

VOLUME 1 OF 2 VOLUMES

Public Hearing for the Draft Programmatic  
Environmental Assessment for the SpaceX  
Starship/Super Heavy Launch Vehicle Program at the  
SpaceX Boca Chica Launch Site in Cameron County, Texas

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DATE: October 18, 2021

TIME: 5:00 p.m. to 8:38 p.m.

LOCATION: (Via Videoconference)

REPORTED BY: MARY BUITRON, CSR, RPR

Stenographic Court Reporter

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APPEARANCES (Via Videoconference):

Ms. Jennifer Piggott, ICF Facilitator

Ms. Tiffany Mendoza, ICF

Mr. Nicholas Baker, ICF

-and-

Ms. Stacey Zee, FAA Office of Commercial Space Transportation

Ms. Anna Cushman, FAA Office of Commercial Space  
Transportation

Mr. Jacob Cantin, FAA Office of Commercial Space  
Transportation

Ms. Chelsey Clarkson, FAA Office of Commercial Space  
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Ms. Amy Hansen, FAA Office of Commercial Space Transportation

Ms. Marlene Lee, FAA Office of Commercial Space Transportation

Mr. Steven Sherman, FAA Office of Commercial Space  
Transportation

-and-

Ms. Schedir Illoldi, Licensed Spanish Interpreter

Ms. Pamela Payan, Licensed Spanish Interpreter

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PUBLIC HEARING

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1 MS. PIGGOTT: The time is 5:00 p.m. local  
2 time and we'll now start the Federal Aviation Administration  
3 Office of Commercial Space Transportation, or AST, public  
4 hearing for the Programmatic Environmental Assessment for the  
5 SpaceX Starship/Super Heavy Launch Vehicle Program at the  
6 SpaceX Boca Chica Launch Site in Cameron County, Texas. Thank  
7 you, everyone, for participating this evening.

8 My name is Jennifer Piggott, and I will serve as  
9 your neutral facilitator this evening. I'm with ICF, who is  
10 supporting the FAA as an independent third-party contractor.  
11 This online public hearing is being recorded, transcribed and  
12 translated.

13 I would like to call your attention to the  
14 global icon at the bottom right of your Zoom screen. If you  
15 click on this icon, you can choose either English or Spanish to  
16 ensure you're listening to the hearing in your desired  
17 language.

18 If you need assistance with Zoom during the  
19 hearing, you can use the chat feature located at the bottom of  
20 your screen to message the host. We appreciate your  
21 participation in this online virtual hearing. We would much  
22 rather be with you in person, but with the current conditions,  
23 we want to provide all the information we can while protecting  
24 everyone's health.

25 We are going to conduct this as closely as

1 possible to a typical, in-person public hearing. Please make a  
2 note of the phone number for this hearing. The phone number is  
3 833-548-0276, meeting ID 883 9423 2774, password 4300505. If  
4 you experience difficulty with your Internet connection at any  
5 point during this hearing, you can call this number to listen  
6 to the hearing.

7                   Additionally, individual Internet connections  
8 and bandwidths may impact your viewing experience this evening.  
9 We recommend closing all apps and programs and limiting other  
10 streaming or downloads during this heated -- hearing. Finally,  
11 we are running this hearing using Zoom Webinar, which mutes all  
12 participants and restricts video feeds. Only the meeting host  
13 can unmute you.

14                   We will conduct the online public hearing in two  
15 parts: First, AST will provide a presentation in both English  
16 and Spanish; then we will conduct a facilitated comment session  
17 where interested parties can provide oral comments for the  
18 record. We will not host a question/answer session during this  
19 hearing.

20                   Please submit comments by the close of the  
21 comment period, which is November 1st, 2021. We invite you to  
22 submit comments orally at tonight's hearing, electronically  
23 through the project e-mail address, which is  
24 SpaceXBocaChica@icf.com, or mail to Ms. Stacey Zee, SpaceX PEA,  
25 c/o ICF, 9300 Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22031. Additionally,

1 AST will make tonight's presentation available on the project  
2 website.

3 I would now like to go over a few ground rules  
4 for tonight's hearing. Please remember this hearing is being  
5 recorded, so please no inappropriate language or comments.  
6 When we get to the comment session of tonight's hearing, I will  
7 call on preregistered commenters first in the order in which  
8 they registered, followed by other commenters that indicate  
9 they would like to make a comment this evening. We will  
10 receive as many comments as time allows.

11 We do have a very large number of participants  
12 on the call who previously registered to speak, so we will be  
13 asking everyone to keep their comments to no more than three  
14 minutes, and this time limit will be strictly enforced this  
15 evening. If you are not called on to provide an oral comment  
16 today, you may provide an oral comment at another virtual  
17 hearing, provide your comment electronically or in writing.

18 All comments, regardless of how they are  
19 received, are weighed equally. Again, we will make every  
20 effort to hear as many oral comments as possible during  
21 tonight's hearing.

22 We appreciate the chance to share the proposed  
23 project and the environmental process with all of you. We wish  
24 we could be together in person, but we're glad to come together  
25 virtually. Again, the purpose of this online public hearing is

1 to share information about the Programmatic Environmental  
2 Assessment, provide information on how to provide comment, and  
3 to receive oral comments.

4 I would now like to introduce Ms. Stacey Zee  
5 with AST, and Stacey will introduce herself, as whether -- as  
6 well as other FAA and SpaceX team members. Stacey?

7 MS. ZEE: Hi, good evening, I'm Stacey Zee.  
8 I'm an environmental specialist and stakeholder engagement  
9 program manager for the SpaceX Boca Chica project.

10 MS. PIGGOTT: Stacey, you may want to adjust  
11 your volume. We're not able to hear you.

12 MS. ZEE: Okay. Can you hear me now?

13 (No audible or visible response.)

14 MS. ZEE: Can you hear me now, Jennifer?

15 MS. MENDOZA: Stacey, I can hear you.

16 MS. PIGGOTT: Okay, go ahead.

17 MS. ZEE: Okay, I'll start over. I'm Stacey  
18 Zee. I'm an environmental specialist and stakeholder  
19 engagement program manager for the SpaceX Boca Chica project.  
20 I'm here with other -- some of the other FAA people from the  
21 team, including Anna Cushman, who's the lead for SpaceX  
22 licensing; Jacob Cantin, who's the lead for the SpaceX Boca  
23 Chica licensing project; also, Amy Hansen and Chelsey Clarkson  
24 from the environmental and stakeholder engagement coordination  
25 team.

1                   And next I'm going to open it to Schedir  
2                   Illoidi, who's doing Spanish translation.

3                   INTERPRETER SCHEDIR ILLOLDI: COMCHECK. Can you  
4                   hear me?

5                   MS. PIGGOTT: Yes. Go ahead.

6                   (Interpreters translating simultaneously.)

7                   (Brief pause in proceedings.)

8                   MS. PIGGOTT: Okay. Thank you, Stacey, and,  
9                   Schedir.

10                  We will now begin the first presentation, the  
11                  English version. A Spanish version will be played immediately  
12                  following the English version. We'll go ahead and hit play on  
13                  the first English presentation.

14                  (English presentation played at this time.)

15                  MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for that information.  
16                  We will now play the same presentation in Spanish.

17                  (Spanish presentation played at this time.)

