue to talk about this really
21 important topic, but, most importantly, as they already
22 mentioned, thank you to all of you. The number one
23 thing that we need to do around this topic is to have a
24 dialogue and discussion. This is a big step for the
25 city of San Antonio.

1 There is cities across the country that
2 are having the same conversation and this really is
3 what -- about what's going to work for the city of San
4 Antonio. And also to all of those here in committee and
5 technical work group members, who are part of this
6 process, could you all stand? I'm just curious.
7 There's a -- there's a -- if you were involved in the
8 process, please stand. The Steering Committee,
9 technical working group members, thank you so much for
10 all your effort.

11 (Applause.)

12 So why are we here? This is a big topic.
13 Basically, the starting point really at the end of the
14 day was back in June 2017 when Mayor Nirenberg and
15 Council passed a resolution in support of the Paris
16 Climate Agreement. Following that, soon thereafter, an
17 agreement was reached between the city, CPS and UTSA to
18 begin developing this important plan; and one of the
19 things that we started talking about is, sort of, the
20 climate science.

21 And we try -- you know, I -- one of the
22 things that I think is really important is to -- to look
23 at where the information is coming from, and this is
24 just some of the academic and professional
25 organizations, nationally, a few international

1 organizations that have said climate change is occurring
2 and it's being caused by human activity. So you -- we
3 really want to move from whether or not we have a
4 conversation around the science to -- to action. So we
5 know that things are happening.

6 Just looking at the historical record,
7 talking to people who have been in this community for a
8 long time, have made comments that, yes, they are
9 planting at different times of the year. We've spoken
10 with people who work outside on a regular basis who have
11 said, yes, it is getting hotter, and it really impacts
12 our community. It's -- it's our most vulnerable
13 populations: Those who can't afford to run their air
14 conditioner 24/7, those who are our vulnerable, our
15 seniors, our homeless residents, what does this mean to
16 them?

17 And it's not just higher temperatures.
18 You know, we remember the hail storm, \$1.4 billion worth
19 of damage. Hurricane Harvey: Now, while we didn't get
20 hit directly, we saw some of the -- the impacts in terms
21 of those folks coming from the -- the coast to harbor in
22 San Antonio, as well as us providing resources to the --
23 to the coast. And -- and we all remember the gas lines,
24 you know, what did that mean to businesses, what did
25 that mean getting your kids to school or getting to your

1 job. You know, even though we're not impacted directly
2 by these coastal storms, we are going to see impacts.

3 So what does this mean, really, at the end
4 of the day? It's -- it's about, you know, higher
5 heating and cooling costs, property damage from severe
6 weather, increased public health impacts, decreased air
7 quality, in- -- increased heat stress and heat strokes,
8 and then just overall quality of life. So, you know,
9 this isn't some long-term issue that is -- is decades
10 away, we're experiencing it now; and then, you know, is
11 there a cost to doing nothing?

12 This diagram, basically, shows
13 billion-dollar weather-related impacts. You can see
14 Texas and -- and -- and -- and Florida are extremely at
15 risk. And then this was a recent report that was issued
16 to Congress on -- as part of the Worldwide Threat
17 Assessment. Even the United States government and the
18 military is acknowledging that climate -- climate change
19 is a risk. It -- it's happening and we need to address
20 it. So we have this plan, there is a couple components
21 to it.

22 The climate action component is, how do we
23 reduce our emissions -- and I'll talk a little bit about
24 where those are coming from -- and then how do we
25 prepare? How do we make sure our -- our institutions,

1 our residents, our local governments are prepared and
2 able to respond to these impacts. And there is also two
3 parts of the plan: One is a municipal plan looking at
4 city of San Antonio governmental operations, and then
5 there is the community plan.

6 So here's just a quick snapshot of the
7 plan. Some of the key pieces of the plan are, it --
8 it's really -- there's a strong section on equity,
9 and -- and a lot of people are asking, well, why is
10 there a section on -- on equity in -- in this plan, and
11 a couple of reasons: One is, you know, our most
12 vulnerable populations tend to have the least amount of
13 contributions to climate impact. They seem to be
14 extremely efficient with their energy consumption, rely
15 on mass transit, but they also experience these impacts
16 disproportionately.

17 But when we also look at equity, it's not
18 just sort of our low-income and vulnerable populations,
19 it's also making sure small businesses, larger
20 businesses, our institutions -- that as we start making
21 the shift towards the climate ready San Antonio, we're
22 considering impacts across sectors, and then it goes
23 into mitigation, adaptation and -- and how we actually
24 implement the plan.

25 So this is a really busy slide and I

1 apologize. You know, so there is a -- there is a key
2 relationship between CPS Energy and the power that
3 they're providing us and the city of San Antonio and our
4 greenhouse gas emissions. On the left you can see CPS's
5 entire portfolio in terms of electric generation -- they
6 provide electric and natural gas to more than just the
7 city of San Antonio.

8 So when we started developing this climate
9 plan for the city of San Antonio one of the first things
10 we had to ask ourselves is what is the city of San
11 Antonio able to, sort of, take responsibility for. So
12 key to the protocol that we're using, this international
13 protocol, it asks us while we have a municipally-owned
14 utility (CPS Energy) the question is, does the mayor,
15 does council have day-to-day operational control of
16 CPS -- and we don't. CPS is -- is independent and
17 making decisions on a daily basis; therefore, this
18 climate plan only looks at those emissions that we're
19 generating within the city of San Antonio corridor.
20 That being said, as we implement this plan, as CPS
21 continues to clean their grid, the benefit will be seen
22 across the portfolio.

23 When we look at city of San Antonio's
24 specific emissions, similar to most cities, the big
25 chunk is coming from buildings and transportation; and

1 so when we look at buildings, again, it's the electric
2 and natural gas that's being supplied to those
3 buildings. On the transportation side it really is, at
4 the end of the day, predominantly people driving alone,
5 single-occupancy vehicles and light trucks. So the plan
6 really does provide a strong focus on buildings and
7 transportation.

8 This is sort of a nut of the challenge.
9 So one of the things we had asked our consultant to do,
10 based upon city council's resolution in support of the
11 Paris Climate Agreement, is to deliver a plan that meets
12 that objective, and, basically, what that means is
13 carbon neutral by 2050. What that means is we are not
14 producing and then emitting into the atmosphere any
15 carbon. The plan also, at the end of the day, similar
16 to most city's plans, is to require us even having to
17 pull carbon out of the atmosphere by 2050.

18 The orange line is, basically, business as
19 usual. So if we do not do anything, if CPS doesn't
20 implement the Flex Plan, if we don't implement any other
21 measure in the plan, our emissions will continue to go
22 up. That includes population growth and all of the
23 induced energy consumption associated with it, and,
24 basically, the reduction that we need to make is that --
25 that's light. And this plan, all of the strategies in

1 this plan -- and that's a horrible graphic. All of the
2 strategies in the plan have been identified: One,
3 through stakeholder engagements, working with the
4 community, working with our Steering Committee and
5 technical working groups, but they also have been
6 selected based upon their ability to reduce greenhouse
7 gas emissions. So the plan, at the end of the day, all
8 of the strategies in the plan, add up to reaching carbon
9 neutrality by 2050.

10 The plan is broken up into -- on the
11 mitigation side into a few sections. When we start
12 looking at how we reduce emissions, it's not like there
13 is an endless number of opportunities to do so. It's
14 through continuing working with CPS cleaning that grid,
15 making our buildings as efficient as possible -- those
16 are new construction as well as our existing buildings.
17 Transportation. That's I personally think one of
18 biggest challenges. We're seeing nationally the
19 energy -- our energy supply getting cleaner, but when we
20 look at San Antonio we're auto oriented, we're sprawled
21 out, how do we start providing real transportation
22 options for our community so they can give up their cars
23 or take more efficient transportation operations.

24 There is a strategy in here, I just want
25 to point out, because it's come up a couple of times

1 through the media, a hundred percent carbon-free
2 transportation. The intent is not to take away
3 anybody's cars. What we are looking at is a market
4 transition. We are seeing more and more electric
5 vehicles on the road and for all of the talking to -- to
6 sector experts that's the direction. So the role is --
7 of the city is more how do we provide charging
8 infrastructure, how do we incentivize or help support
9 that transportation; at the end of the day, this plan
10 was really about supporting markets.

11 And then we also start looking at, sort
12 of, the idea of what we're -- what we're throwing out.
13 When we throw -- There's no such thing as throwing away,
14 it ends up in a landfill, it decays and it releases
15 emissions, so how do we start reducing and continue to
16 reduce the progress that we've made so far.

17 On the adaptation side, again, it's about
18 preparedness. On the right you'll see a chart. There's
19 two pathways that climate science are putting -- putting
20 out there: One is the low emissions scenario; that's if
21 we all -- it's a -- it's a global community, we take
22 action and -- and reduce our emissions; and then there's
23 the high emission pathway, that if we don't do what we
24 can. You know, we seem to be tracking on the higher
25 emissions scenario. But, basically, the takeaway is

1 it's going to get hotter. We're going to start seeing,
2 you know, the more extreme potential heat waves, it's
3 going to get dryer. When we do experience a -- a wet
4 weather event it's going to be more extreme, so there's
5 more -- more potential for increased flooding, more
6 increased -- increased potential on public health
7 impacts.

8 So the plan on the adaptation side really
9 looks at how do we build resilience for our
10 infrastructure, how do we prepare our citizens and --
11 and how do we really look at things along, you know,
12 food security and emergency awareness and outreach.

13 So this is, sort of, the crux. I -- I --
14 if you go through SAClimateReady.org the plan is on
15 there. We also printed something what we're calling a
16 snapshot which is just a condensed version of the plan
17 so it really just focuses in -- focuses in on the
18 strategies.

19 The number one thing we want to hear is
20 some as specifics as possible. If you -- if -- if there
21 is something around a particular strategy that's the,
22 sort of, information that we want to hear. You know, we
23 hear a lot of, I just don't like it. Maybe, you know,
24 elaborating a little more so we can, sort of, pin down a
25 little more as far as what the -- what the concerns are.

1 There's an opportunity through that website to provide
2 feedback. You can request a speaker. We'll be more
3 than happy to come out and talk to your organization or
4 group.

5 And this is, sort of, the -- the rough
6 timeline. Public comment was supposed to end next week,
7 the 24th. We had already been mulling over extending it
8 a little while longer. We're still working on figuring
9 out just, you know, how far that -- that extension will
10 be. But the fact that we're getting so much interest
11 and so much dialogue around -- dialogue around this we
12 don't want to shut that down -- down early. And,
13 basically, the -- you know, the plan as of today is
14 still looking at the April 11th, 2019 council
15 consideration. And so here's some just quick takeaways,
16 and then I'll pass it over to -- to Paula.

17 You know, really, it's just about clean
18 energy; energy efficiency; mobility; electrification of
19 vehicles; reducing waste; and sustaining development,
20 how do we -- how do we grow smarter. But, really, it's
21 not about climate. It's about air quality, it's about
22 public health, it's about good jobs, clean and secure
23 energy, long-term quality of life.

24 And then another real important takeaway
25 is just between 2014 and 2016, even though our

1 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Melnick.
2 Now, our -- Paula Gold-Williams, our
3 President/CEO will provide an -- an update on important
4 business strategies.

5 MS. GOLD-WILLIAMS: I -- I struggle a
6 little bit because I'm trying to figure out the best
7 place for me to be, so if -- those of you that have the
8 little thing here, I apologize for that; but I want to
9 be able to see the screen and, more importantly, I want
10 to be able to see you.

11 I want to thank Doug for that
12 presentation.

13 The CAAP plan was -- was put together by a
14 lot of people but at our -- at our city level in
15 leadership, and we are reading the CAAP plan intensely;
16 the Board just got it when it -- when it came out. We
17 did have parties that were involved with the CAAP plan,
18 we had stakeholders that helped work on it. Our
19 partners UTSA, as well as Navigant, which is a -- a
20 global energy consulting firm help put it all together,
21 but the filter of it is very -- very much what Doug is
22 saying. The city looked at and the community looked at
23 all of these broad considerations relative to the
24 environment and so they -- so Doug is the best expert.
25 What I want to talk to you about a bit is CPS Energy,

1 our piece and our relationship to that and what the Flex
2 Path is and what the Flex Path is not.

3 One of the biggest questions I get "Is the
4 CAAP plan the Flex Path"? It is not. They are more
5 like cousins. They are related. Because as Doug said,
6 energy and how we produce energy, and the plants that we
7 use, and the large scale production actually drives a
8 lot -- all of the power that goes to your homes and
9 businesses, and so there is a direct connection with the
10 solution set but not exactly the same.

