

1                   HEARING OFFICER:

2                   I'm going to stop you  
3 there sir.    Okay.

4                   Thank you.

5                   John Rojapi?

6                   Maybe say your last name  
7 I probably mispronounced it.

8                   MR. ROJAPI:

9                   Perfect.

10                  HEARING OFFICER:

11                  Oh, okay.

12                  MR. ROJAPI:

13                  You nailed it.

14                  Good evening, my name is  
15 John Rojapi. I was born and raised in  
16 Hancock, New York. My family moved to  
17 --- I'm 41 years old. My family moved  
18 to Pennsylvania in 1980.

19                  Subsequently, we're ---  
20 we own 900 acres and several  
21 businesses in Hancock, New York. I  
22 have to say, in the past 30 years,  
23 I've seen such a different --- such a  
24 change in climate in my neck of the  
25 woods.

1 I grew up doing several  
2 different jobs in Hancock. There were  
3 75 kids in the graduating class. Now  
4 I went to an elementary school and it  
5 had 30 kids in that elementary school.  
6 Now, my kindergarten --- I have a four  
7 and five year old. My oldest daughter  
8 is just starting kindergarten.  
9 There's 12 kids in her class.

10 Just four girls. My  
11 high school can't fill the football  
12 team. They have to merge with the  
13 adjoining district. What's happening  
14 right now in upstate New York needs to  
15 almost be a study. It's not working.  
16 Whatever the plan is in this neck of  
17 the woods --- and I love this place.  
18 And I hope to stay here and I hope to  
19 keep my family here because there's so  
20 much I love about this place.

21 But economically, it's a  
22 disaster. I have several businesses  
23 one of them is a motel, I know the  
24 tourism thing, I get it. That's  
25 probably what we have to offer at this

1 point. And every business I have  
2 relies on tourism and I certainly  
3 welcome it. But I got to be frank. I  
4 own a motel as well as some other  
5 things I do.

6 Nobody's moving to  
7 Hancock, New York. I got to be honest  
8 with you. I look around and I go in  
9 the grocery store. I don't see any  
10 young people. I go to other places.  
11 I've been to --- I've had the  
12 opportunity to travel around this  
13 country a little bit.

14 I've been to Texas.  
15 I've been to the south. I've been to  
16 Oklahoma. And everybody --- the  
17 boogeyman comes in and oh, my gosh,  
18 things are going horrible there. No,  
19 they're not. They're doing very well.  
20 There's people with a lot of money.  
21 It's vastly growing and they have fast  
22 growing school districts.

23 You have stores, you  
24 have vibrant kind and people are  
25 happy. It works. Natural gas is done

1       safely, there's no doubt in my mind.  
2       And for us to have any shot in this  
3       neck of the woods, this is what needs  
4       to happen economically. This is what  
5       needs to happen. Thank you very much.

6                   HEARING OFFICER:

7                   Thank you.

8                   Judy Ahrens and then  
9       Lisa Connor.

10                  And this is Judy Ahrens?

11                  MS. AHRENS:

12                  Yes.

13                  HEARING OFFICER:

14                  Okay.

15                  If you would.

16                  MS. AHRENS:

17                  Hi. My name is Judy  
18       Ahrens and I am a landowner. You at  
19       the DRBC are doing a land grab of my  
20       privately owned, paid for and taxed on  
21       land. Now, we suffer from taxation  
22       without representation.

23                  You --- who gave you the  
24       right to take my Fifth Amendment  
25       rights away? PP&L for their land grab