18                  MS. PIGGOTT: Okay, thank you for those  
19                  presentations. We have now reached the second part of  
20                  tonight's online hearing, a facilitated comment session. If  
21                  you'd like to make an oral comment, please send a chat message  
22                  to the meeting host or raise your hand using the hand-raise  
23                  icon if you're on Zoom, or for call-in users, you can press \*9  
24                  to raise your hand and we'll add you to the speaker list.  
25                  We will call on you in the order in which you raise your hand.

1           Each commenter will have three minutes to make  
2 their comments. Again, we have a very large number of  
3 individuals wishing to make oral comments this evening, over  
4 100 currently, so we will be strictly enforcing the  
5 three-minute timeline this evening.

6           At the start of your comments, please state your  
7 full name for the record. Again, we are not hosting a  
8 question/answer session this evening, only accepting oral  
9 comments.

10           I put the first five speakers in the chat queue,  
11 which are Edward Lukowsky, Thomas Marotta, Dhruv Patel, Gene  
12 Gore and Jenny Spicer. If you would, please, raise your hand  
13 and we will unmute your line so that you can provide  
14 your comments.

15           Okay, Dhruv Patel, I see your hand raised. I'm  
16 going to ask you to unmute.

17           (No audible or visible response.)

18           MS. PIGGOTT: Dhruv Patel?

19           MR. PATEL: Hello. Can you -- can you hear me?

20           MS. PIGGOTT: You are unmuted.

21           MR. PATEL: Yes. All right. So, I would like  
22 to say that FAA and SpaceX here are really doing a good job,  
23 and I just wish whatever the decision they taken -- I'm not a  
24 specialist in the environment department, but I just wish well  
25 for SpaceX and keeping in conservation the -- what is it, the

1 environment, they do good.

2 That's all I like to say, thank you.

3 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

4 Our next speaker is Edward Lukowsky. May I ask  
5 you to unmute?

6 MR. LUKOWSKY: Hello. Do you hear me?

7 MS. PIGGOTT: Go ahead. You have three minutes.

8 MR. LUKOWSKY: All right. Well, I would just  
9 like to say thank you for giving me the opportunity to make  
10 this comment. I did have something written down but I'm going  
11 to go off the top of my head.

12 My name is Edward Lukowsky. I don't live near  
13 Texas. I have no stake in this currently, but I would just  
14 like to say that SpaceX is doing an amazing job in Texas, and  
15 that I would like to see this process move a bit faster. I  
16 understand that there's some regulations that say that it needs  
17 to be a slower process, but I do not believe that those  
18 regulations should be in place.

19 And -- yes, thank you, that is all I would like  
20 to say.

21 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

22 Our next speaker is Jenny Spicer. I'm going to  
23 ask you to unmute.

24 MS. SPICER: Hello.

25 MS. PIGGOTT: Jenny, are you there?

1 MS. SPICER: Yes, hello.

2 MS. PIGGOTT: Yep, we can hear you. Go ahead,  
3 you have three minutes.

4 MS. SPICER: Okay. Hello, my name is Jenny  
5 Spicer. I've been here since July and occupying a place in  
6 Tropical Trails RV Resort. I'm driving over every morning and  
7 watching the sunrise and slowly but surely I've watched a  
8 rocket rise from the dunes of the beach and it's been an honor  
9 and a privilege to be able to see something magical created out  
10 of this world, and I -- it's just been beautiful and I've had  
11 the opportunity to paint it.

12 So I've been painting everyday different  
13 landscapes, and one landscape I finding interesting to paint is  
14 the part that Mexico plays. I know that in the actions  
15 proposed it said -- it was labeled as parts of Mexico. I think  
16 there needs to be some more research requested for this. So  
17 we're right on the border. I believe we should have a  
18 desalination tank or a desalination facility that's powered by  
19 solar power. We have some in Texas, I think there's 48, but  
20 they're not completely energy efficient. I think we can show  
21 that in this area and also be able to have some water security  
22 and things like that for our neighbors across the border, and  
23 this border town, I think as one of the impacts that SpaceX  
24 would have. This would be a beautiful solution.

25 I think there also needs to be some discussions

1 around the -- the neighborhood taking care of the historical  
2 markers. I know I went up and down the road numerous times. I  
3 put flags out by all the historical markers, I brought my  
4 pruning sheers and cleaned by the historical markers. This  
5 community, I noticed, really does take care of their dead and  
6 their graves stones, but for some reason the historical markers  
7 on this road have been overlooked. So any attention paid to  
8 that I believe is only positive for the history of not only  
9 this town, but the history of -- of a planet and a culture that  
10 is also eliciting history being created. At the end of a Civil  
11 War site and road is going to be the beginning of a beautiful  
12 future of a space-bearing civilization.

13 And thank you so much for this opportunity, and  
14 I'm looking forward to respectfully listening to the rest of  
15 the conversation. Thank you.

16 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments. Our  
17 next -- our next speaker is (audio echoing) Gene Gore (audio  
18 echoing) Richard Gore, I see your hand raised (audio echoing).  
19 I'll ask you to unmute (audio echoing).

20 MR. GORE: Can you hear me? Can you hear me?

21 MS. PIGGOTT: Yep, go ahead. Your (audio  
22 echoing) -- your volume is really soft (audio echoing.)

23 MR. GORE: Okay. My name is Gene Gore. I live  
24 in South Padre Island with my family (audio echoing). I'm  
25 sorry, I had it on Bluetooth.

1                   My family lives in South Padre Island here  
2                   (audio echoing) adjacent to SpaceX Boca Chica (audio echoing).  
3                   Many generations of my family have lived here in the Texas  
4                   coast, including my (audio echoing) Native American ancestry.  
5                   I've witnessed every --

6                   THE COURT REPORTER: I can't understand this.

7                   MR. GORE: -- Starship static fire and launch to  
8                   date. I surf and fish and camp and boat regularly in the area  
9                   of South Bay and the Gulf, and I personally have not seen any  
10                  negative impacts to the environment or the wildlife. I  
11                  actually just returned from Cape Canaveral to witness the  
12                  Inspiration4 launch, and I was really impressed with how well  
13                  the surrounding wildlife refuge there was managed and the  
14                  abundance of wildlife. I'm looking forward to the same level  
15                  of progressive management, not only to preserve, but to enhance  
16                  our local and natural resources.

17                  The excitement and inspiration in this  
18                  development of SpaceX in the new age of space exploration, it's  
19                  really obvious in children and adults of all ages and community  
20                  and even online and around the world. I personally absolutely  
21                  and fully approve and support SpaceX development and launches  
22                  of Starship and Super Heavy for a multitude of reasons, far too  
23                  many to mention here in these three minutes, but I will provide  
24                  a fully-detailed, written report on the environmental  
25                  assessment to the FAA before November 1st. Thank you.

1 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

2 Our next five speakers are Juan Mancias, Joyce  
3 Hamilton, Rebekah Hinojosa, Slav Peytchev, and Nicholas  
4 Andritch. If you would please raise your hands so I can ask  
5 you to unmute.

6 Joyce Hamilton, I'm going to ask you to unmute.

7 MR. CHARLIE COX: Hello?

8 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, is this Joyce Hamilton?

9 MR. CHARLIE COX: Yes (sic), am I -- can you  
10 hear me?

11 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, go ahead. You have three  
12 minutes.