11 And what I want to do, though, is give you
12 a little bit of more context about CPS's position,
13 where -- where we're coming from, the things that we
14 have to consider in terms of solving energy issues
15 and -- and finding opportunities, and then, when we hear
16 from you, there will be this topic about CAAP in itself
17 and there'll also be -- we'll be interested in what you
18 think generally about energy -- related, we want to know
19 what your nuance thoughts are.

20 So I'm going to talk a little bit again
21 about positionally where we have been, what -- what
22 we've been doing, you know, how do we get to this point,
23 talk about how we've accommodated growth and what we
24 think about it, and move through these -- these
25 components, all the way through community engagement,

1 and then the different things that we look at as we're
2 trying to solve energy issues.

3 The biggest thing I want to highlight,
4 again, we have been your energy provider, whether we
5 were municipally owned or not, for 158 years. And we've
6 been owned by the community -- you are, in fact, our
7 shareholders, our stockholders, so for 76 years we've
8 been managing your assets. And I just can't say it
9 enough, I mean, a lot of times people will say, you
10 know, I don't know what CPS Energy is going to do,
11 they're thinking about their profits, they're thinking
12 about what their bottom line is. In reality, we're
13 thinking about managing the assets that you own. You
14 own a full portfolio of generation assets. You own
15 transmission systems. You own distribution systems.
16 You own the meters. We manage them. And so we run this
17 organization like a business.

18 Yes. We are owned by the community, I
19 answer to all of the council members gladly. I answer
20 all of their questions. They ultimately have
21 significant authority in terms of our debt and our
22 rates, confirming our Board members, imminent domain,
23 those are absolutely clear. The day-to-day issues
24 around all of our activities, be they producing power or
25 meeting regulation, whether they be at the -- the

1 federal, state or local level, whether or not energy
2 technology is advancing, how it's advancing, our Board
3 helps give us oversight about how we solve problems.

4 And so, again, connection, not quite the
5 same. We do the exact thing that Duke Energy would do.
6 We do the exact thing that Exelon will do. We do it all
7 in terms of providing power to you, and we've been doing
8 it. And the good thing that we have is that we have an
9 obligation, a commitment and a desire to -- to serve
10 you. What we know is we're bringing in more
11 San Antonians.

12 Everybody is talking about the growth in
13 the community that's coming. We're moving from
14 1.5 million to 2.5 million and maybe more. So we have
15 to think about the assets we currently have, we have to
16 think about those assets are aging out, over time will
17 have to be replaced, and then, ultimately, what do we do
18 to solve the -- the issue of general, expansive, large
19 growth that's coming forward. And we can see the trend
20 happening. It's coming. We've already seen a
21 tremendous amount of growth in San Antonio and even if
22 we go into kind of a -- a lull period, the overall
23 projections are that San Antonio is going to grow,
24 continue to grow.

25 So what about it? So we've accommodated

1 growth. Always have and always will. We think about
2 how do we make sure that we're maintaining our assets,
3 that we're making sure that they're operational, doing
4 the right amount of effort, because when you really
5 notice it is in the summer when there is a huge demand
6 to keep your homes and your businesses and schools as
7 comfortable as possible. So we've been running the
8 business, really, still trying to make sure that are
9 blocking and tackling your energy solutions effectively
10 every day.

11 In doing that, we've been making sure that
12 we do better at our customer service ratios. We --
13 are -- for -- again, I think for the third time, we are
14 top in our region for our attention to customer service.
15 We are not in a competitive market in terms of
16 electricity. In gas we are. Electricity we are not.
17 However, inside our company, we say things like, we want
18 our customers to feel like they have a choice to feel
19 like they have all of the value they would if they were
20 in a competitive market without the headaches, without
21 the headaches. So we pay attention to pricing in other
22 markets, we pay attention to solution sets, we look at
23 all types of technology around the globe, because we
24 want to -- we want to think global and apply local,
25 because we believe that our community (you all) deserve

1 that as our customers. So we do that.

2 We have -- we're at the top two-and-a-half
3 percent of all utilities. Again, Exelon, Duke, Florida,
4 all of these different companies -- Exterran, all of
5 these companies, we're in the top two-and-a-half percent
6 of everyone and that's really because you have required
7 us to be good stewards of your assets. And this
8 presentation will be available for you, we'll make it
9 public, and we -- as we are making all of our
10 presentations available on the subject to you.

11 So I -- how do we do it? We haven't had a
12 rate increase in five years. And I know I talk about it
13 all the time, but -- but I want to get it out of the
14 way. Everything at -- costs money. Everything costs
15 money. Conservation costs money. Renewables cost
16 money. Gas costs money. Every situation requires --
17 particularly energy -- requires some level of investment
18 all the way through, and so we have to think about
19 spending and how we spend, how we control costs. So how
20 do we not come to you in five years -- and we're not
21 declaring one today -- to make it all work.

22 We constantly look for ways to keep bills
23 affordable. We constantly look for ways to slow down
24 the cost escalation. Matter of fact, we had a
25 presentation to the Board today, we went back and asked

1 another vendor for best and final again to try to make
2 sure that we can drive those prices down as much as we
3 can, increase our efficiency, use technology smartly.
4 And we've been able to do it. It's been hard, but we do
5 it for you, because we -- a reporter asked me not long
6 ago why -- why do we do it. Because our customers have
7 to do it. Our customers have budgets, our customers
8 have costs that they have to control and maintain, we
9 obviously have to do the same thing too. We buckle down
10 like everyone else.

11 So here we are. The city has objectives
12 that is put out with a -- with a CAAP and they're
13 looking at the big policy issues relative to what the
14 research says, the global trends, a tremendous amount of
15 effort has gone into that. We have been looking at
16 those things, but more so, maybe, the specific
17 developments around what we have to do every day, which
18 is produce power.

19 Again, we have to see what technology can
20 work. And -- and we have a perspective that -- and it's
21 not a perspective, it's a fact. Yes. We have beliefs
22 about being able to solve all of the energy problems.
23 We also have an obligation to serve, an obligation,
24 which means every time you hit that light switch you
25 expect it to go on.

1 Now, when we have storms and we have to
2 restore, the amount of tolerance that people have for
3 how long they want to go -- be out is very short, it's
4 gotten extremely short; and our council members get
5 phone calls if they get too many outages and so we look
6 at the ways to provide power as reliably as we can.

7 Now, the point is, today, we know what we
8 know and every year we see people across the globe make
9 decisions and investments and research and we see the
10 industry changing. We're going to need these decades to
11 try and solve a lot of things because technology is not
12 all in to make this an easy play. It's not super
13 transactional. These are still big price tickets. PPAs
14 cost a lot of money. Investments in new plants, whether
15 they be gas or anything, costs a lot of money. And so
16 what we do is we put everything through a prism of
17 looking at affordability, thinking about the
18 implications to the environment, thinking about how we
19 can put new offerings on the table in a way that is
20 manageable for the community. And again, we say
21 electrons and molecules love everyone, we want to hear
22 from everyone about those things.

23 Somebody asked me, we put the Flexible
24 Path -- I'm going to go to that -- I'm going to go to
25 that in a minute. But they asked me about the

1 Flexible Path, and, you know, you've been talking about
2 a long time what are you -- what are you going to do
3 with that, and why don't you have an answer today about
4 what the Flexible Path is going to do tomorrow.

5 Most of our decisions take a very long
6 time to implement. Because most of our assets last
7 decades: 30 years; 40 years. It's not uncommon in our
8 industry. So it takes us a very long time to plan, a
9 very long time to get permitting and develop, a very
10 long time to operate that plant; and then as we all know
11 when you get out of technology you got to take care of
12 dismantling it. And so all of our assets take a lot of
13 time and we are constantly thinking about them.

14 This -- this slide just right here is just
15 a sample of all of the different portfolios we have.
16 Now, I will tell you we are poised for new technology to
17 come out. It could be any type of disruptor on the
18 energy storage. I think the whole globe is waiting for
19 energy storage to take off and be more affordable; but
20 there isn't standardization yet.

21 What we did learn, again, back in the
22 '70s, if we try to double down completely on one type of
23 technology, we get whipsawed by that technology; and so
24 we've learned over the years to be diversified to have a
25 robust portfolio and to really get the best of all of

1 our offerings that we can and that's why you see a big
2 assortment of different types of technology to power the
3 community.

4 I'm going to hit this one a little bit
5 again because we've got a question. In the -- in the
6 CAAP plan, again, it looks at it from the way the -- the
7 energy comes in and from usage points. When it goes to
8 your buildings, the -- the main -- the main pie does
9 that. When it goes to your buildings, homes,
10 different -- different structures like that, like this
11 one, it's measuring there. But we still measure what
12 our emissions are off of our plants, and what happens
13 is, we know that everything that we do ultimately goes
14 to the end customer. We do not shirk our responsibility
15 about our portfolio and what it does, we understand the
16 connection, and we know that we're part of the solution
17 set. That's, basically, what that's saying.

18 And so, as Doug said, there's many things
19 that we can do and this is just a sample. Again, we
20 still -- we have -- we've closed Deely. We've put in
21 more solar. We've put in more wind. We are doing
22 energy storage. Nuclear is non-emitting. Whether you
23 like it or not, it is not emitting and it doesn't have
24 emissions and so we have, really, reduced our -- our
25 emissions quite a bit and so that's helped. And there

1 is more that the Flex Path could possibly do. There is
2 more that we can do in terms of other programs. That
3 can happen on the big mass scale. And we still also
4 support -- we support demand response. We support any
5 type of weatherization and other programs. We support a
6 lot of different things that we can integrate into our
7 plan and make work. But, as Doug said, it's a community
8 solution.

9 I think a lot of people want to look at
10 the energy company and say, golly, look at all of that
11 production there. But, as he said, it affects
12 transportation, it -- this building right here, it is a
13 community asset, but it's not super efficient. It's
14 not. It just isn't and we know that. Right? And so we
15 have that all across our community. So there is things
16 that we can do as individuals, there's things that we
17 can do as -- as organizations to really figure out what
18 happens, and so there's a sample of that in terms of --
19 of how we look at the pie.

20 Now, I'm going to say this: I think this
21 is where it's going to get challenging -- and I'm
22 speaking as the CEO of this company. We are open to do
23 what the community wants us to do and that's why it's
24 really important that you all come out and we hear the
25 full gamut and that our Board, in particular, gets to

1 hear what you think. Now, we've got to make 1.5 million
2 people happy. That's going to be tough, but we're here
3 to do that.

4 The thing that we know -- even when you
5 look at our emissions, it's a squiggly line, it goes up
6 and down and up and down, what we're proud of is the
7 line of aggression. If you planted a straight line
8 through all of our change, it goes directionally in the
9 right place. But it's not a straight line. And so we
10 say that with our Flexible Path we believe we can do the
11 right things for the community. But we won't always
12 make the decision that you want us to every single time,
13 but every decision we make will contribute to us getting
14 to the right solution in the end.

15 So this is the slide that I think started
16 it all, that made some people super angry and made some
17 people like, eh, and some people confused.

18 The first -- the biggest thing I want to
19 tell you about this, this is not a plan. We don't know
20 exactly what technology is going to do. We're hopeful.
21 We're looking. We're researching. We're driving.
22 We're incent-ing. We're making sure that people do a
23 lot more in innovation. This is a path that we think
24 can happen if we think about technology progressing over
25 time. It is a path.

1 Every year Cris and his team and the whole
2 organization puts together another update based upon
3 what we learned, and every year we'll update what we
4 think will happen in the future. But we can't really
5 project today what 2030 or 2050 will really look like,
6 not in terms of the decisions we make. But in terms of
7 the technology that's available to us and what it costs,
8 that's what we can't predict.

9 So all of that said, we still believe that
10 we're going to all figure it out. This is our image of
11 a Smart City, a Flexible Path to a Smart City.

12 What I want to leave you with is that's a
13 goal. This discussion is extremely hard and tough. I
14 have heard from many people, again, some people, too
15 slow Paula, CPS is too slow, it's a horrible view,
16 you're not doing enough. And other people say that
17 right now you don't have the solution set to do an all
18 in. And they worry about affordability, not just for
19 them but for other people who really don't have the
20 money to pay for a -- both our rate increases and a big
21 capital plan or a big PPA plan on top. But here's what
22 I say, 2030 and 2050 that's time, and I think time is
23 our opportunity to work together.

24 My biggest thing I tell all of my people
25 internally, we have to have civil discussions internally

1 to talk about issues, and we at CPS Energy want to hear
2 from you and we want to hear the full gamut and we still
3 believe -- again, it might not be a straight line. But
4 we're here with the community to do what -- what you all
5 asked us to do, overseen by a Board that is very
6 interested in practical solutions, affordable solutions,
7 good environmental solutions. But we're going to have
8 to look at it together.

