

Testimony by Meenal Raval at 12/4/18 hearing by Philadelphia Gas Commission

Hello! I am Meenal Raval, with 350 Philadelphia.

Thanks so much for publishing today's agenda, as well as the Gas Commission's recommendation and the Public Advocate's response.

One of my main concerns with the Gas Commission is a lack of transparency. I feel our voices, voices opposing this project, are being muffled.

I would like my testimony today to be made public. That's why I'm present at these public hearings, to show public resistance to this project. I thought speaking here as a citizen, a citizen that elected our Council members, and Controller, and Mayor, would be more relevant than any group I represent.

Just yesterday, the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy, published posts about the Passyunk Energy Center. Of note are the safety concerns they raise about the vapor dispersion and flammability from the existing storage tank. Also of note is their observation of the business model for the Passyunk Energy Center; that PGW's fee could be greater if this facility is used differently, and if PGW charged the Passyunk Energy Center for firm inter-state transport.

There are a number of organizations against the Passyunk Energy Center. Their reasons are the “mostly environmental considerations” that you seem to shrug off, such as;

- Harder for Philadelphia to halt climate change

- We have only a dozen years to do so
- Gas is part of the problem, not the solution
- We need a faster timeline for abandoning fossil fuels
- This project has been fast-tracked
- We need a pathway for PGW to get completely off fossil fuels

The groups?

- 350 Philadelphia
- Breathific
- Clean Air Council
- Clean Water Action
- Delaware Riverkeeper Network
- Food & Water Watch
- Green Justice Philly
- Moms Clean Air Force
- Neighbors Against The Gas Plants
- PennEnvironment
- Philly Thrive
- Philly Electric Wheels
- POWER Interfaith
- Sierra Club - Southeastern PA Group

Easily more than the 3000 members of Local 686 & PGW Retirees Assoc!

I ask that the Gas Commission heed the advice of the Public Advocate that they hired, to protect the public — which includes people like me concerned about the climate implications of further

fossil fuel buildout, as well as quality of life for near neighbors.

Also, in the interest of transparency, I repeat my request that meeting minutes be made public by uploading to the Gas Commission website.

What is our rush to proceed with this project?