13 MR. CHARLIE COX: All right. Mainly, I think  
14 people should remember that from -- like when I was a child,  
15 that we sat and we watched the first moon landing, and for  
16 years, you know, we've waited and waited for -- for that to  
17 continue. Now, obviously SpaceX is the company that's going to  
18 provide that and it's going to be an American company, and not  
19 only does SpaceX do that for -- for us and make us the leaders  
20 in the space race, they're also providing plenty of jobs for  
21 that community that they're in, and -- and also for the people  
22 that are going to go and visit the place, that's more business  
23 for the area.

24 I believe that -- you know, he's a personal  
25 business, it's not a government business, and anytime he wants

1 to he can move his business to another country. I see that the  
2 Russians are trying to get him to go there. Do we want  
3 Americans or do we want Russians to be the next one to land on  
4 the moon? And I think we should, you know, just treat him like  
5 he should be treated. He's an entrepreneur, he's a  
6 businessman, he's helping out the community, and he's making  
7 Americans have a little respect around the world.

8 If there's an environmental issue, I mean, he's  
9 a billionaire, I'm sure he can give a couple billion for that,  
10 as long as he covers for any broken windows that they have,  
11 which I'm sure he -- they would be more than happy to do. You  
12 know, there should be no problems, but everybody wants us to  
13 be -- look a lot better in the world cause we haven't looked  
14 real great in the world for a long time, and this is one way to  
15 do it and that's to support SpaceX and take out all the  
16 negative blocks we're putting in front of him and let him go as  
17 fast as he can.

18 That's all I have to say. Thank you.

19 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

20 Our next speaker is Nicholas Andritch. I'm  
21 going to ask you to unmute.

22 MR. ANDRITCH: Hello. Can you guys hear me?

23 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, go ahead. You have three  
24 minutes.

25 MR. ANDRITCH: All right. So my name is

1 Nicholas Andritch. I'm -- I live in California, but I've  
2 visited Boca Chica many times, and I think it's a beautiful  
3 place. I love Starship and SpaceX, and every time I go there  
4 I'm filled with joy and happiness. When I see Starship and  
5 there's so many tourists and amazing people I've met going to  
6 Starbase of Boca Chica, and I think they're all amazing, and I  
7 think that Boca Chica is the place where Starship is going to  
8 innovate the world since Starship is the rocket that's going to  
9 go to the -- going to go to Mars and all these other places  
10 that we have not yet imagined.

11           And there might be causes that might concern  
12 people, but we have to sometimes put those aside for the  
13 greater good and I feel like going to Mars and being one of the  
14 first countries, as the U.S., to go to Mars would be amazing  
15 and I feel like that is one of the most important factors here,  
16 so, thank you.

17           MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

18           Our next speaker is Rebekah Hinojosa. If you  
19 would please raise your hand. Okay, Bekah, I'm going to ask  
20 you to unmute.

21           MS. HINOJOSA: Hi. Can you hear me?

22           MS. PIGGOTT: We can. Go ahead, you have three  
23 minutes.

24           MS. HINOJOSA: Okay. Well, first of all, I want  
25 to say that the FAA is conducting -- the way the FAA is

1 conducting this regulatory process is actually a violation of  
2 the Title 6 Civil Rights Act of 1964, and what I mean by that  
3 is this process has not been made available in the Spanish  
4 language. In fact, the FAA should have issued a 30-day notice  
5 in Spanish, notified the public that there would be Spanish  
6 interpretation, close-captioning 30 days in advance, and  
7 instead, the FAA, at the last minute, three days before the  
8 hearing, announced that Spanish would be available. So that is  
9 -- that is discrimination against the Rio Grande Valley  
10 community.

11 I'm multigenerational from the Rio Grande  
12 Valley. I live in Brownsville, Texas. I'm also an  
13 environmentalist and a community member, and I've seen  
14 firsthand how SpaceX operations are actually very destructive  
15 to our community, how it's driving gentrification, how it's  
16 starting to displace locals, people have already been displaced  
17 from the Boca Chica Village.

18 And I'm here to speak, really, in opposition. I  
19 oppose the permit and any authorization for SpaceX to expand  
20 their facility here at Boca Chica Beach. And going back, you  
21 know, this is a Title 6 -- violation of Title 6 Act, and that's  
22 why a bunch of local community groups from the Rio Grande  
23 Valley have filed a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights,  
24 with the FAA, and the U.S. Department of Transportation. Those  
25 groups include La Union Del Pueblo Entero, Trucha RGV, Las

1 Imaginistas, Razas Unidas, The Lone Star Chapter Sierra Club.  
2 These are all local organizations that have community members  
3 from the Rio Grande Valley who, you know, who are being  
4 directly impacted by SpaceX operations.

5           Also, the FAA should have an entire  
6 environmental impact statement. Just having an EA is not  
7 enough, considering the size and scope of the proposed SpaceX  
8 project. New gas plants, drilling for gas on beach,  
9 desalinization (sic) plants. This is a massive footprint that  
10 this operations would have on our community.

11           And just overall, I want to say that we as  
12 humans should be investing in our planet and dealing with the  
13 destructive consequences of climate change.

14           MS. PIGGOTT: Thirty seconds.

15           MS. HINOJOSA: And that, you know, SpaceX is  
16 just -- is -- is just something that is directly destructive  
17 and -- and another example of colonization of our community  
18 that we just don't need. Thank you.

19           MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

20           Our next speaker is Joyce Hamilton. Again, as a  
21 reminder, please state your full name at the start of your  
22 comments for the court reporter to transcribe.

23           Joyce Hamilton, I'm going to ask you to unmute.

24           MS. HAMILTON: I am now unmuted. I think --

25           MS. PIGGOTT: We can hear you.

1 MS. HAMILTON: Can you hear me?

2 MS. PIGGOTT: Go ahead, you have three minutes.

3 MS. HAMILTON: Yes. Okay, my name is Joyce  
4 Hamilton. I'm representing myself as a resident of South Texas  
5 and a frequent visitor over the past 20 years to the natural  
6 area surrounding the location where SpaceX is now operating and  
7 where it proposes to build and launch the SpaceX Super Heavy  
8 Launch Vehicle.

9 My preview of the Draft PEA raised some concerns  
10 for me about potential impacts of the tests, the launches, the  
11 ongoing construction and the other aspects of this proposed  
12 expanded project on what is a fragile and unique coastline. In  
13 fact, we've already seen the damaging impact of a recent launch  
14 failure with a wide and destructive debris field along the  
15 beach and surrounding wetlands.

16 In fact, biologists, I know one of them, who  
17 monitors the nesting plovers, which is a species of concern,  
18 have noticed a dramatic decrease in nesting since the inception  
19 of the construction and the other operations at the SpaceX  
20 site. So, in the past year the -- the Highway 4 Boca Chica  
21 Beach access has transformed dramatically with the existing  
22 build up of the SpaceX launch site.

23 It was always in the past a beautiful, pristine  
24 natural area of wetlands, mudflats, lomas and dunes with an  
25 ecosystem supporting myriad species of wildlife, including

1 wintering, nesting and migrating waterfowl, which have been a  
2 joy to birders and other naturalists and the general public who  
3 share a concern for the preservation of this unique coastal  
4 ecosystem.

5           So, I -- you know, needless to say, my most  
6 passionate concern is for the protection and conservation of --  
7 of the wildlife and the unique habitat here that supports them,  
8 but I also would like to speak up for the rights of the local  
9 community, the fishermen, the sea turtle rescue volunteers, the  
10 naturalists and birders and the families from the surrounding  
11 area who lost their right to regular access to the beach on a  
12 regular basis.