9 So with that, I turn it back over to my
10 Board. I thank you all for coming out tonight. We very
11 much are interested in what you think. Tonight
12 not the -- the -- the last night. The city's doing what
13 they're doing going forward and we will continue to ask
14 you, as our customers, what you think so we'll do the
15 right thing for you. Thank you so much for your time.

16 (Applause.)

17 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Ms. Paula
18 Gold-Williams.

19 Now, I'll explain the guidelines we'll use
20 for this evening's public input meeting. Each person
21 interested in speaking must have completed a speaker's
22 registration card at the registration table by 6:00 p.m.
23 We have 37 attendees signed up to speak and the maximum
24 limit per speaker will be two minutes.

25 A registered speaker may cede their time

1 to another speaker, but no speaker may speak for more
2 than two other registered speakers. Only one appearance
3 per speaker will be permitted. A timer will be
4 displayed on the screen to alert speakers to their time
5 remaining. After the allotted time is expired, the
6 speaker will have five seconds to wrap up.

7 I will call a speaker's name three times.
8 If there is no response, that person will forfeit their
9 opportunity to speak and the next speaker will be
10 called. After I call the current speaker's name, I will
11 also call the names of the next two registered speakers
12 and they may -- may move up to the reserved seats in
13 front by the microphone. And those reserved seats are
14 right there. Yeah.

15 All speakers are asked to introduce
16 themselves to the Board when they step up to the
17 microphone. If a registered speaker is using time from
18 other registered speakers, please also provide their
19 name in addition to your name.

20 There will be no signs or props, other
21 than the CPS Energy displays, that any speaker may use
22 to illustrate a point. Carrying personal signs or props
23 could block the view of the audience. Please be
24 courteous so that we can hear each speaker without
25 interruption. Speaker's time is limited and any

1 applause or talking from the audience will interfere
2 with their time.

3 If you have comments, but prefer not to
4 speak, you may put your thoughts in writing by
5 completing a written comment card available at the
6 registration table. No person attending this event may
7 delay, interrupt or disrupt the meeting or refuse to
8 follow a request by the Board chair. Attendees shall
9 remain seated except for the person speaking at the
10 microphone and the registered speakers moving to the
11 front row near the microphone.

12 Please note that this meeting is scheduled
13 to end at 8:30. If, for any reason, you do not get the
14 opportunity to convey all of your input we will accept
15 written comments through this evening. You may put your
16 thoughts in writing on the comment card and place them
17 in the comments box located at the registration table.
18 Also, you're welcome to submit comments any time through
19 our website at CPSEnergy.com/public input.

20 We are now ready to begin hearing from our
21 registered speakers.

22 The first speaker is Kaiba White, if she
23 will come forward. Followed by Christina Mann, and then
24 Rey Chavez will be next. And so our first speaker --
25 where's Ms. White?

1 Ms. White, I -- I'll go ahead and say it
2 for you, but you -- you've had time ceded from Justin
3 Lecea and so your -- your total speaking time will be
4 three minutes.

5 MS. K. WHITE: Good evening. Good
6 evening. My name is Kaiba White and I work for Public
7 Citizens Texas office. I also serve on the energy
8 buildings -- energy and buildings working group for the
9 San Antonio Climate Plan. It has been a pleasure to --
10 to participate in that process and I look forward to
11 continuing this work, particularly, as it relates to CPS
12 Energy.

13 Decarbonizing the CPS Energy electric --
14 electricity supply must happen much earlier than 2050
15 and doing so offers an opportunity to benefit customers.
16 Public Citizen believes that shutting down the Spruce
17 coal plant by 2025 and phasing out the use of natural
18 gas, electric generators by 2030 is feasible and can be
19 done affordably. These goals should be added to the
20 plan.

21 Other Texas utilities and -- and utilities
22 in other parts of the country are making massive
23 investments in wind, solar, energy efficiency, energy
24 storage and demand response and phasing out their use of
25 fossil fuels while re- -- while reducing costs for

1 customers.

2 Austin Energy has entered into a series of
3 recent wind and solar contracts that will bring the
4 utility's renewable energy portfolio to 50 percent by
5 2020. The utility has committed to retire its main --
6 remaining coal-burning power plant in 2022 and will have
7 943 megawatts of utility scale solar by 2020.

8 Austin Energy's latest rate change in 2016
9 was a rate decrease and customer bills are among the
10 lowest in Texas thanks to robust energy efficiency
11 programs. This is possible in part because solar and
12 wind are now the cheapest energy sources in Texas. For
13 example, one of Austin Energy's solar contracts is
14 reported to be about \$21 per megawatt hour, a price that
15 can easily compete with coal and natural gas generators.

16 Excel Energy in Colorado offers another
17 excellent example. The utility issued an all-source RFP
18 and received hundreds of clean energy proposals at
19 unprecedented low prices. This included wind at \$11 to
20 \$18 a megawatt hour, solar at \$23 to \$27 per megawatt
21 hour, solar combined with energy storage at \$30 to \$32
22 per megawatt hour. The utility will shut down two
23 coal-fired units and replace them with a mix of solar,
24 wind energy storage project -- projects and the purchase
25 of existing natural gas capacity. It is important to

1 know that any natural gas generators are generally too
2 expensive to compete with new or existing wind or solar
3 or even energy storage.

4 In both Austin and Colorado public
5 involvement has been key to identifying the most
6 affordable energy's choices. Austin Energy engages in a
7 regular resource planning process that is guided by a
8 citizen task force. Excel Energy must get the approval
9 of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission for major
10 investments and rate changes. In both cases a
11 significant amount of information is shared with the
12 public and assumptions are questioned and adjusted where
13 appropriate.

14 The energy market is changing rapidly and
15 old facts are often no longer true. More public
16 involvement will yield better results for the
17 environment and customer bills. A public process with a
18 task force empowered to make recommendations should be
19 initiated immediately to take on that important work at
20 CPS Energy. In the meantime, we call on the city
21 council to strengthen and adopt the climate plan. Thank
22 you.

23 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Ms. White.

24 (Applause.)

25 So our Speaker No. 2 is Christina Mann,

1 and then I want to call forward Melvin Ingalls.

2 MS. C. MANN: Okay. Good evening. My
3 name is Christina Mann and I work for the Sierra Club.
4 Thank you for holding this public input session today on
5 the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. Adopting a
6 claimant action plan is important for San Antonio and we
7 are supporting adoption of this plan with some important
8 details filled in.

9 In my role working with Sierra Club here
10 in San Antonio on coal and clean energy issues, I've had
11 the good fortune to develop working relationships with
12 many of the folks in this room on CPS Energy. One issue
13 I shared with your staff in the past is especially
14 pertinent to CPS Energy's role moving forward to
15 implement a climate plan for San Antonio. The need to
16 have an actual plan to retire the risky coal plants,
17 coal units by 2025 and, yes, the gas units soon after,
18 and replace that generation with clean energy storage
19 and energy efficiency with the cost and rate impacts
20 evaluated, this should be done in a transparent process
21 and procreate robust public engagement.

22 Luckily, we can move forward and achieve
23 incredible results together. Forbes recently reported
24 that building new wind and solar energy is already
25 cheaper than running existing coal in many cases. I'd

1 like share some details about utilities across the state
2 and country that are making huge reductions in carbon
3 pollution (or will be) and are saving their customers
4 money (or will be) when they implement these plans.

5 Last year in Denton, the Denton City
6 Council set a goal for Denton Municipal Electric to
7 provide 100 percent renewable energy to the community by
8 2020. In setting these goals the Denton City Council
9 adopted the Denton Renewables Resource Plan and an
10 actionable plan to reach that goal. Rapid
11 implementation is under way and Denton is acquiring
12 solar contracts that are in line or below average
13 utility rates. And more Texas utilities continue to
14 innovate.

15 In December of 2018, New Braunfels'
16 utility signed a 15-year contract for 255 megawatts of
17 West Texas solar for less than \$25 per megawatt hour.
18 This is one of the lowest prices seen for solar in the
19 country. And under in this agreement, Denton gets 75
20 megawatts of that power, and New Braunfels, Garland and
21 Kerrville share in the project at different proportions.

22 Going a little north to Indiana, the
23 Northern Indiana Public Service Company (or NIPSCO) the
24 formerly coal-dependent regulated utility in Northwest
25 Indiana, much less the kind Ms. Williams described

1 earlier, it -- with hundreds of thousands of customers,
2 again, much less like CPS, announced that it is
3 tentatively planning to retire all of its coal plants by
4 2028 and replace 1650 megawatts of its coal-burning
5 power plant to its solar, wind, energy storage, energy
6 efficiency and demand response.

7 This move is expected to save their
8 customers \$4.3 billion compared to the -- running those
9 plants through 2035. And earlier is better. The
10 utility's analysis showed that retiring its entire
11 fleet -- coal-burning fleet by 2023 could save customers
12 an additional \$1.3 billion.

13 San Antonio deserves a chance to see these
14 kinds of proposals and analyses. We will continue to
15 work with CPS Energy throughout this climate action
16 planning process and beyond to make that happen. Thank
17 you.

18 (Applause.)

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Ms. Mann.

20 And I -- I failed to mention that --
21 you're fine, but I -- that you -- you had three minutes
22 and that's because Justin Lecea had ceded to you one --
23 one minute of his time.

24 So the next speaker will be Rey Chavez,
25 and then I would call Richard Perez up.

1 MR. R. CHAVEZ: Thank you. I'm Rey
2 Chavez, President/CEO of the San Antonio Manufacturers'
3 Association and I appreciate you all allowing us to talk
4 about the plan tonight.

5 SAMA and its members have been long
6 concerned with environmental issues and leads by example
7 in ensuring our manufacturing members are knowledgeable
8 about our environment and in being compliant per
9 national, state and local rules and guide --
10 regulations. Our goal is to ensure all are good
11 stewards of our environment.

12 We also plod forward looking at
13 initiatives to improve our environment for future
14 generations and project population growth; however, the
15 proposed draft plan is short on details. Generally, why
16 do we need this plan? We understand concerns for
17 climate change, but the plan should focus on the
18 climatic issues we will face in the future with
19 published and unbiased climate science experts -- by
20 climate science experts specific with detailed facts,
21 studies and analysis. This will provide scientifically
22 reliable reasoning and help all understand why we need
23 this plan. The current plan conveys we have to do it,
24 period. Specifically, the plan does not address any
25 cost to implement, nor does it address where the funds

1 will come from to pay for it.

2 SAMA is concerned residents, our industry
3 and small- to medium-sized businesses will be the ones
4 that will ultimately have to pay for this plan, if
5 implemented. Statistical cost analysis is needed on the
6 type of infrastructure changes that will be required for
7 buildings, roads, et cetera, mentioned in the plan. We
8 need to know if we can afford it. SAMA would also
9 recommend including a cost analysis by line item so it
10 can assist in engaging total costs.

11 Regarding renewable power conversion,
12 detailed calculations on the effect on power costs is
13 required, how much it's going to cost residents and
14 businesses. The bill impact is needed by all. The plan
15 also disregards our oil and gas industry to the point of
16 saying we don't need you anymore, without consideration
17 of the economic impact it brings to our community. What
18 would -- would happen if we lost 3,000 to 5,000 jobs in
19 our community if these companies left.

20 Lastly, we recommend more time to develop
21 a more comprehensive and unbiased plan that is
22 acceptable to all. We should not rush a plan of this
23 nature just to have a plan or satisfy personal agendas.
24 There is a lot at stake for San Antonio. Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Chavez.

2 So I want to call forward Melvin Ingalls,
3 and then -- and then bring forward Al Johnson to sit up
4 here.

5 MR. M. INGALLS: Good evening. My name is
6 Melvin Ingalls and I'm a retired mechanical engineer and
7 I'm speaking for myself. Two minutes is hardly time to
8 make a point, but I'll try.

9 CPS plans to have 50 percent solar and
10 wind by 2040. But wind and solar are intermittent power
11 sources and require affordable storage, but affordable
12 utility storage at a utility size is -- except for pump
13 storage, does not now exist and may not exist in the
14 future. It's not good business to form a plan for the
15 future depending on something that doesn't exist.

16 If CPS is really, really serious about
17 eliminating Co2 emissions then nuclear power is the only
18 current plan for reliable, affordable electricity. So I
19 would like to ask CPS to give serious consideration to
20 increasing the use of nuclear power. Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Ingalls.

22 (Applause.)

