

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of September 23, 1999

Location: Commission Officer
The Bourse Building, 8th Floor
111 S. Independence Mall, East
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Membership Present

Representative

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs	(not represented)
New Jersey Department of Transportation	William S. Beetle
Governor of New Jersey's Appointee	Jerrold D. Colton
Governor of Pennsylvania's Appointee	Timothy Carson
Pennsylvania Governor's Policy Office	Ronald K. Bednar
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	Thomas TenEyck
Bucks County	Charles H. Martin
Chester County	Colin A. Hanna
Delaware County	Thomas P. Shaffer
Montgomery County	Kenneth Hughes
Burlington County	Carol Ann Thomas
Camden County	Gail Elbert
Gloucester County	Charles Romick
Mercer County	(not represented)
City of Chester	(not represented)

City of Philadelphia	Larry Wilson
City of Camden	(not represented)
City of Trenton	(not represented)
<u>Non-Voting Members</u>	
Federal Highway Administration New Jersey Division	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Division	Spencer Stevens
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Region III	(not represented)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III	(not represented)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II	(not represented)
New Jersey Office of State Planning	(not represented)
Federal Transit Administration, Region III	John Garrity
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority	Christopher Patton
New Jersey Transit Corporation	Brent Barnes
Port Authority Transit Corporation	(not represented)
Delaware River Port Authority	(not represented)
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	(not represented)
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development	(not represented)
Regional Citizens Committee Chairman	Dennis Winters

DVRPC Co-Counsel

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel
New Jersey Co-Counsel

Kenneth Zielonis
(not represented)

DVRPC Staff: John J. Coscia, John B. Claffey, Barry Seymour, William Greene, Donald Shanis, Thabet Zakaria, Richard Bickel, Charles Dougherty, Thomas McGovern, and Jean McKinney.

Guests

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Robert Hannigan
Greg Brown (Dist. 6-0)

New Jersey Department of Transportation

Jerry Mooney
Al Prant

New Jersey Governor's Authorities Unit

Eileen Schlindween

Bucks County

Lynn Bush

Chester County

William Fulton

City of Philadelphia

Denise L. Goren

Federal Highway Administration

James Asirifi

Cross County Connection TMA

William J. Ragozine

Eddie R. Battle Associates, Inc.

Eddie R. Battle

Call to Order

Chairman Jerrold D. Colton called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m.

Vice Chairman Charles H. Martin introduced to the Board Lynn Bush, the new Bucks County Planning Director.

Chairman Colton presented Denise L. Goren, former City of Philadelphia representative, with a gift for over 15 years of outstanding contributions and dedicated service to the region as a member of the DVRPC Board.

Ms. Goren expressed her thanks and appreciation to the DVRPC Board.

Public Comments

Comments from the public were invited to be heard on non-agenda items. No comments were stated.

1. Minutes of Meeting of July 22, 1999

On a **motion** by Mr. Beetle, seconded by Mr. Hanna the minutes of the meeting of July 22, 1999 were approved as distributed.

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment

John B. Claffey, DVRPC staff, briefed the Board on the following TIP Amendment:

Pennsylvania Section of TIP

a. Amendment 9920 - Recreational Trails Program (PennDOT)

The TEA-21 Recreational Trails Program provides funds to develop and maintain recreational trails for motorized and non-motorized recreational trail users. Five projects from this region, totaling \$611,524, have been selected for implementation in FY 2000 by the Commonwealth's Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, in conjunction with the Recreational Trails Board. PennDOT has requested that the following projects be added to the TIP as required by TEA-21:

- (1) Bucks County Department of Parks and Recreation
Silver Lake Nature Center Trail System - Replace Boardwalks and Signing
(\$195,000 total cost - \$145,000 federal, \$50,000 local)
- (2) Towamencin Township (Montgomery County)
Fischer's Park Trail Restoration
(\$144,752 total cost - \$111,000 federal, \$33,752 local)
- (3) Bucks County Horse Park, Inc.
Yellow Trail - Resurface Six Miles of Trail
(\$32,800 total cost - \$20,000 federal, \$12,800 local)
- (4) Fairmount Park Commission (City of Philadelphia)
Pennypack Recreational Trail Improvements
(\$194,700 total cost - \$140,000 federal, \$54,700 local)

- (5) Montgomery County
Pennypack Connector Trail and Adjoining Universal Accessible Trail
Rehabilitation and Protection
(\$44,272 total cost - \$30,000 federal, \$14,272 local)

There will be no impact on financial constraint. The federal funds are earmarked for these projects in TEA-21 under the Recreational Trails Program.

These projects are exempt from the regional air quality conformity analysis.