13           And so I -- I feel all of these are big concerns  
14 and I'd -- I'd like to just end by urging the FAA to conduct a  
15 serious, comprehensive Environmental Impact Study, EIS, on the  
16 SpaceX --

17           MS. PIGGOTT: Thirty seconds.

18           MS. HAMILTON: -- Super Heavy rocket proposal.  
19 Thank you.

20           MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

21           Okay, our next five speakers this evening are  
22 Sharon Almaguer, Wes Townsend, Alan Guggenheim, Douala Hashi,  
23 and Tiagan Koob. If you would please raise your hand.

24           Sharon, I see your hand raised. I'm going to  
25 ask you to unmute.

























































































































1 Hollmann. I'm a long-time resident of Brownsville. I go out  
2 to Boca Chica Beach with my family, as I do to South Padre  
3 Island, also. The SpaceX rockets are too big and the impacts  
4 could be too negative not to carefully analyze the -- and  
5 mitigate the risk. The potential for a launch failure and the  
6 environmental and negative social impacts are very real.  
7 Because of this, I'm asking the FFA -- FAA to conduct a full  
8 Environmental Impact Statement that includes a launch failure  
9 analysis instead of the Programmatic Environmental Assessment  
10 that is now being considered.

11 Thank you very much for taking my comment.

12 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

13 Our next speaker is Ren Mcree. Ren, I'm going  
14 to ask you to unmute.

15 MR. MCREE: Hello, can you hear me?

16 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, go ahead. You have three  
17 minutes.

18 MR. MCREE: Hello, this is Ren Mcree. I'm  
19 speaking as an individual from Alabama, so I'm not a part of  
20 the Brownsville area. You can spell my name by R-E-N  
21 M-C-R-E-E.

22 I am in full support of granting SpaceX the  
23 launch license in question here. However, due to two main  
24 items mentioned in the Draft PEA I have concern. I would like  
25 more requirements be added to SpaceX, first, on the emissions

1 related to the proposed natural gas power plant; and second,  
2 the natural gas liquification plant.

3 The estimates given are lower than reasonable  
4 for equipment of this size. Also, due to the proximity to  
5 protected wetlands, emissions, preparations in place of --  
6 there needs to be preparations in place, particularly if an  
7 accident were to occur while operating these facilities to  
8 prevent spills of petroleum byproducts into the wetlands.

9 Thank you. This concludes my statement.

10 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

11 Okay, folks, our next five speakers -- actually  
12 going to put the next seven. These are the last seven that I  
13 have on our preregistration list, which are Eric Hound, Stephen  
14 Crye, William Stewart, Mokihana Berry, Josette Cruz, Kenneth  
15 Teague and Mary Branch.

16 Eric, I see you on the Zoom. I'm going to ask  
17 you to unmute.

18 MR. HOUND: Hi. Can you hear me?

19 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, go ahead. You have three  
20 minutes.

21 MR. HOUND: Hi. My name is Eric. I've been  
22 paying particularly close attention to this project for the  
23 past few weeks. I've been writing about it quite a bit, and I  
24 have a background in environmental engineering and risk  
25 assessment process safety. I've been at it for over a decade.

1 I've worked for oil and gas companies, I've worked for  
2 pipelines, and I just wanted to make the comment that I have  
3 never in my career seen such a sloppy document that is full of  
4 absolutely misleading, inaccurate, intentionally obfuscated  
5 information in it.

6 I'm -- I'm actually aghast that this document  
7 was even passed by the FAA. The fact that a private contractor  
8 hired by FAA allowed 11 employees from that company, that is  
9 ICF, that icon you see in the background, that is a  
10 publicly-traded company. Their management has now for weeks  
11 looked the other way while 11 of their employees signed off on  
12 a fraudulent document.

13 Everyone who has looked at or reported this has  
14 been gas lighted by SpaceX and FAA into believing that this was  
15 some sort of given. This project was not about the rockets,  
16 that was the -- the stated reason for it, but if you look at  
17 the document itself, this is a large oil and gas operation, it  
18 is a utility power plant, including a 250-megawatt power plant,  
19 which is, definitionally, a major source of pollution under the  
20 PSD regulations of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1977.

21 It is one of the first source types that EPA  
22 pointed out as a item of concern, and of note, you will note  
23 that PCEQ, nor EPA were contacted during this PEA development.  
24 There are unbelievable amounts of errors, missteps,  
25 miscalculations. Equipment is named things that are not

1 industry standard, which is in violation of the plain language  
2 requirements of NEPA.

3 There is -- this is a gas plant, this is a  
4 gas-processing plant, this is an LNG unit, and there's a --

5 MS. PIGGOTT: Thirty seconds.

6 MR. HOUND: -- there's going to be pipeline that  
7 will be needed that is not mentioned. All of this stuff was  
8 let off intentionally. ICF, the company, these people who  
9 reviewed it, they all know this. FAA management knows this and  
10 they want it to happen anyway.

11 So, everyone listening to this, you have been --  
12 you've watched a oil and gas development from drilling,  
13 fracking, production, pipeline, refining, and now combustion in  
14 a utility-size power plant that has been --

15 MS. PIGGOTT: That's three minutes.

16 MR. HOUND: It is un- -- it is unreal, and  
17 this -- this -- ICF needs to resign from the project and --

18 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

19 Ladies and gentlemen, our next speaker is  
20 Stephen Crye. Stephen, I'm going to ask you to unmute.

21 MR. CRYE: Hello. My name is Stephen Crye. I'm  
22 65. I've lived in Texas since 1975, and I represent myself.

23 I understand the many concerns surrounding  
24 SpaceX operations at Boca Chica and I don't want to lightly  
25 dismiss them. I'm an outdoorsman, I'm a mountaineer, a beach

1 lover, I love wildlife photography, I'm a Texas history buff.

2           Property rights are our most important right but  
3 I'm convinced that SpaceX can manage these problems associated  
4 with their operations at Boca Chica. Mr. Musk will not spare  
5 any expense to make this safe for people and wildlife. He'll  
6 bring to bear the best minds and technology available, and I  
7 know some people doubt it, but he's got the money for it, he'll  
8 make people whole if their property is damaged.

9           SpaceX operations can and will co-exist with the  
10 area wildlife, with the residents and historical sites.  
11 Remember, wildlife and people are resilient.

12           SpaceX operations already benefit the local  
13 economy. It inspires children to pursue STEM careers; I don't  
14 know if y'all saw the school buses that came out with all the  
15 grateful kids and teachers this week. The Earth is our  
16 beautiful, beloved home. It's always going to be our first  
17 love, my first love, but we all know the universe is a  
18 dangerous place. Civilization is only one asteroid impact or  
19 one Carrington-Class solar event away from collapse.

20           You know, let's put those dangers aside, they're  
21 probably not going to happen soon, but who hasn't dreamed of  
22 traveling to other worlds and beyond? What SpaceX is doing  
23 represents the next highly-sustainable step in humankind's  
24 grandest adventure, so let's all do what we can to make this  
25 dream a reality. Thanks.

1 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

2 Our next speaker is Josette Cruz. I'm going to  
3 ask you to unmute.

4 MS. CRUZ: Okay. Can I start or --

5 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, go ahead. You have three  
6 minutes.