23 Call for Richard Perez, and then -- I
24 think it's David Fry, would you please come up.

25 MR. R. PEREZ: Good evening. My name is

1 Richard Perez and I'm the President/CEO of the San
2 Antonio Chamber of Commerce. I'm here today
3 representing over 2100 businesses, both large and small,
4 that together employ half a million people in San
5 Antonio and the region.

6 Thank you for this opportunity to provide
7 the business community's input on San Antonio's Climate
8 Action and Adaptation Plan. There are some mitigation
9 strategies within the plan we believe are logical, such
10 as engaging the local business community to determine
11 how to best undertake the vulnerability assessment to
12 consider wide-ranging impacts of a changing climate to
13 business continuity, economic growth and unintended
14 consequences; however, we are gravely concerned when
15 there seems to be a sentiment that economic development
16 is contrary to good stewardship of the environment. Our
17 community has done much to improve air quality over the
18 past 30 years and we will continue to do so; however,
19 the business community has legitimate concerns with the
20 plan as it stands today.

21 Fifty percent of the mitigation strategies
22 will be initiated by 2021. This is not a long-term
23 plan. This will require real dollars right away. Our
24 largest concern is that their importance does not
25 address how we, as a community, are going to pay for the

1 plan. CPS Energy prides itself on having a diverse
2 portfolio which leads to affordable energy prices. Low
3 cost energy is a key component to sustainable economic
4 development. The stated goal of the plan is to be
5 carbon neutral by 2050. The San Antonio business
6 community needs to completely understand what that means
7 specifically to businesses. If we are not careful, we
8 may well be driving away jobs.

9 Let's remember that we have some very
10 important companies here in San Antonio that are
11 involved in the production, refinement, sale and
12 transportation of crude refined and component parts of
13 oil and natural gas. These companies employ many, many
14 people and make significant contributions to our
15 community outside of their bi-weekly payrolls.

16 To many, fully engaged in this document,
17 we must understand the costs and economic impact. We
18 urge the slowing of this process down and to make this a
19 fast -- fact-based plan that includes implementation of
20 costs for businesses and homeowners alike.

21 We welcome the chance to work with you on
22 this plan to ensure that San Antonio's economic
23 competitiveness is not diminished but rather enhanced
24 for our community's long-term growth.

25 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Perez.

1 (Applause.)

2 I call to the mic Al Johnson, and ask Greg
3 Harman to, please, come up.

4 MR. A. JOHNSON: Thank you for the
5 opportunity. My name is Al Johnson. I'm just a
6 citizen. I spent a little bit of time in the military.
7 I'm an optometrist by training so I have a little bit of
8 scientific background, but I've got a tremendous
9 interest in the science behind this -- I -- I -- I'll
10 choose my words carefully -- controversy that we have
11 regarding climate change. I would just ask us to think
12 a couple of things through.

13 We hear a lot about the con- -- this
14 concept of 97 percent of the scientists and --
15 consensus. I would ask us to think back a little bit
16 about a guy by the name of Galileo. The consensus was
17 that he was wrong. It only takes one to be right. You
18 may remember a guy by the name of Richard Feynman, who
19 was a very well noted physicist. A quote that I use
20 from him, it says this, It doesn't matter how beautiful
21 your theory is. It doesn't matter how smart you are.
22 It doesn't agree with -- If it doesn't agree with the
23 experiment, it's wrong.

24 What we don't have in this arena is some
25 experimentation. We have a lot of fluff on one side, if

1 you will. I use that word ill-advised probably. So if
2 you already know already by my words that I'm a, quote,
3 skeptic/denier of climate change, I'm not that -- I
4 don't deny it simply because I'm a denier. I've read
5 quite well for the last 15 years about the science
6 behind what's going on with IPCC and the -- when you
7 have this seat it -- it doesn't go well with the rest of
8 us. If you have to have something pulled and changed
9 and hockey sticks and all kinds of nonsense that goes on
10 making a statement about glaciers that are declining,
11 when they're not, it -- it just doesn't fit well,
12 because the facts don't sustain that.

13 I would just ask that you would make sure
14 that you implore your -- your people who are giving you
15 data on climate change that we look at the science.
16 Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you very much.

18 (Applause.)

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: So David Fry, and then
20 I -- I called forward Greg Harman. Is he here? Oh,
21 you're there. Okay. And then we'd also like Dr. Femi
22 Osidele. I --

23 MR. D. FRY: Thank you, Mr. Steen. Thank
24 you everyone. My name is David Fry. Thank you for
25 pronouncing that correctly. My -- my write -- writing

1 is suspect sometimes.

2 If the goal was the same for those who
3 authored the plan and those who disagree with it, if the
4 goal was the same then I think there would be confidence
5 that we could figure out a methodology, a better
6 methodology to get us there. And there certainly is a
7 better way than the current plan. But the goal of those
8 who authored it and those who disagree with it is not
9 the same.

10 There are three disciplines at work: One
11 is the economics. It would be disastrous, I think,
12 that's why it's not documented in the plan. If it's so
13 clear, if it's such a slam dunk that the economics would
14 be such a gain then they would be documented. The
15 second discipline are the politics. There's a strategic
16 agenda of the plan. And the third is science. There's
17 the science much of that is not understood, much of that
18 is not understood.

19 It would take a scientist to understand
20 some of the more technical aspects of climate change,
21 but it doesn't take a scientist to see the tremendous
22 disagreement about what is really happening here.
23 There's tremendous disagreement in society about this.
24 There is no clear and absolute, resolute path of what's
25 going on with this climate change. There's agreement

1 that climate is changing. It -- it has always done so.
2 But to make this kind of change with tremendous
3 disagreement to basic questions does -- will not go
4 well.

5 Questions like what was happen --
6 happening before the carbon footprint of man. What is
7 the benchmark of that going on 5,000 years ago and
8 perhaps more recently. What are case studies that have
9 been poured over to know the advantages and
10 disadvantages of what is going on.

11 So not knowing the cost is not a good
12 business practice, it is not a good business practice at
13 all. So this high-level framework would not work in a
14 business presentation, it wouldn't make it through the
15 first pass.

16 The intro letter to the plan says that
17 there are some 400 mayors -- U.S. mayors who have signed
18 onto it. I'm going to say this, to illustrate, that
19 there are over 19,000 municipalities in the United
20 States; 400 have signed on 18,600 have not. I would
21 encourage CPS and all residences and businesses to
22 ensure you know the goal of the authors and to push it
23 back for, at least, a minimally acceptable plan. Thank
24 you.

25 (Applause.)

1 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Fry.

2 Call for Greg Harman, and ask Dr. Bill
3 Sweet to come forward.

4 MR. G. HARMAN: Yeah. Thank you very much
5 for this opportunity, for holding this hearing, Paula
6 Gold-Williams, appreciate that, and to the Board of
7 Trustees for being here. I look forward to the day
8 where every monthly meeting is an open meeting where the
9 public has an opportunity to address you as well and
10 this is not a special case for us.

11 There's a reason for that, there's a
12 reason for the community to have access to the Board of
13 the utility that they supposedly own, and I'll just cite
14 a couple of recent examples.

15 We can look back at the South Texas
16 Project, Units 3 and 4, this was a -- a proposal, we
17 were one of the first utilities to go after nuclear
18 power in the country and started off with an \$8 billion
19 cost we were anticipating. The community came out
20 strongly opposed to that. We ended up with an
21 \$18 billion price tag on that and it took us over
22 \$600 million to buy our way out of that contract.

23 We can look at Spruce. Now, we're
24 wrestling with Spruce billion-dollar plant, you know,
25 how -- we've got a huge stranded cost. Paula is talking

1 about 30-40 year costs, you know, embedded in a plant
2 like that and -- while we're looking at communities all
3 around the country getting away from that and finding
4 cheaper alternatives that are clean. So who we are, the
5 people that come to you week after week, we're people
6 that we -- you would consider fiscal conservatives.
7 We -- we're people that want open and transparent
8 democratic governance, and we're people who believe that
9 our care and concern shouldn't end with our homes, with
10 our families, with our neighborhoods, but a -- but with
11 our cities and, beyond that, with our state and with the
12 world, and that's why we come and we look for harder end
13 goals through this CAAP and -- I had a lot I wanted to
14 share.

15 I -- I've interviewed dozens upon dozens
16 of climate scientists, climatologists, researchers over
17 the years -- 15 years as a journalist -- and I can tell
18 you if you're waiting for one Galileo to come along and
19 debunk 99 doctors who just came in and said you've got a
20 brain tumor and you need aggressive surgery now, if you
21 want to wait, if you want to step back and wait, that's
22 fine. But not for my child and not for my family, not
23 for my neighborhood or my city or this world. I won't
24 stand for that. Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Harman.

2 Up next, Dr. Femur -- Femi Osidele?

3 Osidele? Is that short? And if I could call forward

4 Suzanne Scott.

5 MR. F. OSIDELE: Good evening, Board

6 members.

7 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Go ahead and introduce

8 yourself.

9 MR. F. OSIDELE: Good evening, Board

10 members, Mrs. Shellman. I am Dr. Femi Osidele, a

11 consultant in energy and water resources and co-chair of

12 the SA Climate Ready Steering Committee.

13 In April, we met great San Antonians who

14 will decide whether or not to adopt the Climate Action

15 and Adaptation Plan (or CAAP) as we know it. My

16 comments today address three things: One, the rule of

17 CPS Energy and the CAAP process; two, funding for

18 implementing the CAAP; and three, a call to San

19 Antonio's business community.

20 First, I want to acknowledge CPS Energy

21 for funding the SA Climate Ready program thus far. As

22 the single lightest meter of the greenhouse gases in San

23 Antonio, CPS Energy is taking the bull by the horns and

24 showing great exemplary leadership among city-owned

25 utilities.

1 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Doctor.

2 We'll call for Dr. Bill Sweet.

3 TRUSTEE GONZALEZ: Mr. Chair, can we have
4 each of y'all speak directly into the mic. I struggled
5 with listening to him, depending on...

6 MR. B. SWEET: I will try. Is that a
7 little better?

8 TRUSTEE GONZALEZ: I want to make sure I
9 don't miss anything.

10 CHAIRMAN STEEN: And I need to call
11 forward Dr. Meredith McGuire.

12 MR. B. SWEET: Yeah. It's me again. I'm
13 still Dr. Bill Sweet and I'm still a retired scientist.
14 Although, I'm a little better informed on climate change
15 after having read several new papers and reports since I
16 last was here.

17 Those papers and reports didn't add
18 significantly to what was said to President Lyndon
19 Johnson in 1964, nor to Michael Mann's testimony to
20 Congress in 1989. These reports only increased the
21 confidence in the conclusions. October's IPCC report
22 and November's Fourth National Climate Assessment were
23 both considered trusted enough to be used and cited by
24 the city's draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan
25 which developed personally with your money, and thank

1 you.

2 Tonight I'm only going to comment on a
3 comment on the CAAP indirectly, and I'm going to go off
4 script based on other -- which will probably be a
5 mistake, but, at any rate. Those reports, including
6 since 1964, have said that there's a wall, the physics
7 is clear that there's a wall and we're rushing towards
8 it. The Flexible Path Plan says we can't do much or
9 we're going to wait and see. We're rushing towards the
10 wall and if things don't develop fast enough we're going
11 to run into the wall and the cost of that is going to be
12 infinite. The -- the Flexible Path Plan is wholly
13 insufficient to meet the urgency and the intensity of
14 effort in carbon reduction as given, for instance, in
15 the IPCC report, but others.

16 The IPCC report is easily accessible on
17 the Internet. Read it. Make enough time to read it
18 carefully. It's tough reading. But the fact that
19 you're sitting there clearly indicates that you're
20 intelligent enough and you're well positioned to get
21 help if you need it. But understanding means
22 integrating its message into your professional life and
23 decisions, and only then will you be able to discharge
24 your responsibilities.

25 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you Dr. Sweet.

1 (Applause.)

2 Call to the mic Suzanne Scott, and call
3 forward -- Ana Sandoval. Do you feel like you've
4 already spoken? Okay. You -- You're welcome to two
5 more minutes.

6 COUNCILWOMAN SANDOVAL: Thank you so much.

7 CHAIRMAN STEEN: No?

8 COUNCILWOMAN SANDOVAL: I'm good.

9 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Then I call forward
10 Wendell Fuqua.

11 Go ahead, Ms. Scott.

12 MS. S. SCOTT: Good evening. My name is
13 Suzanne Scott. I'm the general manager of the San
14 Antonio River Authority. Thank you so much to the CPS
15 Energy Board for providing the financial support to
16 develop the Climate Action ad -- and Adaptation Plan
17 known as SA Climate Ready and for hosting this forum
18 tonight.