Favorable recommendation was received from the Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee (PCC/RTC) and the Regional Citizens Committee (RCC).

After discussion the Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Hanna, seconded by Mr. Hughes; that the Board approve Amendment 9920 PennDOT's request to amend the FY 1999-2002 TIP to include a package of five Recreational Trail projects using federal funds earmarked from the Recreational Trails Program.

3. DVRPC's Annual Self Certification of the Regional Transportation Planning Process

Mr. Claffey briefed the Board and explained that the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) Metropolitan Planning Requirements requires that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) annually certify to the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration that its transportation planning process is addressing the major issues facing the area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements.

Rulemaking for the new TEA-21 has not been developed as of this date, but it is presumed that the Annual Self Certification requirements remain the same.

Specific requirements that must be addressed and DVRPC's conformity with these requirements is outlined below.

1. Improvements to the transportation system in the region have been the result of continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive planning process carried out by state and local officials.

2. The transportation planning process, including the adoption of the TIP, is consistent with the Clean Air Act and is in conformance with the applicable State Implementation Plans.
3. Private citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of transportation agency employees, other affected employee representatives, private providers of transportation, and other interested parties were provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the TIP and planning process.
4. The TIP includes a financial plan that demonstrates how the TIP can be implemented, indicates resources from both public and private sources that are reasonably expected to be available, and recommends innovative financing techniques.
5. DVRPC's planning process is administered in accordance with FTA Circular 4702.1, Title VI, and DVRPC employment practices comply with FTA Circular 4704, Equal Employment Opportunity Guidelines for Grant Recipients.
6. DVRPC's programs are conducted consistent with Title 49 CFR Part 23 as implemented by FTA Circular 4716.1A regarding disadvantaged business enterprise programs.
7. The Region's public transit operators have certified that they are making special efforts to provide transportation services which can be utilized by elderly and disabled persons.

Favorable recommendation was received from the PCC/RTC to adopt the DVRPC Self Certification resolution.

The RCC recommended that the Board adopt the DVRPC Self Certification resolution. However, the RCC wants the Board to be aware of its concern that the public participation process has become increasingly exclusionary, particularly in the areas of Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) and Transportation Enhancements. DVRPC needs to increase the size of stakeholder groups in these areas.

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Beetle; that the Board adopt Resolution B-FY00-005 (copy attached) certifying that the DVRPC transportation planning process is in conformance with federal regulations implementing TEA-21, the Clean Air Act Amendments, and other federal legislation.

4. Regional Citizens Committee Report

Dennis Winters, RCC Chairman, reported on the activities of the RCC meeting of September 14, 1999 as follows.

- a. Coalition Against Bigger Trucks (CABT) - The RCC had heard a presentation from CABT earlier in the year. Representatives of CABT are focusing on this region again as a means of countering the trucking lobby to lift a state freeze on double and triple trailers particularly on I-95. The RCC recommends that the DVRPC Board hear a presentation from CABT on this issue.

John J. Coscia, Executive Director, responded that staff would contact a representative from CABT to give a presentation to the Board.

- b. US 202 Bus Service Endorsement - Illy Sobel, RCC member, has been working to incorporate bus service along US 202 as a means of proving that transit alternatives can work along busy highway corridors. The RCC endorses the concept of enhancing bus service along the US 202 corridor, including service across the Pennsylvania/Delaware state line, in order to prove the viability of this service for other highway corridors in the region. The RCC encourages the DVRPC Board to endorse this concept as well.
- c. PENNVEST Request for East Rockhill Township, Bucks County - This request was approved by the Board at its June 24, 1999 meeting with two Board members abstaining. The RCC believes that this request is outside the area planned for future growth and not consistent with the regional plan. Therefore, as chairman of the RCC, Mr. Winters has forwarded correspondence to each Board member requesting their voting criteria.
- d. Venice Island - The RCC has written a letter to the Board (distributed to the Board) requesting that DVRPC implement an environmental cost-benefit review policy for land use and development proposed within Flood plains in the Delaware Valley.

Mr. Coscia responded that this request be referred to the Regional Land Use and Development Committee for discussion and recommendation to the Board.

- e. STOP Giveaways to Sports Owners, Inc. - The RCC asks the DVRPC Board to amend the FY 2000 Work Program to study the issue of funding local stadiums on all levels that have regional impact; namely, transportation and land use issues.

Mr. Coscia responded and suggested that the stadium issue be forwarded to the Board Policy Analysis Committee when the new Mayor of Philadelphia is elected. His preference would be to have the City of Philadelphia request DVRPC to perform a regional analysis if and when it is appropriate.