7 MS. CRUZ: Okay. My name is Josette Hinojosa  
8 Cruz, and I am a member of the Carrizo/Comecrudo Tribe of Texas  
9 and the South Texas Environmental Justice Network.

10 FYI, this project was built on our land, and  
11 just as there has been massive opposition to projects like the  
12 liquid frack gas facilities, such as Annova LNG, Rio Grande LNG  
13 and Texas LNG and its need for pipelines, there has still been  
14 and there is both opposition from the Tribe and the South Texas  
15 Environmental Justice Network, as well as other organizations  
16 that were mentioned before.

17 They have also opposed the Valley Crossing  
18 Pipeline, which would pose the same risk as that flaming hole  
19 that we all saw happen in the Gulf. By the way, these are not  
20 acts of God, they are the failures of man-made technology, deal  
21 with it.

22 SpaceX is the same story as to when big  
23 agriculture colonized the region and left behind pesticides on  
24 the land. SpaceX has already plowed over and destroyed natural  
25 land, and as you guys presented today, you will continue to

1 fill in wetlands, which will continue to destroy our natural  
2 habitats here.

3 I have traveled the world, and guess what, there  
4 is no place like home, y'all, so, yeah. Anyways, it is a fact  
5 that we are the last place along the Texas coast that has not  
6 been completely industrialized, or as I like to say, colonized.

7 I don't have to echo anymore of what others who  
8 have spoken before me in opposition have stated. Only a  
9 megalomaniac with deeply-rooted colonization ideology would  
10 have so many people believe that, you know, in -- in a  
11 fear-based faith, one that would -- would have people quoting  
12 the Bible saying that we need to leave this planet when we are  
13 stewards of this -- we are stewards to creation, okay?

14 If this -- this is disgusting, this is a  
15 disgusting display of power. He is a megalomaniac. I don't  
16 give a shit what anybody else here has to say and has to defend  
17 him. I'm sorry, this has to end. This is 500 years of  
18 .colonization, this is 500 years of our people being bullied  
19 and pushed into genocide. And this is further -- and in the  
20 global south, many people, indigenous leaders are dying at our  
21 expense because everybody else across the globe wants to be  
22 comfortable and wants to provide this fracked gas and wants to  
23 take advantage of it or use it and -- and take out and -- and  
24 draw the dead from the ground.

25 You can't -- water is life, air is life, it is

1 alive. What you are taking out and pumping out of the ground  
2 is dead, it is fossil fuels. It is contributing further --

3 MS. PIGGOTT: Thirty seconds.

4 MS. CRUZ: -- to our climate destruction, and  
5 that is what this project is doing and this is why I oppose it,  
6 and this is why we need a full and complete and comprehensive  
7 environmental impact study statement, and that's what needs to  
8 be done.

9 And I oppose this, and thank you for your time.

10 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

11 Our next speaker is Ken Teague. Ken, I'm going  
12 to ask you to unmute.

13 MR. TEAGUE: Can you hear me?

14 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, go ahead. You have three  
15 minutes.

16 MR. TEAGUE: All right. Here we go. I'm a  
17 retired coastal scientist and a columnist with 40 years of  
18 experience, mostly in Texas and Louisiana. I'm a certified  
19 wetland scientist and a certified senior ecologist. I'm  
20 commenting as a knowledgeable and confirmed scientist and a  
21 citizen of the U.S. and of the State of Texas and as a fifth  
22 generation native Tex- -- Texan. I have no conflict of  
23 interest whatsoever in commenting on this.

24 Unlike many others, the assertion that Cape  
25 Canaveral was more environmentally sensitive than Boca Chica is

1 ridiculous. There's a long list of threatened, endangered  
2 species that occur at Boca Chica, including ocelot, jaguarundi,  
3 piping plover, aplomado falcon, and several sea turtle species.  
4 Not to -- at Cape -- Cape Canaveral SpaceX could not get away  
5 with its unlawful abuses of power affecting local users and the  
6 local community that they have at Boca Chica. It is not Cape  
7 Canaveral, it's one of the most unique and productive coastal  
8 habitats in -- in the United States. It's -- it was extremely  
9 isolated until SpaceX showed up.

10           How SpaceX got authorized permitting to set up  
11 its initial operations in that particular location is beyond  
12 me. It (audio distortion) outrageous that SpaceX was ever  
13 allowed to locate there, and it certainly should not be allowed  
14 to expand. SpaceX was not honest with us about what it was  
15 doing there, it has much grander plans than it has ever  
16 disclosed. Purpose and need of the FEA, I'd like to add that  
17 -- or recommend that FAA make sure that it checks that it is in  
18 fact U.S. policy, an FAA policy to colonize Mars and the Moon.  
19 That's imbedded in the purpose and needs statement of this EA.  
20 It's pretty ridiculous to me. It sounds like SpaceX maybe is  
21 trying to promote the creation of the idea that this is U.S.  
22 policy. The proposed action will have significant  
23 environmental impacts.

24           So this Draft PEA does not meet the  
25 requirements. If the FAA does not produce an EIS, the agency

1 should be sued for administrative relief. If FAA persists in  
2 its assertions that impacts --

3 MS. PIGGOTT: Thirty seconds.

4 MR. TEAGUE: -- are not significant cause they  
5 will be mitigated, then the -- the FAA must identify, describe  
6 and formally commit to the specific litigation proposed to  
7 avoid having significant impact. This is a matter of NEPA case  
8 law. Ignore it at your own peril.

9 I'll stop there. I got lots more. This is a  
10 terrible project, horrible.

11 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments

12 Our next five speakers are Frank Paynter, Alex  
13 Munoz, Richard Barnard, Heulyn Gamble, and Emma Guevara.  
14 Frank, I'm going to ask you to unmute.

15 MR. PAYNTER: Okay. Hear me okay?

16 MS. PIGGOTT: Yep, go ahead. You have three  
17 minutes.

18 MR. PAYNTER: Thank you. Thank you for allowing  
19 me to comment today. My name is Frank Paynter. I earned -- I  
20 hold -- earned master and doctorate degrees in electromagnetic  
21 theory, and I worked as a research scientist at the Ohio State  
22 University before retiring in 2010. Having grown up in  
23 Florida, I had the unique experience -- experience of watching  
24 Army tanks drive south on 1 -- A1A during the Cuban Missile  
25 Crisis and watching Saturn V rockets lift off from Cape

1 Canaveral toward the last successful moon shots. In the  
2 ensuing decades, I have watched our nation turn away from  
3 booming space exploration in favor of amorphous social  
4 programs.

5           With respect to the proposed FAA environmental  
6 assessment, I would like to make two points. First, I would  
7 like to note that Cape Canaveral has existed as a space launch  
8 site since 1949 and that more than 70 years of space flight  
9 operations to date, there have been no major environmental  
10 disruptions. Surely this gives ample evidence that launch  
11 facilities and local environments can co-exist peacefully,  
12 especially since the Cape Canaveral environments are much more  
13 heavily populated than the Boca Chica site.

14           Secondly, I would like to point out that  
15 humanity is now in a much more important race than the race --  
16 than the space race of my generation. The race for existence  
17 as a species, although highly unlikely on a year-to-year basis,  
18 the probability of a humanity ending -- ending asteroid strike  
19 at some unknowable point in the future is 100 percent certain.  
20 The only possible defense against a planet killer asteroid  
21 strike is to have a robust, deep space travel capability,  
22 exactly the capability being developed right now at Boca Chica.  
23 It would be the height of irony if an adverse environmental  
24 assessment ruling instead intended to prevent low probability  
25 wildlife extinctions at Boca Chica instead contributed

1 materially to the distinction of the entire human species,  
2 along with all those other species we thought we were  
3 protecting.