19 Signs of climate change are already
20 evident. We are experiencing hotter summers, more
21 serious and frequent floods and longer periods of
22 drought. As a city we can either wait to see if these
23 predictions of climate change really materialize or we
24 can begin to accept the data and trends we are
25 experiencing today as the best available information and

1 set a course to protect the livability and economic
2 vitality of our city by taking action toward creating a
3 more resilient city.

4 The Climate Action Plan list of mitigation
5 and adaptation strategies include many actions that are
6 already under way, including many led by CPS Energy,
7 including the diversification of energy sources with the
8 use of more renewable sources. Also water and energy
9 conservation have made huge strides in our community.
10 Efforts are under way through SA Tomorrow and other
11 plans to increase the use of transit, promote more
12 walkability and create more residential density. SARA
13 is also working to advance practices to reduce
14 impervious cover and improve water quality and reduce
15 threats of flooding. I think if we all can work
16 together on some of these issues that have already
17 started, we could go a long way in making sure that we
18 can reach the goals and objectives of the Climate Action
19 Plan.

20 We need to work together as a community
21 and target the strategies that we can agree on that we
22 can effectively and economically accomplish and put our
23 energies behind those. Charting a course toward a more
24 resilient community requires a shared vision of the city
25 that we all want to live and raise our families. It

1 takes persistence to follow through on those strategies
2 that have already started.

3 I just want you to know that the San
4 Antonio River Authority stands ready to help the -- this
5 community in addressing these climate concerns and we
6 have -- we would want to partner with y'all as we go
7 forward. Thank you so much.

8 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Ms. Scott.

9 (Applause.)

10 I call forward Dr. Meredith McGuire and --
11 and then -- to the mic, and then call forward Sarah
12 Thompson.

13 DR. M. MCGUIRE: Hi. My name is Meredith
14 McGuire. I have had the privilege of serving on one of
15 the technical working groups in the development of the
16 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.

17 Having listened to a few of these talks
18 already, I'm very tempted to go far beyond what I was
19 originally going to say. I'd probably need -- need at
20 least 15 minutes to do that, so I will just say this:
21 You should not underestimate how urgent the issue is.
22 It is absolutely imperative that all of us immediately
23 start trying to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

24 Keep in mind that the emissions are
25 staying in the atmosphere for a long time. That means

1 that if we, for example, used more energy and created
2 more emissions last year, those emissions are going to
3 be lasting and on top of further emissions. The heat
4 increase, the climate chaos that could result is
5 disastrous. I am talking about, perhaps, even
6 sufficiently disastrous that there is no life left on
7 earth.

8 Now, hopefully, we don't get to that
9 tipping point. But there is already strong evidence
10 that climate change is going to cause San Antonio
11 serious economic detriment to the point that, for
12 example, the -- the extreme heat and the more frequent
13 heat waves, for example, causing losses in our tourism
14 industry and threatening both our civil and military
15 aviation -- because planes literally can't take off in
16 such high heat. We could end up with a situation in
17 which the rainfall re- -- is reduced dramatically.

18 There is a prediction made in a -- a story
19 that's in the Los Angeles times recently. They
20 reference a source that figures out what will be the
21 climate likely here, down the road, and there they're
22 predicting that San Antonio's going to end up with a --
23 by -- in 2080 by a climate comparable to that of Nuevo
24 Laredo, Mexico. You do not want us to have to live in
25 that climate; it is essential to start reducing the

1 greenhouse gases now. Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Dr. McGuire.

3 I'll call forward Wendell Fuqua and -- to
4 the mic, and call forward Lucas Lang.

5 MR. W. FUQUA: My name is Wendell Fuqua.
6 I am with the Sierra Club. Thanks for having this
7 public session. I urge you to incorporate public input
8 into your regular meetings.

9 Now, please imagine, if you will, that
10 scientists have told us an astroid will hit the earth in
11 2030, that it will wreck our economy, destroy our
12 coastal cities, ravage humanity with drought, floods and
13 disease. What price would you place on diverting that
14 astroid?

15 The astroid of climate change has been
16 identified by scientists and they now say we have about
17 12 years to make serious effort to divert it. Otherwise
18 it's going to hit us and our children and grandchildren
19 will suffer terribly.

20 The figures in the recent report from the
21 United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
22 tell us this: To have a prayer of saving ourselves, we
23 need to cut Co2 emissions 45 percent by 2030. If you'll
24 look at the figures in the draft CAAP, 48 percent of our
25 emissions come from our coal and gas-fired power plants.

1 Without doing anything else -- and I'm not suggesting
2 that we shouldn't -- San Antonio would be on track to
3 meeting that 45 percent goal. Some argue that closing
4 the plants would be too expensive. I ask, What is the
5 expense of doing nothing?

6 Our own government's Fourth National
7 Climate Assessment states that the U.S. has experienced
8 \$44 billion, \$44 billion weather disasters in the last
9 four years; a total cost of nearly \$400 billion. It's
10 an understatement. In an understatement the report says
11 acting sooner rather than later, generally, results in
12 lower costs overall for both adaptation and mitigation
13 efforts.

14 The State of California has committed to
15 generating 60 percent of its energy from renewable
16 sources by 2030 and 100 percent by 2045. CPS has
17 committed to the CAAP but still plans to burn cass --
18 gas and oil -- and coal beyond 2040. Surely, in Texas
19 and San Antonio, bastions of free enterprise innovation,
20 we can match California in vision and ambition. We need
21 to include in the CAAP a plan to close our coal and gas
22 plants by 2030. The asteroid of climate change is on
23 its way. You Board members set policy. You can make
24 such a plan happen. I urge you to do so.

25 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, sir.

1 (Applause.)

2 Call to the mic Sarah Thompson, and call
3 forward Jason Pittman.

4 MS. S. THOMPSON: My name is Sarah
5 Catherine Thompson. I'm a senior geology and
6 environmental science major. And climate change, as
7 Meredith McGuire said, is happening faster than
8 expected. And we keep getting all of these reports
9 saying how urgent this issue is, how our window is only
10 12 years, and how that window is closing, and I want to
11 express my support for the Climate Action and Adaptation
12 Plan. It is not too expensive. The current cost of
13 doing business as usual is unthinkably high, and those
14 costs are: Such as increasing loss of human life,
15 increasing health issues, increased property damage,
16 decreased quality of life.

17 CPS Energy is the foremost cause of
18 greenhouse gas emissions in San Antonio, and while the
19 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan only accounts for
20 emissions that occur within the city's boundaries, CPS's
21 use of fossil fuels decreases our air quality and
22 contributes to climate change.

23 And for those of you who don't think the
24 climate's changing or you don't think it matters, those
25 of you who aren't studying what I'm studying and don't

1 Call to the mic Lucas Lang, and call
2 forward Shawn Garner.

3 MR. L. LANG: Good evening. My name is --
4 Excuse me. My name is Lucas Lang. I'm a practicing
5 mechanical engineer.

6 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Mr. Lang, Ms. -- as
7 Ms. Gonzalez said, you might just -- you're tall and you
8 might try to pull that up a little bit. Yeah.
9 That's good.

10 MR. L. LANG: Should we do it that way?
11 Okay.

12 CPS ENERGY REP: Go ahead.

13 MR. L. LANG: But I'm here to speak on my
14 own behalf and today I'd like to actually speak to
15 personal finance.

16 The average commute in San Antonio is
17 24.6 miles per day -- excuse me -- that's miles driven
18 per day, and that's according to SA2020.org. Now, if
19 you attribute the IRS estimate of \$.59 per mile to that,
20 that comes out to be \$5,297 per year. With -- I
21 engineered my lifestyle to live close to work and it
22 costs on -- on the same math about \$861 per year. So
23 the difference between the average citizen of San
24 Antonio and my cost is about \$4,400, and over the course
25 of 35 years -- I'm 30, age 65 when I'll stop working

1 maybe -- that would be about \$155,000 worth of wealth
2 spent on commuting.

3 Now, just think -- let that sink in. The
4 difference between -- and the only difference is how
5 close I live to work. So what -- what I am proposing --
6 and really this is as specific to the plan -- is around
7 transportation is that our government should supply
8 incentive to citizens to live close to where they work.

9 It's both an economic solution: Each
10 person would, essentially, be getting a \$4,000 raise if
11 they lived closer to work. It's an environmental
12 solution: You would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by
13 about 84 percent if everybody lived as close to work as
14 I do. And everybody would have extra time. So that's
15 all I've got. Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Lang.
18 Call to the mic Jason Pittman, and call forward Patrick
19 Attwater.

20 Is Jason Pittman here?

21 So then I'll call to the mic Shawn Garner.
22 And where's Patrick Attwater? You're already up here?
23 And ask Judy Hummel to come forward.

24 MR. S. GARNER: My name is Shawn Garner
25 and I'm a citizen of San Antonio.

1 Twelve years ago, because of the ruthless
2 greed of the most powerful financial institutions in
3 this country, the economic crisis ruined the lives of
4 tens of millions of average people all over the world.
5 So many powerful wealthy individuals and institutions
6 are incapable of putting the long-term common good
7 before their own personal gain. Climate change is a
8 central issue of our time. If we don't act now its
9 effects will be unlike anything we've ever seen.

10 City Public Service must support the
11 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. CPS is a public
12 utility that must put the long-term well being of San
13 Antonio, especially the most vulnerable and powerless
14 among us, before the very interests who profit from the
15 continued destruction of our planet. Compared to other
16 plans adapted by other cities and states and countries,
17 this CAAP is a mild plan. Those who will attack the
18 CAAP before you tonight because of the short-term costs
19 cannot fathom the long-term costs of inaction both in
20 money and, more importantly, human suffering.

21 We must not give credence to those who
22 refuse to believe in the reality. It is not only
23 environmentalists who live in our environment. Humanity
24 has accomplished much throughout our history, and we can
25 accomplish living in harmony with our planet but only if

1 we put the common good and our common future first.

2 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Garner.

3 Call to the mic Patrick Attwater and call
4 forward Alan Montemayor.

5 MR. P. ATTWATER: I think I have an extra
6 minute from Zac Harris.

7 CHAIRMAN STEEN: I have you down for two
8 minutes. But you think --

9 MR. P. ATTWATER: Okay.

10 CHAIRMAN STEEN: -- you've got an extra
11 minute?

12 MR. P. ATTWATER: Yeah.

13 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Okay. Well, let's give
14 him three minutes then.

15 MR. P. ATTWATER: Thank you.

16 My name is Patrick Atwatter and I'm the
17 founder/CEO of 180 Solar. We're a development firm here
18 in San Antonio that works on commercial and
19 industrial-scaled solar power plants. I'm --

20 I started the company five years ago. I
21 was living in St. Louis, Missouri at the time and we
22 were looking on -- looking for the best place to start
23 the company. We looked at New York, we looked at
24 Georgia, we looked at California, Colorado, all over the
25 country, and ultimately decided that Texas would be the

1 best place for us to headquarter for future success. We
2 narrowed that down to San Antonio. We never visited the
3 city before, and one weekend we came down and picked our
4 place to live down in south town, and then -- and moved
5 down here to start the company, so... And the reason
6 for that, the -- what differentiates San Antonio from
7 all of the other cities was CPS Energy.

8 I had been in the industry for five years
9 before that and saw how difficult it was to work with a
10 lot of the investor-owned utilities. So for the chance
11 to work with a community-owned utility, that was very
12 valuable to us, and I'd like -- you know, and I -- and
13 I'd say it's been a great decision. We've been here for
14 five years and been very successful. Our clients
15 include The Doseum, The Pearl, Botanical Gardens
16 Confluence Park, so I start by saying, thank you for
17 creating those market conditions that brought us here to
18 San Antonio in the first place.

19 And I think that, from my standpoint,
20 we're ready to grow, we're ready to -- to do our job,
21 we're ready to -- to make more solar power here in
22 this -- in the city, and we think that one of the best
23 ways to do that is to create market conditions that
24 allow companies like ours to innovate and be successful.

25 The Step Program has been wonderful, it's

1 what brought us here, but solar has already been more
2 successful than anyone expected it to be, so we're
3 running out of funds, which makes market conditions
4 uncertain and hard for us to continue to hire and grow
5 and do our job and for people to invest. And I'd like
6 to say too that, focusing on commercial projects, most
7 of our clients are not the kind of people that you would
8 think are doing this for the good of mankind, they're
9 doing this because it's a good financial decision. And
10 by leveraging the capital of the community I think we
11 can move much faster than putting it all on the
12 shoulders of CPS. And if CPS helps create those market
13 conditions everyone in this community wants to pitch in
14 and invest and take advantage of making their own power
15 for the sun -- from the sun for free.

