

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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1 A P P E A R A N C E S

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3 BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRESENT AND PARTICIPATING:

4 John Steen, Chairman

5 Janie M. Gonzalez, Trustee, Southwest Quadrant

6 Dr. Willis Mackey, Trustee, Southeast Quadrant

7 Edward Kelley, Trustee, Northwest Quadrant

8

9 CPS ENERGY SENIOR CHIEFS PRESENT AND PARTICIPATING:

10 Paula Gold-Williams, President/CEO

11 Delores Lenzy-Jones, Chief Financial Officer

12 Fred Bonewell, Chief Security & Safety Officer

13 Felecia Etheridge, Chief Customer Engagement Officer

14 Cris Eugster, Chief Operating Officer

15 Vivian Bouet, Interim Chief Information Officer

16 Frank Almaraz, Chief Administrative & Business

17 Development Officer

18 Carolyn Shellman, Chief Legal & Administrative Officer

19

20 CAC MEMBERS PRESENT AND PARTICIPATING:

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

22 Luisa Casso, District 1 Rep.

23 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.

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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.)

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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?

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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

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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

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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.

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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

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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.

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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

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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

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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,

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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.

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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

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1 population has grown by 6 percent, we've seen a
 2 10 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. So
 3 this isn't an impossible task. We are already making
 4 strides; the key is making sure that we continue that
 5 going forward.
 6 And then, finally, this is a high-level
 7 framework. It sets that target for 2050, it lays out
 8 the numerous lanes that we need to proceed down, but we
 9 still need to have continued dialogue and discussion
 10 with all of our stakeholders as far as how we implement
 11 the specific strategies. The -- that includes doing
 12 further evaluation around costs, all of the benefits,
 13 the cost of not taking action, and what the -- the --
 14 the potential barriers or opportunities are. So, with
 15 that, these are the things you can do.
 16 There's -- You know, at the end of the
 17 day, look within your world, what is possible that you
 18 can -- can do in terms of making any adjustments,
 19 looking for other transportation options, looking at
 20 your own home, how do you make it more efficient,
 21 more -- more drought tolerant. And really, at the of
 22 day the day, it's about education, it's education for
 23 our kids, our friends and our family. So thank you very
 24 much.
 25 (Applause.)

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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,

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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,

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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, eminent 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

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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

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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

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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

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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.

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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.

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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

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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

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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

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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?

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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

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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

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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,

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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

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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

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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.

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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

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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.)

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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

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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

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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.

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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

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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

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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

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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.)

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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

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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.)

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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.

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1 Second, regarding funding, last month
 2 former may- -- New York City Michael Bloomberg announced
 3 the award of \$2.5 million in technical assistance for
 4 the CAAP implementation. This could not have come at a
 5 better time. More importantly, in his words speaks --
 6 Mayor Bloomberg said, and I quote, It's not the federal
 7 government that is leading the charge on climate change,
 8 it's companies, and then the -- and then local
 9 governments. That last phrase places companies, all
 10 businesses, ahead of the municipal governments.
 11 Thus, my third comment begins with a shout
 12 out to the West San Antonio Chamber of Commerce. In the
 13 coming weeks, the chamber will be hosting a series of
 14 business round tables aimed at filling a critical gap in
 15 the current draft CAAP; namely, the economic challenges
 16 of its implementation. I call on others, chamber of
 17 commerce and business associations in San Antonio, to
 18 follow this bold and worthy example.
 19 In closing, the city council's decision on
 20 the CAAP was formed on two criteria: Equity and
 21 economics. For while the city -- while the social
 22 justice community is critical to the economics climate
 23 change, the business community is equally critical to
 24 the economics of climate change. Thank you.
 25 (Applause.)

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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

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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.

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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.

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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.

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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

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1 see the facts, how can you look at a city like Houston
 2 or San Antonio and see that brown haze on the horizon
 3 and think that's safe for me to breathe, I want my
 4 children breathing that, I want my children breathing
 5 more of that? How can you have a car drive by you and
 6 smell the carbon monoxide and think that's healthy for
 7 me to be breathing?
 8 Even if -- even if you did -- you don't
 9 believe all of the things that people before me have
 10 been saying, we need to find different fuel sources.
 11 We're going to run out. It's going to become expensive.
 12 Renewable energy is the only way forward. And as
 13 technology advances it's going to become more readily
 14 available, and as technology advances the availability
 15 of fossil fuels is going decrease, so why not work now
 16 on implementing fossil fuels until waiting till the last
 17 minute, waiting until so many people have left San
 18 Antonio because it's just getting hotter and more and
 19 more miserable to live here.
 20 And I don't want to live in a city that
 21 puts profit before reason. And if you put profit before
 22 sustainability all I can say is that you can't breathe
 23 and you can't eat money. Thank you.
 24 (Applause.)
 25 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Ms. Thompson.

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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

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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.

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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?

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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

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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.

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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.

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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...

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1 But in terms of the document itself, I
 2 think that it would be helpful for the public to have a
 3 sense of the priorities assigned to various categories.
 4 It's important that we be able to say what is going to
 5 actually reduce climate change or reduce our carbon
 6 footprint more than other things. The way it's ranked,
 7 categorically, it looks like, you know, all things are
 8 equal, but it's not true at all.
 9 The -- the final thing that I -- and I
 10 know I'm running out of time, that I'd just like to --
 11 to say is that I think it's extremely important to both
 12 the city and CPS be -- take a leadership role, and it's
 13 unconscionable really that CPS is still planning to use
 14 coal in 2040. Coal should be phased out, the two units
 15 eliminated by 2025 no later and gas by 2030. The public
 16 and San Antonio is not going to appreciate the magnitude
 17 or the severity of the problem unless both the city and
 18 CPS show that they, in their own calculation, their own
 19 structure, their own planning acknowledge it themselves.
 20 Thank you.
 21 (Applause.)
 22 CHAIRMAN STEEN: Thank you, Mr. Poole.
 23 Elizabeth Kertesz? Am I getting it all
 24 right?
 25 MS. E. KERTESZ: You got it right.

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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

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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

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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.

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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.

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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

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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

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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.

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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.

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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.

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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?

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1 The meeting's adjourned.
 2 (Applause.)
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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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Dicie Lee Eytcheson

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