4           Moreover, if we were a multiplanetary species  
5 when that happens, and it will, then even if we aren't able to  
6 avert the catastrophe, we can be -- bring humanity and all  
7 those other species back to life, back on Earth after a century  
8 or so, surely a goal worth promoting.

9           Thank you for your time.

10           MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

11           Okay, our next speaker is Alex Munoz. Alex, if  
12 you're on the call perhaps under a different name, please raise  
13 your hand so I can identify you.

14           (No audible or visible response.)

15           MS. PIGGOTT: Okay, our next speaker is Richard  
16 Barnard. Richard, I'm going to ask you to unmute.

17           (No audible or visible response.)

18           MS. PIGGOTT: Richard Barnard.

19           (No audible or visible response.)

20           MS. PIGGOTT: Okay, our next speaker is Heulyn  
21 Gamble. Heulyn, I'm going to ask you to unmute.

22           MR. GAMBLE: Hi, there.

23           MS. PIGGOTT: Go ahead, you have three minutes.

24           MR. GAMBLE: Hi, thank you so much. I first  
25 want to pay my respect to the FAA for their oversight. As a

1 pilot and flight instructor, I have tremendous respect for what  
2 they do on a day-to-day basis. I've listened very closely to  
3 comments supporting and opposing SpaceX and their Super  
4 Heavy/Starship program, and while I -- I completely stand with  
5 those who support the project, I also want to emphasize concern  
6 for those who have legitimate opposing views.

7 I want to make one concern known to everyone  
8 here. SpaceX is currently in fierce competition with several  
9 private companies who will do anything possible to delay  
10 SpaceX, as they have a significant, technological lead on the  
11 competition. And while the majority of those opposing the  
12 project today sound legitimate, one or two have stood out to me  
13 as potentially having ulterior motives for wanting to delay the  
14 project.

15 I will leave it there. Thank you so much.

16 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

17 Okay, our next speaker is Emma Guevara, who I'm  
18 not seeing on the Zoom; followed by Stephanie Taylor. If --  
19 Stephanie, if would you, please, raise your hand so I can  
20 identify you.

21 (No audible or visible response.)

22 MS. PIGGOTT: Stephanie Taylor.

23 (No audible or visible response.)

24 MS. PIGGOTT: Okay. Mitchell Maxie (ph. sp.),  
25 I'm going to ask you to unmute.

1 (No audible or visible response.)

2 MS. PIGGOTT: Mitchell Maxie.

3 MR. MAXIE: Yes, can you hear me?

4 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, go ahead. You have three  
5 minutes.

6 MR. MAXIE: Yes, I would like to speak in favor  
7 of SpaceX's operations for Super Heavy. I also would like to  
8 reiterate the -- the last person. I mean, there's several  
9 people, but a few callers back someone said that it would be  
10 ironic that an environmental review like this would stop  
11 something like Space -- SpaceX, a Super Heavy being implemented  
12 here, and I'd like to share that sentiment as well.

13 You know, we have an opportunity to look beyond  
14 the small environmental impact that is a few -- a few bangs and  
15 a few booms, and we should look beyond to a bigger bang and a  
16 bigger boom that might happen here on Earth. And I think  
17 planning ahead and making the idea possible for us to become a  
18 multiplanet species is a huge concern and a valid concern and I  
19 think we should actually instill ourselves to support these  
20 efforts.

21 Yeah, thank you so much.

22 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

23 Okay, our next speaker is Kyle Denny. Kyle, I'm  
24 going to ask you to unmute, and I've posted the remaining  
25 speakers in the chat box, which are Kyle Denny, Bill Wilson,

1 Gail Alfar, and Nicholas Andritch.

2 Kyle, I'm going to ask you to unmute.

3 MR. DENNY: Hello, can you hear me?

4 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, go ahead. You have three  
5 minutes.

6 MR. DENNY: All righty. Hello, my name is Kyle.  
7 I have a degree in physics and astronomy. Now, I'm not a  
8 local, I'm representing myself, but I happen to have grown up  
9 around Cape Canaveral, and I can speak to my experiences  
10 growing up around space flight activities and can speak to the  
11 impact that these can cause.

12 Now, the Saturn V, the Shuttle, and the Falcon  
13 rockets all riled around the area, no significant environmental  
14 impact despite being so loud that it can shake your chest,  
15 excuse me. The Shuttle riled the entire state with similar  
16 sonic booms on reentry from 1984 to 2011. No significant  
17 impacts were caused to either wildlife or day-to-day life.  
18 Additionally, Kennedy Space Center exists within a wildlife  
19 refuge, one of the most well-maintaned wildlife refuges in the  
20 State of Florida with an incredible range of protected  
21 wildlife, including bald eagles and endangered sea turtles.

22 Fuel plants also exist at in Cape Canaveral to  
23 store propellant, again, at minimal impact. So long as SpaceX  
24 takes similar measures as to what has been done at Kennedy  
25 Space Center for 60 years, I have no doubt the environmental

1 impacts will be similar, as Super Heavy is only slightly louder  
2 despite being more powerful than the Saturn V or the Space  
3 Shuttle, per the environmental impact reports. SpaceX is  
4 capable of doing this and has expressed desire to do so.  
5 Should SpaceX do this? I believe that this actually could be a  
6 benefit to the environment when compared to the environmental  
7 protection currently in place.

8 I believe the concerns made in this call are  
9 valid. However, they have been exacerbated to the point of  
10 absurdity by a very vocal minority. That's all I have.

11 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

12 Okay, our next speaker is Bill Wilson. Bill,  
13 I'm going to ask you to unmute.

14 MR. WILSON: Hello, can you hear me?

15 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, go ahead. You have three  
16 minutes.

17 MR. WILSON: Hello, yes. Can you hear me?

18 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, go ahead, Bill. You have  
19 three minutes.

20 (No audible or visible response.)

21 MS. PIGGOTT: Bill Wilson, are you there?

22 (No audible or visible response.)

23 MS. PIGGOTT: Okay, Bill, if you're speaking we  
24 now can't hear you. I'm going to ask you to unmute again.

25 (No audible or visible response.)

1 MS. PIGGOTT: Bill, are you there?

2 MR. WILSON: Yes. I'd like to reiterate, the  
3 FAA may be used --

4 MS. PIGGOTT: Bill, Bill, this is the  
5 facilitator, Jennifer Piggott. We couldn't hear you. Go ahead  
6 and restart your comments.

7 MR. WILSON: Oh, sorry.

8 MS. PIGGOTT: Okay, go ahead. You have three  
9 minutes.

10 MR. WILSON: I'm here to express my personal  
11 opinion that the FAA should approve with all haste any --  
12 any document that would help SpaceX build the Starship/Super  
13 Heavy Launch System in Boca Chica Starbase area with a goal of  
14 making humanity a multiplanetary species. Thank you.

15 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

16 Okay, our next speaker is Gail Alfar. Gail, I'm  
17 going to ask you to unmute.

18 (No audible or visible response.)