16 So I -- we're working in other markets
17 outside of San Antonio, growing much faster, just
18 because those market conditions are more -- more
19 favorable, and so I think there's things that CPS can do
20 to help encourage those market conditions and
21 encouraging people to make those investments and growing
22 this marketplace much faster than if CPS were to do it
23 on their own.

24 And we're ready to hire, we're ready to
25 grow this green energy economy, and we want to be a good

1 partner with CPS. So thank you.

2 (Applause.)

3 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Attwater.

4 So call to the mic Judy Hummel, and call
5 forward Peter Bella.

6 MS. J. HUMMEL: Good evening. My name is
7 Judy Hummel. I'm a private citizen, a concerned
8 environmentalist, probably, is where I am. Thank you
9 for giving this -- us this opportunity to give our
10 ideas.

11 My comments address those who are
12 concerned the proposed actions are: One, too radical or
13 unattainable; two, are bad for business; and three, are
14 too expensive. As for the proposed actions, setting
15 goals is a necessary part of planning. Without goals,
16 how do you make any plan of action or know which way to
17 go. Not striving toward reducing greenhouse gases will
18 be far worse than not achieving the goals completely.

19 Will it be bad for business?

20 Most other cities are having similar
21 conversations about how to adjust for and combat climate
22 change. Moving your business to another location would
23 only provide a temporary solution at best. But no
24 matter where you live, the predicted climate changes
25 will be bad for businesses as well as everybody else and

1 our future generations.

2 Will it be expensive?

3 Yes. Controlling greenhouse gases will be
4 expensive, but the costs of continuing climate change
5 will be more expensive. Sometimes it's necessary to
6 make sacrifices to provide for the common good.

7 Many individuals have purchased solar
8 panels, curtailed driving, lowered heat or raised
9 cooling temperatures, and made personal sacrifices. We
10 can't afford not to take action. Everyone will suffer
11 economically with continuing climate change. Doing
12 almost anything is better than doing nothing. Thank
13 you.

14 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Ms. Hummel.

15 MS. J. HUMMEL: And for CPS -- CPS, I
16 don't know if you know about what Bandera Co-Op does.
17 Bandera Electric Co-Op, they have, what I call,
18 time-of-day pricing. You might want to look into it.

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Ms. Hummel.

20 TRUSTEE GONZALEZ: Bandera Co-Op?

21 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Call to the mic Alan
22 Montemayor, and call forward John Huffaker.

23 MR. A. MONTEMAYOR: My name is Alan
24 Montemayor. I'm a San Antonio native, retired
25 mechanical engineer. Thank you for the opportunity to

1 speak to you today.

2 We've heard a lot about tipping points and
3 all of this stuff, but that seems so far away. I mean,
4 the glaciers are -- they're not here, they're somewhere
5 else. And we don't live at the coast so we're not so
6 much concerned about rising sea levels. We don't live
7 on an island, et cetera. But there's a tipping point
8 for San Antonio. Did you know that? It's the heat
9 optimum effect.

10 Imagine a 102-degree August day here in
11 San Antonio. We're having more and more of them, right?
12 Okay. You -- What do you do? You turn down the air
13 conditioner, you're comfortable. But that air
14 conditioner exhausts the heat from your home outside and
15 that heat makes it hotter all around the city. But what
16 do we do when we run out of air conditioner? CPS Energy
17 has to generate the power. Right? But that -- to
18 generate that power, they generate the heat also. So
19 San Antonio is already five to six degrees hotter than
20 the surrounding area.

21 Imagine 30 days over 100 in a row.
22 Imagine 40 or even 100 days of over 100. Imagine what
23 that would be like in San Antonio. I don't want to live
24 in a place like that. I'm retired. I can -- I can
25 escape the heat of the city in August and -- July and

1 August. Right? But a lot of people can't.

2 So you guys are in a position to really do
3 something about this. I ask you to support the CAAP
4 plan. I ask that you work with our businesses to make
5 things better, ask people to adopt the electric vehicles
6 in their fleets. Take -- Change the CPS Energy fleet as
7 much as possible to electric vehicles, establish good
8 charging infrastructure around the city, support the ED
9 ready and the solar ready initiatives that are going in
10 San Antonio.

11 In short, we all breathe the same air. We
12 all sweat here in June, July and August. So please use
13 your position to do what we need for San Antonio and
14 bear the costs. Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you,
17 Mr. Montemayor.

18 I'll call to the mic Peter Vela, and call
19 forward Stan Mitchell.

20 MR. P. VELA: Good evening. My name is
21 Peter Vela. Thank you again for making time this
22 evening.

23 I all -- also am somebody who is very much
24 in support of the city's project, the Climate Action and
25 Adaptation Plan, and it's been my pleasure to be on the

1 Steering Committee since the plan's inception. I would
2 also add my voice to those calling for the sense of
3 urgency.

4 One metric that I would like to see
5 assured, as we move forward with the plan, comes from
6 what is called the Paris Compliant Trajectories; that
7 is, back in, I think it was September, Navigant, the
8 consultant who is responsible for a lot of the technical
9 analysis for the plan, showed the Steering Committee and
10 the other technical working groups what are called the
11 Paris Compliant Trajectories.

12 Bottom line, it shows that with the
13 continuing pollution, the carbon pollution, the carbon
14 emissions, the amount of carbon in the atmosphere
15 continues to mount and rise, and that if we want to hue
16 [phonetic] to the goals of the carbon plan, as the mayor
17 has set forth, with a one-and-a-half degree Celsius
18 limit, we've got to follow trajectories, we've got to
19 follow the paths for making reductions very quickly.
20 And, in fact, the plans show that what is required for
21 San Antonio is a precipitous drop.

22 I question strongly whether the plan in
23 its current projections meets those requirements. I
24 would ask the city and ask Navigant to make sure that
25 they perform an analysis that shows how closely the plan

1 hues to that carbon reduction requirement. This is a
2 technical requirement to meet the degree and a half
3 Celsius goal of the plan, and I would hope that the Flex
4 plan will also be required to meet that goal. Thank you
5 very much.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Vela.

8 I call to the mic John Huffaker, and call
9 for Gary -- Gary Poole.

10 MR. J. HUFFAKER: Good evening. And thank
11 you to the CPS Board for giving us an audience here
12 and -- and allowing us a few minutes to share our
13 thoughts on this.

14 One of the pieces that has gone missing in
15 the discussions tonight has been the evolution of
16 technology and its contributions to addressing climate
17 change, and I can tell you that the company I work
18 for -- first of all, I am a CPS customer, but I'm also
19 the head of the Itron subsidiary here in San Antonio.

20 One thing I can tell you is that every
21 month and every year that goes by, we have new
22 technology that's at our disposal. Things that we
23 didn't imagine are available to us last year are now in
24 service this year. Our company alone has over 150
25 partners that we work with to develop new types of

1 sensors. Be they methane sensors for indoor/outdoor
2 testing, you know, whether it's street lights and
3 initiatives that would allow us to help control traffic
4 that would reduce emissions from traffic, whether it's
5 parking that would allow people to find their parking
6 spaces faster or more efficiently, whether it's waste
7 disposal containments which allows you to time when --
8 actually when the container is full to cart it away.
9 There are -- All sorts of devices are coming available
10 in the market today, and tomorrow we don't know what's
11 going to be out there.

12 So you have a smart team of people in
13 place. CPS staff members are tough, but fair, and they
14 certainly know how to utilize resources at their
15 disposal. So I encourage you let them do their work and
16 they will come up with the best solution possible.
17 Thank you for your time.

18 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you very much.

19 (Applause.)

20 Call to the mic Stan Mitchell, and call
21 forward Elizabeth Kertesz.

22 MR. S. MITCHELL: Good evening, CPS
23 Trustees.

24 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Can you get a little bit
25 closer to the mic?

1 MR. S. MITCHELL: Yeah. I'm --

2 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Oh, sir. Sir, you've got
3 four minutes if you want to use all of it.

4 MR. S. MITCHELL: Yes. Thank you very
5 much.

6 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Okay. Would y'all set
7 the clock for that. Thank you.

8 MR. S. MITCHELL: I'm Stan Mitchell, a
9 numbers guy for SAMBA (San Antonio Making Bureaucracies
10 Accountable).

11 Your draft CAAP, if I might use that
12 acronym, is a cost benefit analysis that omits costs.
13 You describe what must be done with taxpayer funds to
14 achieve your objective but fail to indicate the cost of
15 actions you believe may respond to the dire climate
16 environment you project. Further, you emulate City
17 Manager Sculley who routinely omits major financing
18 costs of proposed projects to sway the council and us
19 taxpayers. Let's check our history with grand
20 proposals.

21 VIA Chairman Munoz, Judge Wolff and
22 Mayor Castro promoted their modern streetcar project
23 with the -- this lovely Intercity Rail Streetcar
24 Feasibility Study not unlike your CAAP. This is now
25 part of the \$19 million that we wrote off as taxpayers

1 after we joined the firefighters that petitioned for the
2 present charter amendment requiring a public vote before
3 starting a rail project. Mayor Nirenberg advised in
4 today's Express-News, Light rail is a technology of the
5 past.

6 Second: Recall CPS's Smart Grid project
7 for which we projected a ratepayer burden, \$2.5 billion,
8 with a B, over 20 years, more than CFO Benny Gorzel's
9 error and omission fill projection. Ms. Shellman and I
10 worked to try to rec- -- reconcile those differences
11 unsuccessfully, so we still don't know what the Smart
12 Meter project is costing us.

13 I will shortly distribute this analysis
14 attached to a copy of this -- of this script when I am
15 finished. We have seen French yellow vests
16 protecting -- protesting imagine climate change costs
17 imposed by the government, an ominous sign in our
18 environment.

19 Three: City Manager Sculley prepared no
20 financial profile of the SAWS Vista Ridge project before
21 council approved it, including two years of price
22 increases, at the December 7th, 2017 council meeting.
23 Councilmen Brockhouse, Courage and Perry voted no.
24 Council does not know today what Vista Ridge costs will
25 be.

1 We learned over the weekend that San
2 Antonio has an off budget unfunded retiree benefits debt
3 of \$2.61 billion, with a B. How will council fulfill
4 legal and moral obligations to city retirees while they
5 simultaneously face CAAP's unknown financial challenges?

6 Five: What of the rest of the world whose
7 environment we share? Will council reduce Co2 despite
8 new coal industry capacity in China, India, Vietnam,
9 Indonesia and Bangladesh? And what of India's power
10 ministry which has concluded that a balance of
11 unpredictable renewable and managed thermal-base load
12 capacities are required to optimize net worth relia- --
13 reliability, and they cut economics.

14 The Japanese government has just confirmed
15 what we learned from Ms. Gold-Williams; that a balance
16 is necessary. Ultimately, economics will prevail over
17 ideology as an aroused public recognizes CAAP's true
18 costs. Your CAAP currently ignores economics. Thank
19 you for your time.

20 (Applause.)

21 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Mitchell.

22 And I should have said for the record that
23 you -- you had that extra speaking time because you were
24 ceded two minutes by Beverly Adams.

25 MR. S. MITCHELL: Yes. Thank you, sir.

1 CHAIRMAN STEEN: So I call to the mic Gary
2 Poole, and call forward Robert Romeo.

3 MR. G. POOLE: Thank you very much for
4 having this hearing and letting us provide input on this
5 plan. I just want to say at the outset that I'm -- I'm
6 very much in favor of the CAAP. I hope the council and
7 CPS will support it.

8 I have some criticisms of it or comments
9 about it. I don't mean to imply that I -- I think it's
10 a bad -- you know, a bad document. But, you know, I
11 will say that the best thing that San Antonio City
12 Council and CPS can do for businesses of San Antonio is
13 to go forward with this project.

14 Thirty years ago we knew about climate
15 change, and we had the option of doing something about
16 it then, and there were people saying, no. Slow down.
17 Let's make sure that we have all of our ducks in a row,
18 and let's -- let's be safe rather than sorry. And we've
19 done that every -- all this time, for 30 years, and,
20 meanwhile, the inertia of the problem has -- has
21 increased to the point where the remedy is going to be
22 very painful now. But despite that fact it's something
23 that will benefit business in the long run if we prepare
24 for the inevitable consequences which would be dramatic
25 of climate change now, so...

1 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Okay. Come to the mic.
2 And if Alexander -- this one's really hard --
3 Papanastassio. How'd I do?

4 MR. A. PAPANASTASSIO: Perfect.

5 CHAIRMAN STEEN: He said, "Perfect."
6 Go ahead.

7 MS. E. KERTESZ: Well, good evening.
8 Thanks for having this forum. I'm Elizabeth Kertesz,
9 the director of the San Antonio 2030 District, and I was
10 a member of the Energy and Buildings Technical Working
11 Group for SA Climate Ready. I'm also a small business
12 owner.

