

# **Sunderland Public Meeting Comments**

### Tuesday, August 4, 2015

#### What do you want?

- 1. Clean and healthy environment for her children and grandchildren
- 2. Not only clean but sustainable because here is only 60-80 more years of fossil fuels and we could be looking at more wars so looking for more just transitional energy sources
- 3. Confused with how the state is going to get to the 25 percent RPS and what the path is because she thinks it is all just talk right now and she wants to see clear actions.
- 4. We need to mobilize against climate change in the same way we worked after world war 2 because we are going so slowly.
- 5. Would like the commission to really consider the particular challenges of southern Maryland in regard to the LNG facilities.
- 6. It's confusing because there are so many groups working on environmental issues but they don't seem to be organized. Some of the bills going to Annapolis aren't being driven by the people's needs and legislators are listening to big business but the legislators are elected by the people and they need to work for the people. There was one company in southern Maryland that received \$804 million tax credits.
- 7. Greatest climate change threat in the state is in happening in Lusby, Maryland and it seems as though MDE has purposefully avoided that area because they really don't want to address the issues

## What do you think?

Open questions:

- Do you have any tricks in mind to get the Governor to read the report?
  There is confidence that MDE is committed to progress on the current plan
- Why aren't citizens invited to be stakeholders on the commission? Don't we have a stake in the work?
- That is a great suggestion and as of now the commission has a set amount of seats/positions but all meetings and working groups are open to the public to attend and to participate in meetings.
- Have you seen any changes due to the new administration?
- $\circ$  The commission members were appointed prior to the change in administration and there are 2 year staggered membership.
- Is there a budget to staff the progress the of the commission?
- MDE staffs the commission and monitors the progress of the GGRA plan.

- The monitoring that MDE does, is that because utilities are self reporting or does someone else actually monitor the progress.
- Utility emissions are part of the data but there are other state agencies that help monitor the progress.
- There are companies that are dumping and polluting constantly and consistently so why would we trust them to report what they are doing. The state needs to monitor them.
- That is a live question in this process.
- This report in November, is it a quantitative or qualitative report?
- The October (MDE) report is going to say "this is where we are on our path to reach 25% reduction by 2020" and a forecast about where we will be and what we need to do. And it may go on to say, therefore we should do x,y,z.

The November (Commission) report will respond to the state report and in addition it will give guidance on new programs, new accountability options and what else do we need to do.

- Why is the citizen being held accountable and the corporations aren't needed to be inspected? For instance we have to have our car emissions checked every two years and yet Dominion doesn't have to account for its emissions and the state is in collusion with them on polluting our water and air.
- So what do we take back to the state about cove point?
- They would like us to talk about the 21.5 tons of carcinogenic air pollution is being out into the air and yet who is going to regulate Dominion?
- Electric generating stations are dispensing more pollution than any cars and the legislators are allowing this to happen. The commission
- Are universities involved? What about master gardeners?

## What do you think? Scheduled Public Comments

1. Eileen Hadley - the state should not rely on natural gas as a gateway fuel. Methane leakages increase the impact on climate change and leaks are unavoidable. The climate

Commission should look into life cycle of all fuels before making recommendations. Also look into putting together a quantitative risk analysis statement is done for the LNG document. A new tact for the commission, instead of allowing companies to buy credits those who aren't meeting their lots should be fined and that money should be used to

2. Linda Morin, resident of Lusby- MDE approved the LNG facility and yet the number of carcinogens will be piped into our community through extraction, creation of pipelines and wells, and inherent leaks of wells will impact all community members. Methane is not a bridge fuel, it is a walking the plank fuel. Wind and solar would create jobs and not pollute us.

No quantitative assessment has been done or environmental assessment for the 8000 people living within 2 miles of the LNG facilities.

- 3. Cindy Peil the commission needs to continue with the work it's doing. Publicize the negative health impacts and the risks of spills and leaks. We have high rates of breast cancer in the county and lung cancer of non smokers. Talk to teachers about the high levels of asthma of students. Work to increase emissions standards so that power plants have to clean up more. Also don't allow the companies to report the emissions themselves. All permits for LNG denies. Educate the public that LNG is never clean and to talk about the differences between fracking and LNG.
- 4. Rick Morin has worked for the state of Maryland for over 30 years and he is ashamed to air that. He has read the reports and they are pretty words and yet they are empty words. For the cost to produce the report we need to monitor the companies and use that money to create actionable items. Money has driven the issues of the state (Dominion paid the legislators in VA and is doing the same here). Let's see a report of which legislators have received money from utility companies and polluters. Example of how money talks: the AES proposal in sparrows Point that didn't happen- would like to see what happened and why and what the differences
- 5. Janet Ashby- there needs to be teeth, action, transparency and regulation to what the state is doing and natural gas shouldn't be considered at all. We as a country is at the low end of what we are doing as far as actionable items and yet we are the biggest contributors to the issue so we need to do more.
- 6. Ken Phelps climate change is a moral challenge of our time and we need to so something.
- 7. Tara Carlson, Charles county resident- she has been working on local land use issues and has trust issues with the state because it seems as though there is undo influence by companies. The commission needs to built trust again and need to get the public on their side by having actionable items. Have a technical meeting where people can participate virtually as well. Also make sure you are near populated areas.
- 8. Klaus Zwilsky there is a big disconnect between what the commission is doing and what the local citizens of Calvert county are doing. You should be looking at total emissions and see where the highest numbers are coming from and focus on those specific areas.
- 9. Bill Peil working with Lusby resident and it's exhausting going through the DNR PPRP report for the generating facilities and how large they are and how much they pollute. The asthma association report card gives all the counties in Maryland F's, we have a huge issue here. We don't need a report on the impacts of natural gas we need to

listen to the other states who have already banned it. The problem is that the industry is positioned in such a way to have exceptions and laws passed. People have the right to live in a clean environment with clean air and water but the legislators are letting this happen.