19 MS. PIGGOTT: Gail, are you there?

20 MS. ALFAR: Yeah, I'm just testing so you could  
21 hear me.

22 MS. PIGGOTT: There we go, we can hear you now.  
23 You have three minutes.

24 MS. ALFAR: Yes, I'm here. Okay, thank you  
25 very, very much. I am a resident of Texas. I have visited

1 Boca Chica Starbase area about five, six times. I'm advocating  
2 that SpaceX be allowed to proceed with -- with their -- with  
3 their Super Heavy rocket and all other rockets in the future.  
4 I feel (audio distortion) an inspiration to kids -- kids in the  
5 Rio Grande Valley. It's an economic stimulus, of course, for  
6 the (audio distortion) of Texas and for the entire United  
7 States (audio distortion), I feel.

8 I feel like the area really needs (audio  
9 distortion) someday becoming spacecraft that will make our  
10 species, our human -- our human species needs to be  
11 multiplanetary. This is an honor. This is not only an honor  
12 that it's happening in our Country but it's happening in my  
13 State of Texas. So I -- it's something that we should be  
14 really, really proud of that it's actually happened in our  
15 lifetimes.

16 So I think that everyone listening, you know,  
17 should listen to my passion. I have five kids of my own and I  
18 know numerous kids. I'm a registered nurse. I work with kids  
19 in schools. I see their eyes light up, and this is -- it's  
20 being enabled through this incredible company SpaceX, so I just  
21 think everyone needs to give this company the max support that  
22 they possibly can.

23 I kind of want to take up the whole three  
24 minutes, not to be greedy, but just (audio distortion) the  
25 people that couldn't (audio distortion) have liked to have

1 talked would want me to just kind of continue for the full  
2 three minutes so I'm going to go on. (Audio distortion)  
3 incredible place --

4 MS. PIGGOTT: Gail, Gail, this is the  
5 facilitator, Jennifer Piggott. We are having difficulty  
6 hearing you, probably every third word --

7 MS. ALFAR: (Audio distortion) was so inspiring  
8 (audio distortion) --

9 MS. PIGGOTT: Thirty seconds.

10 MS. ALFAR: -- (Inaudible).

11 MS. PIGGOTT: Gail, are you still there?

12 (No audible or visible response.)

13 MS. PIGGOTT: Gail, are you still there? If  
14 you're talking, we can no longer hear you.

15 Okay, thank you for your comments. Okay, our  
16 next registered speaker is Andres Agustin Vallejos. Andres,  
17 I'm going to ask you to unmute. Can we restart the timer,  
18 please.

19 MR. VALLEJOS: And can you hear me?

20 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, go ahead. You have three  
21 minutes.

22 MR. VALLEJOS: Okay, thank you. Hi, my name is  
23 Augustin Vallejos. I'm here to talk in favor of SpaceX and the  
24 proposed action. I'm studying systems engineering because  
25 SpaceX inspired me to do that, and I think we need to separate

1 the entire only thing on this planet of the multiplanetary  
2 species thing.

3 We need to think that if a meteor come to Earth  
4 and hit it, there will be the end of the humanity. If we can  
5 become a multiplanetary species, we will have opportunity for  
6 humanity. I'm thinking also on this planet -- on this  
7 beautiful planet. SpaceX have have amazing plans for mitigating  
8 the impacts on the environment -- environment there.

9 In summary, take care of the planet and become a  
10 multiplanetary species must be the top interest for the  
11 humanity. Thank you so much and have a great night.

12 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

13 Okay, ladies and gentlemen, those are all the  
14 speakers I have registered to provide an oral comment this  
15 evening. I see a couple of hands. I'm going to quickly call  
16 on those individuals to see if they want to make an oral  
17 comment before we conclude tonight's meeting.

18 Jeffrey Kervin, I'm going to ask you to unmute.

19 (No audible or visible response.)

20 MS. PIGGOTT: Jeffrey Kervin.

21 (No audible or visible response.)

22 MS. PIGGOTT: Okay, thank you. I see your note.

23 Pedro Vargas, I'm going to ask you to unmute.

24 MR. VARGAS: Hi. Hello, can you hear me?

25 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, go ahead. You have three

1 minutes.

2 MR. VARGAS: Okay. So, my name is Pedro Vargas  
3 and I am an mechanical engineering student at the Federal  
4 University of Rio De Janeiro located in Brazil. I would like  
5 to thank the FAA and SpaceX for allowing me to express my  
6 opinion regarding the environmental assessment for the SpaceX  
7 Starship/Super Heavy Launch Vehicle Program at the SpaceX Boca  
8 Chica launch site.

9 I speak on behalf -- on behalf of myself only.  
10 As an engineering -- as an engineering student and as a space  
11 enthusiast, I think that the possibility of allowing  
12 civilization to be a multiplanetary species is of the utmost  
13 importance. I have followed -- followed and watched in awe  
14 throughout the -- throughout the years many of the achievements  
15 of SpaceX and its engineering team. It is clear that they  
16 represent the best of ingenuity, bravery and dedication. I  
17 believe that this program will allow for SpaceX's mission to be  
18 fulfilled.

19 I would like to ask the FAA to give this process  
20 the due -- due diligence it deserves, as well as to do it in --  
21 as well as to do it in the fastest and safest way possible. I  
22 urge the U.S. regulators to allow this endeavor to continue to  
23 flourish and benefit humanity as a whole. Therefore, I express  
24 my full support for their -- for the SpaceX team in its  
25 operations in Boca Chica. I can't wait to watch Starship and

1 Super Heavy to be launched from Boca Chica, Texas.

2 Thank you, FAA. Thank you, SpaceX.

3 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments. Our  
4 next speak is Emma Guevara. Emma, I'm going ask you to unmute.

5 MS. GUEVARA: Hi. Can you hear me?

6 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, go ahead. You have three  
7 minutes.

8 MS. GUEVARA: Thank you so much. My name is  
9 Emma Guevara. I am a life-long resident of Brownsville, Texas.  
10 I'm also a multigenerational resident of the Brownsville,  
11 Texas.

12 I first off want to start by addressing how  
13 absolutely disgusted I am by the audacity of all of these pro  
14 SpaceX supporters spouting the exact same rhetoric spouted by a  
15 billionaire with nothing but his own interests in mind so that  
16 he can make more money off of his apartheid emeralds. How dare  
17 you?

18 How selfish is it to assume that there is  
19 really no environmental impact and that we are all a bunch of  
20 environmental extremists when you don't even live here, when  
21 you visit here maybe once, when you've lived here for maybe two  
22 years. I don't want to hear it, it's ridiculous. It's  
23 ridiculous.

24 I also want to point out the fact that nobody  
25 has really talked about the people when it comes down to this.

1 We've see a lot about, like, "SpaceX is creating jobs and is  
2 doing great for this community and the community loves it."  
3 That is so far from the truth, so far from the truth, and none  
4 of you could know that because you're not a part of this  
5 community. So how dare you come here and act like you  
6 understand even an iota of what's going on here?

7           And this land, not only is it ancestral and  
8 sacred, it does not belong to us, it belongs to the Carrizo/  
9 Comecrudo Tribe first and foremost, who have not been -- who  
10 have not discussed this at all with the FAA. The FAA refuses  
11 to discuss this, SpaceX refuses to discuss this, LNG refuses to  
12 discuss this. How much more indigenous erasure will you all be  
13 complicit in? You have been sold a lie by a billionaire, a  
14 lie, and you're just repeating a billionaire's lies because you  
15 think it's going to be cool to go to space? How ridiculous.  
16 Are you five?