13 I have a consulting business where I do
14 green building consulting and I want to encourage you to
15 take swift action to implement the Climate Action and
16 Adaptation Plan to ensure our community's current and
17 future prosperity. I -- I encourage you to strive to
18 meet the recommendation to limit global temperature
19 increase to no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius and make
20 sure we tie the CAAP plan to that goal. And I encourage
21 you to prioritize measures that create a green economy,
22 invested measures that are going to create quality jobs
23 and affordability for our citizens: Solar renewables,
24 ED charging infrastructure, maybe EV (electric vehicle)
25 group buying programs to help make it more affordable

1 for people to invest in electric vehicles, and measures
2 like benchmarking and disclosure ordinances so that
3 property owners can get a handle on their energy use and
4 figure out how to reduce it. And then also I think it
5 would be good to implement more district level energy
6 systems.

7 We lose two-thirds of the energy that we
8 produce at the power plant through the distribution
9 grid, so if we could have more district level community
10 solar projects or expand our chilled water loops we
11 could, maybe, eliminate from that -- the distribution
12 infrastructure where we -- we lose our power through
13 heat loss.

14 And I know the odds are against us. You
15 know, it's -- they're not in our favor. Meeting the
16 challenges of climate change, it's daunting. But we
17 have to give it our best. And like David fighting
18 Goliath, we can't just run away, we have to give it our
19 best shot.

20 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you so much.

21 (Applause.)

22 I'll call to the mic -- not yet.
23 Mr. Romeo's next, and -- and call forward Yaneth Flores.
24 Thank you.

25 TRUSTEE GONZALEZ: I'm sorry. I don't

1 mean to be rude. I've had a couple of babies; I gotta
2 go to the rest room.

3 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Why don't we take a
4 couple minute break.

5 (Break.)

6 CHAIRMAN STEEN: So thank you for being
7 patient, Mr. Romeo, you're up, and I want to call --
8 well, I already called Yaneth Flores.

9 MR. R. ROMEO: My name is Robert Romeo,
10 thank you for -- thank you for having me. I am the
11 chairman of the Citizens Advisory Group for CPS Energy.

12 As the chair of the CPS Energy CAC group,
13 I have attended several CPS Energy presentations
14 pertaining to clean energy. We have visited wind farms,
15 solar sites, power plants and many other CPS Energy
16 sites. We have seen the progress for clean air
17 firsthand being made by CPS Energy.

18 I retired from CenterPoint Energy in
19 Houston and have over 32 years in the power industry.
20 My grandfather was a power -- power house operator in
21 the old steel mills. My dad retired from Ohio Edison
22 where he was the plant operator. In the 1950s, I lived
23 in the old steel town, I had to breathe dirty air every
24 day. My dad would take me on tours of many of the old,
25 old power plants where he worked.

1 Today, when I walk through CPS Energy
2 plants or when I stand in the middle of a solar farm,
3 where there is silence, blue sky, and the power lines
4 sending power to the grid, I can tell you firsthand that
5 we have come a long, long way. I can also see that we
6 are not going to do this overnight and CPS Energy is on
7 the right track. Thank you very much.

8 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Romeo.

9 (Applause.)

10 Now, I want to call forward Alexander
11 Papanastassio. Did I get it right?

12 MR. A. PAPANASTASSIO: You got it right.

13 CHAIRMAN STEEN: We checked on that during
14 the break. All right. And then Brianna Barrera,
15 please, come forward.

16 Yes, sir. Go ahead.

17 MR. A. PAPANASTASSIO: So my name's Alex
18 Papanastassio. I'm a citizen to speak on my own behalf,
19 I'm also a doctor and a neurosurgeon in town, and the
20 first thing I want to say is how much I appreciate
21 everything that CPS has done to make renewable energy a
22 large part of the energy produced for our community.
23 It's really shown itself to be, you know, leagues ahead
24 of many other similar-sized cities and organizations.
25 Really appreciate that.

1 I remember about a year or two ago I was
2 thinking to myself, gosh, I wish that I could buy all of
3 my energy as renewable. And it turned out -- so I went
4 to call up CPS and found out, well, they had an option
5 for that, but it was sold out at the moment. And then I
6 sort of looked into home solar, but my roof wasn't quite
7 right.

8 And -- and so I think that there's a
9 business opportunity for CPS, but they're relatively
10 pricing sensitive customers like myself who would be
11 willing to pay a lot more for their energy if it were
12 renewable, and -- and the goal would be to have a
13 modular type of system where you could offer it to
14 customers like me on a, sort of, sliding scale and you
15 could see where the market goes. And I talked to my
16 neighbors. There's lots of folks like me who would pay
17 double, triple what we pay for energy if it were
18 available in renewable.

19 But one of the things I recognized is that
20 the money's already been put down on the coal plant that
21 exists, so trying to shut it down just basically means
22 losing that money. So the first thing I think to myself
23 is just kind of nuts and bolts there's people like me
24 who want to pay as much as money as they can to get
25 renewables, and then there's probably a vast majority of

1 the city that wants the rates as low as possible and
2 doesn't think it's possible, you know, to do it in a
3 cost-effective way. And so I think a way, you know, to
4 try and meet in the middle might be to say, hey, for all
5 of the projected increases in energy needs try and make
6 those as much renewable as possible.

7 And then once you got there then your next
8 step might be to say, okay, is there some kind of
9 modular system we could get put together so that the
10 real, you know, go-getters that want to pay more could
11 pay to try and reduce the amount that we use of the coal
12 plant, you know, that we already pay for, and so, sort
13 of, increasing the transparency of the finances in a way
14 that the customers can see it and just let them pay and
15 just kind of see the trade-offs of what we're all -- you
16 know, what we're all up against.

17 I think we're all on the same page of what
18 our goals are and it's just a question of how to get
19 there and keep the rates low.

20 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you so much.

21 (Applause.)

22 CHAIRMAN STEEN: So I call to the mic
23 Yaneth Flores, and call forward Mario Bravo.

24 MS. Y. FLORES: Hi, my name is Yaneth
25 Flores. I'm an organizer of Esperanza Center. We fully

1 support the SA Climate Ready Plan and hope that it will
2 steer the city towards a healthier future; one in which
3 we are committed to climate equity to transitioning into
4 renewable energy and committed to reducing our carbon
5 footprint.

6 We are in the middle of a very real, very
7 present climate crisis. If you don't believe me, allow
8 me to take you back to August 26th, 2017, the day
9 Hurricane Harvey destroyed my hometown. Allow me to
10 take you back to the day my family and myself drove back
11 into Rockport, Texas and saw what it had done to our
12 homes, to our neighborhoods, to the very job that put me
13 through college. Absolutely destroyed. And that was
14 not a coincidence or mishap of nature, but very much a
15 result of climate change. This doesn't allow for any
16 delay. We have absolutely no time to waste.

17 Unfortunately, it will be my generation
18 that will experience the impact of climate change unless
19 we act now. Unarguably, I can guarantee you that I'm
20 one of the youngest, if not the youngest person, in this
21 room. It will be me and it will be my friends and it
22 will be my future children who will feel the impact of
23 this crisis. San Antonio needs to commit to an
24 ambitious climate plan; one that reflects the urgency of
25 this crisis.

1 We are acting decades late on an issue
2 that will impact working class communities the hardest.
3 This will impact my family the hardest. We do not have
4 the luxury of waiting until 2050 to be carbon neutral;
5 our planet and our health cannot afford that.

6 The city -- We ask for the city, CPS, for
7 San Antonio to set aggressive and thorough goals moving
8 to no coal by 2025, carbon free electricity by 2030 and
9 to get our city to a net zero emissions by 2040. These
10 are the -- the realistic goals we have to live with
11 because we are not living in a make believe world.
12 Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Ms. Flores.

14 (Applause.)

15 Call forward to the mic Brianna Barrera
16 and call forward DeeDee Belmares.

17 MS. B. BARRERA: 48 percent of the
18 emissions in San Antonio come from electricity
19 production. They come from CPS Energy, from coal and
20 natural gas power plants, and that fact is obscured in
21 both the SA Climate Ready Plan and the Flexible Path.
22 When that fact isn't obscured, it becomes very obvious
23 about what needs to be done. Almost 50 percent of San
24 Antonio's emissions can be cut by transitioning to
25 renewable energy.

1 The first step in city wide climate
2 action, the first systemic transition needs to come from
3 CPS Energy. Electricity use is the foundation for
4 modern life and the governing body of a public energy
5 utility should recognize this and orient us towards a
6 sustainable future instead of obscuring the facts. Let
7 the community guide you.

8 Many energy utilities across the country
9 go through a public process for resource planning and
10 rate making. No one knows everything. And the public
11 questioning assumptions and CPS sharing information will
12 result in a more democratically run utility, lower
13 rates, and a healthier environment with a healthier
14 populace.

15 San Antonio is getting hotter. The
16 climate is becoming more unpredictable and extreme. The
17 storms, floods and heat waves are getting worse. You
18 may not want to admit it, but you know, just as well as
19 I do, that it's becoming harder to live in this city,
20 and that the future of San Antonio and the people who
21 live here hang in uncertainty. When you go home
22 tonight -- and this actually applies to everyone in this
23 room right now. When you go home tonight and you greet
24 your children or your grandchildren, when you see your
25 nieces and nephews, when you engage with young people

1 everywhere, I want you to truly and honestly ask
2 yourself, Am I doing everything within my power to make
3 sure that they have a livable planet by the time they
4 are my age or Am I sentencing them to preventable
5 suffering and possibly an early death because of my
6 neglect.

7 A society grows great when elders plant
8 trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in.
9 Tell me, CPS Energy Board of Trustees, what kind of
10 society do you want to leave behind?

11 (Applause.)

12 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you very much.
13 Calling Mario Bravo to the mic, and
14 Christina Keller, please come forward.

15 MR. M. BRAVO: Good evening. I'm Mario
16 Bravo with Environmental Defense Fund.

17 Human beings tend to look at life through
18 a local lens, and so we -- here in San Antonio, here in
19 the United States we often find that looking at it
20 through that local lens climate change is politicized
21 and we can forget that, in most countries, climate
22 change is not politicized. In most countries they
23 believe scientists. In most countries they understand
24 that a climate plan is a quality of life plan, and so
25 it's unfortunate here that in San Antonio some people

1 are politicizing quality of life.

2 Recently, some local actors have
3 purposefully misinterpreted this climate plan that are
4 presented and they want to talk about money. They say
5 it costs too much. So I'm going to talk about money.

6 Here in Bexar County we have an air
7 pollution problem and we know how much it costs. Now,
8 why do we know how much it costs? We know, because the
9 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and AACOG
10 commissioned a study and they wanted to find out what
11 will be the economic impact of Bexar County getting an
12 ozone non-attainment designation.

13 What they found was it will cost us 20 --
14 it will cost local businesses and government
15 \$21 billion, billion with a B, and that's under our
16 current designation. If we don't meet the ozone
17 standard by -- by the end of next year, it will be
18 \$28 billion because we'll automatically go to a moderate
19 non-attainment designation.

20 So what I want you to know is that the
21 climate plan is a plan to reduce greenhouse gases, but
22 when you reduce greenhouse gases you also reduce the
23 emissions that form ozone. So this climate plan that we
24 have presented, it's the first and only plan that we
25 have seen, to date, that could get us out of our ozone

1 non-attainment designation and save us \$21- to
2 \$28 billion.

3 So I ask those who are complaining about
4 the cost of this climate plan, how are they going to
5 save us \$21- to \$28 billion? This climate plan is going
6 to improve our quality of life and save us that money.
7 Thank you very much.

8 (Applause.)

9 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you.

10 Call to the mic DeeDee Belmares, and call
11 forward Kevin Meislin.

12 MS. D. BELMARES: Can you hear me okay?

13 Good evening. My name is DeeDee Belmares.
14 I am a field organizer and echo madre with Momes Clean
15 Air Force. We are the community of moms and dads across
16 the country united to fight air pollution for the
17 safety -- safety and health of our children. I want to
18 thank y'all for having this input session tonight giving
19 me the opportunity to speak.

20 I have a -- I had a couple of asks today,
21 two asks today, but I'm actually going to add a third
22 one, and I want to start off with, please, please,
23 please, listen to the Brianna Barreras and listen to the
24 Yaneth Flores and all of the other young folks that were
25 here today, because the decision -- the decisions that

1 you all make today are going to affect their future; and
2 I have a six-year-old son whose future that I want to be
3 safe and that he has air -- clean air to breathe.

