

1 just saying I've done watershed
2 protection for 30 years and I submit
3 that the way this really should be
4 done is through coalitions and through
5 diverse partnerships.

6 We don't have that here.
7 What we have here is a culture war. I
8 understand why it's happening, but I
9 submit that we have to change our
10 approach is we want to protect the
11 river.

12 HEARING OFFICER:

13 Thanks, Mr. Skelding.

14 Lani Schaffer, please.

15 Lani Schaffer is coming?

16 Okay.

17 And then after Lani
18 Schaffer we'll have Louise Disimone
19 and then Kathryn --- it looks like
20 Rowedder. I'm probably mispronouncing
21 it. So let's see Lani Schaffer.

22 MR. SCHAFFER:

23 Hi, guys, Lani Schaffer.
24 I live in New York State underneath
25 the Cannonsville Reservoir that

1 everybody's been talking about. I
2 would mimic a lot of the things like
3 Jeff said that --- the Friends of the
4 Upper Delaware River and things that
5 they're involved in in our community.
6 They've done a good job on a few of
7 those things.

8 I'm on our town board,
9 but I'm not here representing my town
10 board tonight. I'm here representing
11 myself. I'm a farmer. I'm a fourth
12 generation farmer. Family farm is ---
13 the centennial farm in my lifetime.
14 This is a legacy project. It's a
15 really important thing to me.

16 I went to college at
17 Cornell University and got a degree in
18 economics, graduated in 2006. And the
19 first job I had when I got out of
20 college, surprisingly the most
21 important job I had, brought a huge
22 opportunity to my farm. And I said I
23 had an opportunity to work on a
24 pipeline. It's the most money I ever
25 made in my life.

1 I haven't had a year
2 farming where I could even get close
3 to that again. I had --- kind of
4 every other year, work would come,
5 work would go. I was able to get an
6 operator book in the local union which
7 got me a pension and helped me plan
8 to, you know, prepare for retirement.
9 Gave me opportunities I wouldn't have
10 had otherwise as just a farmer.

11 I'm 35 years old. I
12 have two little girls. They're three
13 and five. And it's just --- I want
14 for my children to have the same
15 opportunities I had. I'd like to see
16 where we could do like Jeff had just
17 mentioned, where we should be able to
18 cross both sides of the aisle. I
19 believe in landowner rights. I want
20 the right to extract minerals from my
21 land.

22 I want the right to take
23 my timber. I want the right to take
24 my stone. I want the right to harvest
25 my corn when and where I want to

1 because that's my land. That's why my
2 family came here from Germany 100
3 years ago because they wanted freedom
4 and they wanted the opportunity to be
5 successful.

6 Where I live underneath
7 of the Cannonsville Reservoir, it's
8 like an economic black hole. New York
9 City and New York State want all of
10 the land around us. There's five
11 towns underneath the Cannonsville
12 Reservoir where there's no people
13 there anymore. I have no market to
14 sell to.

15 I need economic
16 opportunity for myself and for my
17 community. I need jobs that are going
18 to hold the next generation behind me
19 there to build families and build
20 careers where money that we're
21 investing into our educations is being
22 kept at home. It's not going to
23 Boston or New York. It's staying in
24 our communities and it's doing smart
25 things for us.

1 I would hope that the
2 DRBC can find a way to work with
3 everybody so we can extract these
4 minerals so that we can have
5 successful lifetimes and so we can be
6 a competitor in our local and global
7 economy that we're going to be selling
8 normal products like corn, beans,
9 beef, lumber, stone.

10 All of these commodities
11 matter, and we need every opportunity
12 we can to be competitive globally. I
13 own 100 beef cows. I pay attention to
14 futures markets. We're concerned with
15 the futures price in the fall. It's
16 going to be like the cheapest corn of
17 all time per capita. What's it take
18 make to make cheap food? Cheap energy
19 to help us make it.

20 So if you want cheap
21 food, people, get us some cheap energy
22 so we can keep feeding you. Thank
23 you.

24 HEARING OFFICER:

25 Louis Disimone? And