17           This is not an episode of freaking Star Trek,  
18 this is our lives, this is our home. I can see the explosions  
19 from the rockets from my window, and there is a huge  
20 environmental impact. The last time that there was an  
21 explosion here, they could not clean up our beach, the beach  
22 where I played as a child, the beach where my family has gone  
23 fishing, the beach where thousands of people have used as a  
24 place of recreation, as a place for food, because this is a  
25 low-income community that is majority minority, which nobody

1 has mentioned.

2 This is racial injustice, this is environmental  
3 racism and you are trying to get to us leave our homes. We  
4 have already seen the impacts of --

5 MS. PIGGOTT: Thirty seconds.

6 MS. PIGGOTT: -- gentrification in our  
7 communities. I, myself, have seen my rent raised, and I  
8 just -- I cannot believe the audacity some of you have, and you  
9 need to take a good look at your lives and think about it  
10 because this is ridiculous and you are disgusting neocolonizers  
11 with not even a penny in this race. This has nothing to do  
12 with you. Listen to directly-impacted voices.

13 The FAA needs to, at the very least, do an  
14 environmental impact statement but, at the most, this entire  
15 project should be canceled. I am disgusted and I am angry and  
16 I cannot believe this.

17 MS. PIGGOTT: That's three minutes. Thank you  
18 for your comments.

19 Okay, ladies and gentlemen, we have time for two  
20 more speakers this evening that I have on the list. Yosiel,  
21 Y-O-S-I-E-L, I'm going to ask you to unmute.

22 MR. YOSIEL: Hello, can you hear me?

23 MS. PIGGOTT: Yes, go ahead. You have three  
24 minutes.

25 MR. YOSIEL: Yes, I just want to thank everyone

1 for their time listening to all of this. I -- I can tell  
2 there's a lot of people that are against going to space,  
3 colonizing the Moon and Mars and actually leaving Earth. And I  
4 believe it's not just because of where it's being built or how  
5 it's being built, but the fact that a lot of these people are  
6 closed-minded. From what I can tell, they -- they just don't  
7 have the -- the capacity, mentally, to foresee us leaving this  
8 planet.

9 I believe a lot of these people are scared, I  
10 believe that we shouldn't be, and that boldly, we should go out  
11 into space. Texas is the perfect location for this due to the  
12 fact that we have so much area around us. This country is so  
13 huge that the people that don't want to live there, I would  
14 suggest moving because we're going to space, whether you like  
15 it or not. I -- I hate to say it like this, but it's the  
16 truth, we're going out there, we're going to live among the  
17 stars. And I -- I truly feel bad for those that can't foresee  
18 a better future for -- for humanity, a better -- just a -- what  
19 I would like to say is just a better overall community because  
20 if we can get behind something so big like this and actually  
21 put it together, there's nothing that can stop America, there's  
22 nothing that can stop us.

23 We're one nation under God, indivisible, with  
24 liberty and justice for all, and I believe we're going to get  
25 justice on all those martians up there that owe us that land.

1 Thank you.

2 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for that comment.

3 Okay, our next and final speaker this evening is  
4 David. David, I'm going to ask you to unmute. Please state  
5 your full name for the record.

6 MR. JOHNSON: Good evening, David Johnson, and  
7 thank you for letting me speak.

8 My comment is SpaceX is a national asset, which  
9 currently provides the only American capability to reach Earth  
10 orbit and the International Space Station. Starbase and  
11 Starship represent moving forward with space technology;  
12 reducing environmental impacts through asset reuse, as opposed  
13 to dropping them in the ocean, which used to happen; also,  
14 substantial job creation; substantial technology creation;  
15 widespread economic benefit, both locally and nationally; and  
16 finally, the opportunity to reach new levels of space travel,  
17 space tourism, space industry, making, hopefully in the future,  
18 less pollution on Earth by moving it off Earth and ultimately  
19 sustainable space residency.

20 I fully support SpaceX's mission and efforts and  
21 request the FAA to issue SpaceX a vehicle operator license from  
22 the Office of Commercial Space Transportation so that they can  
23 operate Spaceship (sic) Starship/Super Heavy Launch Vehicle  
24 with all due speed. Thank you very much.

25 MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comment. And,

1 folks, my apologies, I skipped someone. We will hear from one  
2 more commenter this evening. Jessica Tetreau, I'm going to ask  
3 you to unmute.

4 MS. TETREAU: Hi, good evening, it's Jessica  
5 Tetreau, City Commissioner from Brownsville, TX. How is  
6 everyone doing tonight?

7 I thank you so much for allowing me to speak  
8 tonight. I have worked on this project for the last ten years.  
9 You know, I get so emotional hearing some of these comments.  
10 I've served the City of Brownsville for the last ten years.  
11 Back in 2013, the Brownsville area was named the poorest  
12 community in the entire nation of the United States. That's  
13 not something that I say lightly. And that year, Elon Musk  
14 chose our community to be the next home of his SpaceX  
15 operation, and very, very quickly after setting up shop, this  
16 area went from being one of the poorest areas, most looked down  
17 on in the entire nation, to being -- give me a second, this  
18 makes me very emotional.

19 We're no longer in that position. We are now  
20 one of the most sought-after zip codes to live and raise your  
21 children in, and it -- I don't just ask you, I beg you to give  
22 them that permit. There are so many people here in the  
23 Brownsville area who have benefited from this project coming to  
24 our area. SpaceX has been so immensely generous to our  
25 students. Just this weekend, they all came out in buses with

1 posters to thank Mr. Musk for his generosity to the community.

2           So, yes, there are people who don't understand  
3 and appreciate this project, but I beg you, on behalf of those  
4 students, on behalf of everybody here in our community who  
5 relies on them for work, you know, they employ over 2,000 local  
6 people. On behalf of them, I ask you, I beg you, please give  
7 them that permit, we need it. Thank you.

8           MS. PIGGOTT: Thank you for your comments.

9           Ladies and gentlemen, we apologize that time has  
10 run out before some of you had an opportunity to provide your  
11 oral comments. Please remember that all comments, whether  
12 submitted orally, electronically or in writing will receive  
13 equal consideration. You also have an opportunity to register  
14 for the second public hearing this coming Wednesday, and you  
15 can provide an oral comment during that meeting.

16           Please submit your comments electronically via  
17 the project e-mail at SpaceXBocaChica@icf.com, or you can mail  
18 your comments to Ms. Stacey Zee, SpaceX PEA, c/o ICF, 9300 Lee  
19 Highway, Fairfax, VA 22031. Before including your address,  
20 phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying  
21 information in your comment, be advised that your entire  
22 comment, including your personal identifying information, may  
23 be publicly available at any time. To ensure the FAA has  
24 sufficient time to consider public input, comments must be  
25 submitted by November 1st, 2020 (sic).

1                   Ladies and gentlemen, thank you so much for your  
2 attendance. This hearing is adjourned.

3                   (Hearing adjourned at 8:38 p.m.)  
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

THE STATE OF TEXAS )

COUNTY OF HIDALGO )

I, Mary Buitron, Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Texas, do hereby certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the foregoing proceedings by Zoom Videoconference, and that the transcript is a true and complete record of my stenographic notes.

I further certify that I am not a relative, employee, attorney, or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties' attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

DATED this 31st day of October, 2021, in Hidalgo County, Texas.

  
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