4 But my first question -- my first ask is,
5 what we need now from CPS Energy -- and I mean now, not
6 months from now, since the plan -- the CAAP has been
7 released -- is for CPS Energy to determine the cost
8 implications for the city to move from dirty, polluting,
9 health-damaging fossil fuel use to clean renewable
10 energy.

11 Also keep in mind that y'all's tight line
12 on that science says keep people -- keeping people
13 first, please, consider allowing public comments at
14 future Board meetings, make Citizen Advisory Committee
15 meetings public, and video live stream all Board and
16 Advisory Committee meetings. That's all I have. Thank
17 you.

18 (Applause.)

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you.

20 So call to the mic Christina Keller, and
21 call forward Joseph Powell.

22 MS. C. KELLER: Hello. Good evening. I'm
23 Christina Keller and I'm an electrical engineer working
24 in the utility scale solar industry, so, you know, I
25 have a horse in this race. But it's not because I work

1 in the solar industry that I care about the solar
2 industry and about climate change, it's the other way
3 around. I care about climate change, I see where it's
4 going for people in my generation and younger, and
5 that's why I care so much.

6 I -- I feel so lucky to have a job where I
7 can work towards something that I really believe in.
8 And I think that's something a lot of younger people
9 look for too is something -- to have a job that's more
10 than just I go and work every day and make money. It's
11 something that I can believe in and feel like, maybe,
12 I'm making a small difference in the world. That kind
13 of thing. So I think in terms of the economics and the
14 future for our city, what kind of a city do we want to
15 be? A city of the past or a city of the future? And I
16 hope it's a city of the future that really attracts more
17 young people, attracts more people into high technology
18 careers, because it's really very exciting.

19 And I see the struggle of the costs every
20 day. I see how expensive the wire is. I see how
21 expensive the batteries are and every year in the
22 industry we're hoping, come on, batteries, come on,
23 batteries. And we're getting there. There are
24 people -- armies of people working on it. And we're
25 still a small minority, but every year it gets bigger

1 and bigger and, as you've heard some of the other people
2 say, it gets cheaper and cheaper. So the time is now
3 and let's do it.

4 And I'm really glad that CPS is a -- a
5 public utility too, because I don't think we would have
6 that opportunity. I probably wouldn't have even ended
7 up here if it wasn't for the Alamo projects that I kind
8 of got my start in that industry. So I'm -- I'm
9 grateful and also encouraging you for the next steps.
10 Thank you so much.

11 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Ms. Keller.
12 Appreciate it.

13 (Applause.)

14 So call forward Kevin Meislin and --
15 and -- to the mic, and Kristi Villanueva come forward.

16 MR. K. McLAUGHLIN: Ladies and gentlemen,
17 I'm Kevin Meislin just representing myself. I'm from
18 New York so I know a little bit about regulations and
19 high-level frameworks and big strategic plans and what
20 happens.

21 Let me just set the stage real quick by
22 reminding you that -- that all city leadership and the
23 Board members may not be the ones who are actually
24 executing this plan. There may be others that come in.
25 Whether they're far off to the right, far off to the

1 left, somewhere in the center, they will be the ones
2 implementing the plan based on what you have written
3 here. So with that, we all love puppy dogs and children
4 and jobs and health care, and the -- the plan says a lot
5 about promoting and encouraging. Let me give you some
6 examples of what that means.

7 In New York State they doubled the cost of
8 some personal goods to promote reduction of that use or
9 to promote certain items and certain -- certain items so
10 that something that costs \$3 that the state of New York
11 doesn't want you to use -- whether it's a Styrofoam cup
12 or cigarettes or something that they deem that they
13 don't want people to use -- they add that burden onto
14 the -- the poorest people who need to buy those -- those
15 goods.

16 In England today they just reported that
17 there's going to be a -- they're proposing a \$.13
18 deposit fee on bottles. At 13 billion bottles that's
19 about \$1.69 billion that the people will have to give.
20 Single mothers who are working two jobs to get food
21 and -- and medicines and stuff to their kids are now
22 going to have to pay an extra \$.13 on each bottle just
23 for that. And, oh, yeah, the industry says it's going
24 to cost \$2.6 billion, but we're talking about
25 \$1.69 billion that people are going to have to pay.

1 Smart Meters. Let me -- let me back up.
2 So the transportation into New York City.
3 They want to discourage people driving into the city.
4 So they don't make it cheaper for people to use mass
5 transit, they've raised the toll costs on people who go
6 into New York City to the point where it's cheaper to
7 take mass transit.

8 Just take a look at what promote and
9 encourage means and remember that somebody else could
10 always use that as an excuse to -- to fill their agenda.
11 Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Meislin.
14 So call to the mic Joseph Powell and call --

15 MR. J. POWELL: Hi. My name's Joseph
16 Powell.

17 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Yeah. Just a minute.
18 And then -- and then call forward Patty
19 Gibbons.

20 I'm sorry. Go ahead.

21 MR. J. POWELL: Sorry about that.

22 First off, my name is Joseph Powell and
23 thank you for hosting this and taking comments; and
24 great job to everybody involved with the CAAP.

25 I say good job, but really should I be

1 saying that? It's 2019. Let's see.

2 I mean, what we need to talk about here
3 is, like, how soon we're going to be shutting down all
4 of the coal plants. 2025 is the number that keeps
5 getting thrown around and I think that's a really good
6 number. And this, of course, includes the -- like, the
7 failing Spruce unit that are not failing anymore
8 because, you know, you replaced the generator. And
9 you're like, oh, it'll be \$500 million to make enough
10 solar energy that this failing unit is making. And we
11 can just replace this generator for only \$27 million,
12 and we've already got \$9 million on the insurance claim.
13 It's, like, I have this old '96 F-150 with a straight
14 six, inline six, best engine you ever saw, but, you
15 know, it was, like, a rust bucket. It -- you know, it
16 gets 8 miles to the gallon and it's, like, I'm not going
17 to hang onto that just because, oh, we just replaced the
18 power steering pump. You know, that's -- that doesn't
19 make any sense. And that's kind of like what's going on
20 here.

21 Further on, you know, you want to --
22 talking about equity -- and we're all like, oh, let's
23 solve the great problem, how will we make, you know,
24 the -- whoever pay? It's like, hey, make business pay
25 it, you know, make the developers pay it. This city is

1 booming. You're saying, oh, we need to have a friendly
2 business environment. We already have a friendly
3 business environment. We need to start thinking about
4 the real costs.

5 And, you know, some people talked about
6 the actual external costs of doing this and, you know,
7 ways that that's been quantified. And it's clearly more
8 than any of these projects would cost and so I say --
9 Hold on. I have a good part.

10 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Mr. Powell, your time's
11 up.

12 MR. J. POWELL: Okay. Listen -- Okay.
13 Listen, if we do 2025 -- if we shoot for 2025 we're
14 going to get there by 2020 -- 2040 anyways because the
15 city's always slow. So let's aim high, aim for the
16 best, hope for the best for our children and
17 San Antonians to come. Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Powell.
20 So Kristi Villanueva.

21 MS. K. VILLANUEVA: Good evening,
22 everyone. I'm Kristi Villanueva, President of the West
23 San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, and thank you so much
24 for hosting this, as always.

25 So I come here representing the members of

1 the West San Antonio Chamber. I'm also privileged
2 enough to attend several of the meetings for my fellow
3 chambers. I have participated with them and discussed
4 what's going on with the Climate Action and Adaptation
5 Plan. I'm also a Steering Committee member, as someone
6 mentioned earlier, and I volunteer my time through other
7 city boards.

8 What's important here is the Climate
9 Action Adaptation Plan, a lot of work went into it, and
10 these folks -- the working groups and the Steering
11 Committee -- spent a great amount of time, as did I with
12 them. Unfortunately, the product that came out I was
13 very disappointed on a personal level and as a chamber
14 president. I didn't realize that we were not going to
15 get to see the plan prior to it being released to the
16 community. So that was one thing.

17 The second thing is the fact that that
18 plan just didn't have any substance. Everything looked
19 the same as you read the first 50 or so pages. Once you
20 get to the mitigation items, now, that has substance and
21 that's something that we can work with. Our business
22 community can work with each of those items.

23 So I took this plan and I put it out to my
24 members, I also shared it with my neighbors, I forced it
25 on folks even if they didn't want to hear it, and the

1 thing is, is it was difficult to understand. That's the
2 problem. So we'd like for more time. As an individual
3 I'm asking for more time.

4 The Steering Committee needs to go back,
5 Navigant needs to work with us a little bit more, they
6 need to be more open-minded, and we need to have money
7 tied to this. Because of all of this information --
8 that's why the West Chamber has decided to dedicate time
9 to public meetings. We'll have six public meetings open
10 to everyone and we're hope -- hoping to report that
11 information back to CPS and to the city. Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you so much.

13 (Applause.)

14 Ms. Gibbons, you're our last speaker.

15 MS. P. GIBBONS: Yeah. I kind of figured
16 that one. I appreciate the -- the last speaker --
17 speaker before me. I think the time factor is very
18 true.

19 I don't know. Has anybody read the Paris
20 Agreement? The Paris Agreement is not a federal
21 mandate. It's an ideology. And sometimes ideologies
22 can have biases in them, which I think this issue tends
23 to lean towards. Are we pie in the sky, the sky is
24 falling? Or are we pie in the sky, it's not falling?
25 And where do we find that middle road? But what

1 concerns me the most on this plan is the mitigation part
2 of the CAAP.

3 You are imposing a lifestyle, a behavioral
4 change, not just carbon or its GFG changes, but my
5 lifestyle has to change. I have to buy -- consider an
6 electric vehicle to drive if I want to come down to San
7 Antonio, and that's on Page 38. On Page 28, homeowners
8 have to retrofit their house. There's all kinds of
9 mitigations that have individual costs to it.

10 Now, factor into all of that, the very
11 beginning parts of CAAP which talk about the equity of
12 it all. And there, again, I now will have to help
13 someone who can't afford to make these mitigation
14 changes, and, if I can, because I'm on the white wealthy
15 side of things -- and that's stated in the CAAP plan.
16 That's not -- not my words. Those are CAAPs -- then I
17 have an added burden to meet.

18 The time factor is huge. To roll out such
19 a change upon citizens who have never read this plan,
20 who never understood what even the Paris Agreement
21 was -- and the President of the United States pulled out
22 of it -- what are we doing here then? Why are we here?
23 And there's that bias behind me.

24 But we have to really kind of be mature
25 about it. You cannot just start to rush into something

1 unless you've given the citizens (your stakeholders) the
2 time to have their say. And I hope that I'm the person
3 you're listening to and not the mayor and a ten-person
4 council. Thank you. Thank you for your presentation as
5 well.

6 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Ms. Gibbons.

7 (Applause.)

8 Are there anymore registered speakers?

9 I'd like to express the Board's sincere
10 appreciation to everyone who took the time to share
11 their comments with us this evening. We realize that we
12 manage your -- that we manage your community's assets
13 and, in doing so, feedback from you is vital to the
14 success of our organization and our community's future.

15 Members of the Board, if there's no more
16 business for the day, do I have a motion to adjourn this
17 meeting?

18 TRUSTEE MACKEY: Move to adjourn.

19 CHAIRMAN STEEN: So it's Dr. Mackey making
20 the motion.

21 TRUSTEE KELLEY: Second.

22 CHAIRMAN STEEN: And seconded by
23 Mr. Kelley. Any discussion? All in favor say "Aye."

24 (Aye.)

25 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Any opposed?

1 The meeting's adjourned.

2 (Applause.)

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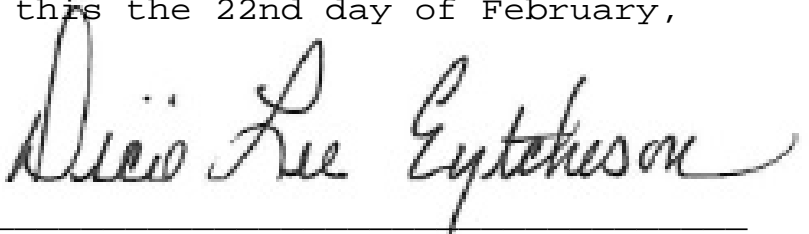
25

1 THE STATE OF TEXAS)
2 COUNTY OF BEXAR)

3 I, DICIE LEE EYTCHESON, a Certified Shorthand
4 Reporter in and for the State of Texas, do hereby
5 certify that the facts stated by me in the foregoing
6 caption hereto are true, and later transcribed from
7 stenograph into typewriting.

8 I further certify that the above and foregoing
9 transcript as set forth in typewriting, is a full,
10 true, and a correct transcription of the statements
11 made at the time of the taking of said oral/videotaped
12 deposition.

13 WITNESS MY HAND, this the 22nd day of February,
14 2019.



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