Colin A. Hanna, Chester County, expressed his concern on the issued raised by the CABT. He not only supports their concerns on safety but is also concerned with the impact on the region's infrastructure. He believes that there is a pending legislation on this issue, specifically for I-95, and requested DVRPC staff obtain more information if available.

William S. Beetle, NJDOT, pointed out to the Board that the bigger truck issue on Pennsylvania corridors is a very complex one and that the Policy Analysis Committee should consider all aspects of an overall goods movement analysis before recommending any action to the Board.

Mr. Hanna also commented on the US 202 Bus Service issue. He believes that the US 202 Bus Service which crossed the state line was eliminated because of limited ridership and was not a viable solution in this corridor. Donald Shanis, DVRPC staff, informed the Board that at the most recent US 202 meeting discussions did take place on transit alternatives being considered for that corridor.

5. Financial Guidance Received from PennDOT for the Development of the FY 2001-2004 Pennsylvania TIP

Charles Dougherty, DVRPC staff, explained that the Pennsylvania Planning Partners have begun to develop the FY 2001-2004 Pennsylvania TIP. The re-engineering of the TIP begins with the development of the guidelines for both the programming process and the financial guidance.

Mr. Dougherty pointed out the following documents (distributed to the Board): (1)The Program Guidance developed by the Planning Directors across Pennsylvania which includes the state requirements for the Twelve Year Program and the federal requirements for the four year TIP, and (2) the Final Schedule for Developing and Approving the 2001 Transportation Program.

Mr. Dougherty also called the Board's attention to two tables (distributed to the Board) Appendix 2 - Highway/Bridge Base Funding Allocations for 2001-2004 and Appendix 3 - Additional Highway Funding Available for 2001-2004. These two tables represent a summary of the financial guidance which has been developed and the amount of funding that will be received in each Pennsylvania region.

6. **Pennsylvania State Transportation Commission (STC) - 2001 Transportation Program Public Hearings**

Mr. Coscia announced that the Pennsylvania STC will hold public hearings with their planning partners at seven locations throughout the Commonwealth. The hearing for the DVRPC region is scheduled for **Friday, October 15, 1999**. A memo defining that day's schedule for each Pennsylvania county and the *Guidelines for Public Participation* brochure was distributed to the Board. Mr. Coscia suggested that each county have one representative present a package of priority projects to the STC. This concept was very well received at the 1998 STC public hearings.

8. **Development of the DVRPC FY 2001 Work Program**

Mr. Coscia briefed the Board on the Board DVRPC FY 2001 Work Program meeting which took place prior to the September 23, 1999 Board Meeting. Presented at that meeting was the Work Program schedule, a briefing on the current years' Work Program, and a briefing on the priority themes or emphasis areas that are included in the present years' Work Program. Nine priority themes for next year (FY 2001) include: long range plan, corridor studies, public outreach and coalition building, public transportation, transportation and land use, transportation and economic development, intelligent transportation systems, data and technical assistance, and regional GIS and aerial photographs.

Also discussed was the funding assumptions for FY 2001. An approximate 3-1/2% increase over the current year is anticipated.

A letter has been received from PennDOT outlining their priority projects. Mr. Coscia encouraged the remaining counties and operating agencies to submit their priority projects to DVRPC no later than September 30, 1999.

The next meeting of the Board Work Program Committee is scheduled to take place on **October 28, 1999** at 9:30 a.m. prior to the Board's regular meeting.

8. **DVRPC Competitive Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Program**

Mr. Dougherty explained to the Board that the current Pennsylvania TIP includes a Competitive CMAQ Program. A DVRPC Media Release on August 16, 1999 encouraged Public agencies, incorporated private firms and non-profit entities to apply for a share of the \$30 million in Federal funds for projects that contribute to the attainment of the national Clean Air Act standards by reducing emissions from highway sources. Two rounds of competition are planned. The first cycle of

competition is for projects that are able to launch later in FY 2000, which begins October 1, 1999. DVRPC will accept applications for the first round from **August 23, 1999** through **October 22, 1999**.

Mr. Dougherty stated that DVRPC has produced *A Guide for Applying for CMAQ Funds* and a detailed CMAQ Project Application Form. This information can be obtained from DVRPC and on the Internet at www.dvrpc.org.

Two public information sessions were held on September 8, 1999 and September 9, 1999 to answer questions and provide details about the application process.

Mr. Coscia urged the county representatives to review and evaluate their counties CMAQ applications and assist DVRPC with sorting out priority projects which can be implemented quickly.

9. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Coscia reported on the following:

- a. *Regional Intergovernmental Transportation Coordinating Study Commission Meeting of September 8, 1999*

Mr. Coscia called the Board's attention to the letter from Alex DeCroce, Deputy Speaker, New Jersey General Assembly (distributed to the Board). The letter states that Ridgeley P. Ware has been appointed to membership on the Regional Intergovernmental Transportation Coordinating Study Commission. (Study Commission). Mr. Coscia has been designated as the alternate. The Study Commission is comprised of 18 members and its purpose, stated in the attachment to the letter, is very broad. However, at the present time, the New Jersey State Legislation permitting transportation development districts has not been successful and this seems to be the Study Commission's main focus. The Board will be briefed each month on the progress of the Study Commission.

- b. NJDOT Planning Partners Meeting, September 21, 1999

Mr. Coscia briefed the Board on the NJDOT Planning Partners Meeting. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Beetle, NJDOT, and the following items were discussed: (1) TEA-21 issues, (2) management systems, (3) corridor planning in New Jersey, and (4) the state transportation planning process. Also discussed was the goods movement and a comprehensive truck survey.

- c. DVRPC Board Retreat, **December 3, 1999** at the Springfield County Club, Springfield, PA (Delaware County)

Mr. Coscia announced that the DVRPC Board Retreat is scheduled for December 3, 1999 in Delaware County. He encouraged the Board members to mark the date on their calendars.

Mr. Coscia solicited recommendations from the Board for topics and speakers for the Retreat. Mr. Beetle suggested Michael Gallis, Michael Gallis Associates, Charlotte, North Carolina. Mr. Beetle attended a conference in which Mr. Gallis presented to the audience the relationship of our economy and the world economy and how we can build on each others strengths.

Mr. Hanna suggested obtaining David Rusk, former Mayor of Albuquerque, and author of *Cities Without Suburbs* and *Inside Game, Outside Game*.

d. PennDOT FY 1999 TIP Report Card October 1, 1998 through July 31, 1999

Mr. Coscia reported that a total of \$259.192 million in federal and state highway and bridge funds has been obligated/encumbered for the Delaware Valley region from October 1, 1998 through July 31, 1999. Of this amount, \$249.802 million has been committed against the base target, representing 85% of the target. The remaining \$9.39 million has been committed against the available "additional funds." A breakdown of the obligated projects was distributed to the Board.

10. DVRPC Year 2025 Plan Release of Report #1: *The Shape of Things to Come*

Richard Bickel, DVRPC staff, briefed the Board on DVRPC's Year 2025 Plan entitled *Horizons*. Mr. Bickel explained that the Year 2025 Plan is an effort to update and refine the Year 2020 Plan. There will be five plan reports issued in a tabloid format. The reports will be designed to be more citizen-oriented. Public involvement will include opinion surveys, information on the DVRPC website, newsletter updates, community charrettes and public meetings. A December 2000 adoption is anticipated for the entire Year 2025 Plan.

Mr. Bickel discussed the community workshops (charrettes) being hosted by DVRPC scheduled for October 28 at the Park Ridge Hotel in King of Prussia, PA; November 4 at Rowan College in Glassboro, NJ; November 9 at the International House in Philadelphia; and one to be set up for Burlington/Mercer counties. The workshops are scheduled from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and will allow time for the public to focus on the issues, options, and challenges of the Year 2025 Plan.

Mr. Bickel provided an overview of the first report entitled *The Shape of Things to Come* (distributed to the Board). He pointed out some of the reports' contents as follows: (1) explanation of DVRPC's role and why we have a Plan, (2) summary of

the 2020 Plan, (3) current regional trends and (4) Year 2025 population and employment forecasts.

Mr. Bickel also provided an overview of the key concepts from the Year 2020 Plan being refined for the Year 2025 Plan. They include: (1) shaping the regional growth boundaries, (2) recentralizing growth and encouraging revitalization in our core cities, (3) focusing growth within and around regional, county and local centers, (4) identifying key transportation corridors, (5) modernizing and managing our existing transportation system, and (6) planning for the region's other transportation needs.

The second Report entitled *Issues and Choices* will be distributed at the December 3, 1999 Board Retreat. Following in the Year 2000 will be *The Regional Land Use Plan* and *The Regional Transportation Plan*. The last report, *Expanding Our Horizons*, will examine implementation of the plan.

