

MR. CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONERS:

I AM HERE TODAY NOT ONLY AS A RESPECTABLY ELECTED SENATOR, BUT ALSO AS A VERY CONCERNED NORTH CAROLINIAN. THOUGH I HAVE BEEN CONSTANTLY UP-DATED ON THE PROGRESS, OR LACK OF PROGRESS, IN THE PROPOSED 60-DAY EMERGENCY SALE OF NATURAL GAS FROM HOUSTON PIPELINE COMPANY TO TRANSOCO, I SHALL NOT ATTEMPT TODAY TO EXPLORE ON THE RIGHTS OR WRONGS OF THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF ALLOCATION OF NATURAL GAS OR THE REQUIREMENTS IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE FOR THE "2.00 (B)" OR "2.00 (A)" BARGAINS FROM WHICH THIS COMMISSION HAS TO DECIDE. I AM HERE TO SPEAK FOR MYSELF, THE INDIVIDUALS, THE BUSINESSES, AND THE HOMEOWNERS OF NORTH CAROLINA WHO ARE AT THE FOREFRONT. AND I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY CONCERN THAT THE PROPOSED SALE OF GAS TO TRANSOCO FROM HOUSTON PIPELINE COMPANY WILL BE AT THE EXPENSE OF THE INDIVIDUALS, THE BUSINESSES, AND THE HOMEOWNERS WHO ATTEND TO THEIR SCHOOLS, AND THE INDUSTRIES WHICH PROVIDE INCOME AND SECURITY FOR THOUSANDS OF NORTH CAROLINIANS WILL BE FORCED TO THE HIGH PRICES WHICH WOULD BE THE RESULT OF SUCH A SALE.

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AND THERE ARE MANY OTHERS IN LIKE CIRCUMSTANCES, MANY OTHERS WHO WILL BE FORCED TO GO HOME AND WILL BE SEE WHAT THOSE PEOPLE IN WASHINGTON WILL DO TO GET THEM THE GAS THEY SO DESPERATELY NEED TO PROVIDE THEIR PRODUCE AND TO SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO SCHOOL.

THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION HAS INFORMED ME THAT THEY DO NOT KNOW OF ANYWAY BY WHICH THEY CAN OBTAIN THE QUANTITY OF NATURAL GAS WHICH WOULD BE NECESSARY TO SUPPLY NORTH CAROLINA. HOWEVER, IT SEEMS TO ME THE ONLY WAY THE "WINDS WHEEL" IS THIS KIND OF DISASTROUS SITUATION, AND THIS IS NOT AN OILY AND ALL PEOPLE THAT I AM WELL AWARE. NORTH CAROLINA HAS ALWAYS BEEN ONE OF THOSE WHICH IS HARDED UP IN A SHORTAGE OF GAS IN THE WINTER.

NOW, I AM NOT GOING TO QUOTE FIGURES TO YOU, YOU KNOW OF OF FIGURES AND KNOW THE SITUATION BETTER THAN I DO, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO TELL YOU THE WAY TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF NATURAL GAS WHICH WE NEED TO LIVE. BUT I DO THINK THAT WASHINGTON HAS SOME GAS AND SHOULD USE SOME IN THE WINTER.

CONSEQUENTLY, I REQUEST THAT YOU DO AS MUCH AS IS POSSIBLE FOR THE HOUSTON-SPANSKO PLAN TO GO FORWARD IMMEDIATELY, AND ONE OTHER POINT BY THIS POINT PLAN, IN CASE SOME ONE WOULD NOT BE COMPLETELY CONVINCED BY THE PLAN, WE SHOULD GET THE GAS OR AT LEAST THE EQUIPMENT OF THIS MONEY.

AGAIN, I HOPE YOUR IMMEDIATE APPROVAL OF THE WILSONS WHICH  
WILL ASSURE NATURAL GAS CUSTOMERS IN NORTH CAROLINA THAT  
THE FUTURE WILL BE THERE AND WILL BE THERE VERY SOON.

THANK YOU.