11. **Committee Reports**

a. Planning Coordinating Committee/Regional Transportation Committee

The items in the PCC/RTC report (distributed to the Board) were previously reported under the appropriate agenda items.

b. Information Resources Exchange Group (IREG)

The Highlights of the IREG meeting of September 8, 1999 were distributed to the Board.

c. Regional Land Use and Development Committee

Mr. Seymour briefed the Board on the first meeting of the newly formed Regional Land Use and Development Committee. He stated that the meeting was well attended with an excellent mix of county planners, developers, environmentalists, regulators, etc. The committee will continue to meet to discuss issues of land use, legislation, and related subjects.

d. Regional Citizens Committee (RCC)

The items in the RCC report (distributed to the Board) were previously reported under the appropriate agenda items.

e. Regional Aviation Committee (RAC)

Roger Moog, DVRPC staff, briefed the Board on the RAC meeting of September 10, 1999. He explained that environmental clearances for the two

new terminals and access roads have been received for the Philadelphia International Airport improvements. However, suburban airports have been met with much opposition from citizens for any development or expansion. In particular, Wings Airport owners have initiated a law suit against Whippain Township, Montgomery County and PennDOT. The basis of this suit is to overturn state law P.S. 2210 as unconstitutional, which places additional criteria on airports who wish to apply for federal or state capital improvement grants in Montgomery County. The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association

(AOPA), together with other national aviation groups, have initiated an amicus brief. DVRPC, because of its planning support for Wings, has been asked to participate in the brief.

The RAC and staff did recommend that the Board authorize DVRPC to participate in the amicus brief to overturn legislation P.S. 2210.

The following **motion** was made:

MOTION by Mr. Hanna, seconded by Mr. Hughes, that the Board participate in the amicus brief opposing legislation P.S. 2210.

PennDOT and several Board members were concerned as to DVRPC's role in the brief and felt uncomfortable taking action on the motion. Concern from the RCC was also expressed. Accordingly, it was suggested that the RAC, work with PennDOT's Deputy Secretary and DVRPC's Pennsylvania Co-Counsel to acquire a better understanding of what DVRPC's involvement would entail.

The Board unanimously adopted the following **motion**:

MOTION by Mr. TenEyck, seconded by Mr. Martin that the Board postpone action until the October 28, 1999 Board on its position to overturn legislation P.S. 2210.

Mr. Coscia pointed out two items (distributed to the Board) as follows: (1) a letter from Edward G. Rendell to Bradley L. Mallory with reference to the Transportation Enhancement Project Selection, and (2) the *Pennsylvania Highway Statistics*, July 1999 Brochure.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was stated.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was stated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Attachments:

- (1) PCC/RTC Recommendations to the Board for September 23, 1999
- (2) RCC Recommendations to the Board for September 23, 1999
- (3) Resolution Numbers: B-FY00-005

Additional Documents distributed to the Board:

- (1) *Freight Lines*, September 1999
- (2) *TravelSmart*, September 15, 1999
- (3) *Ramp Meters - Signaling New Travel on I-476* Brochure
- (4) *It's Up to You to Keep New Jersey Moving* Brochure
- (5) *NARC Regional Reporter* August, 1999

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	Thomas TenEyck
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New Jersey Counties	Charles Romick
City of Philadelphia	Larry Wilson
City of Camden	(not represented)

DVRPC Counsel

Pennsylvania Co-Counsel	Kenneth Zielonis
New Jersey Co-Counsel	(not represented)

DVRPC Staff: John J. Coscia, John B. Claffey, Barry Seymour, William Greene, Donald Shanis, Thabet Zakaria, Richard Bickel, Charles Dougherty, Thomas McGovern, and Jean McKinney.

Guests

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Regional Citizens Committee Chairman	Dennis Winters
Cross County Connection TMA	William J. Ragozine
Eddie R. Battle Associates, Inc.	Eddie R. Battle

Call to Order

Chairman Jerrold D. Colton the meeting to order at 12:25 p.m.

1. **Minutes of Meeting of September 23, 1999**

On a **Motion** by Mr. Carson, seconded by Mr. Martin; the minutes of September 23, 1999 were approved as distributed.

2. **Contract Authorization: Household Travel for the Nine County Delaware Valley Region and for the Counties of Cape May, Atlantic, Salem, and Cumberland in Southern New Jersey**

Mr. Coscia explained that DVRPC is conducting a weekday household travel survey to obtain information on work and non-work trip generation, trip distribution, modal choice; and gather information on average vehicle occupancy and transportation smart moves. Updated household travel information is essential for all transportation projects, such as intelligent transport systems, high occupancy vehicle, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian studies; welfare-to-work programs, air quality analyses, travel forecasts, highway and transit feasibility studies, parking studies, land use planning, and development of traffic control strategies. The last surveys gathering this type of information were conducted in the mid 1980s.

The total cost is \$676,687, consultant's work will be done in phases over a 27 month period between October 1999 thru December 2001. If additional funding is available a weekend survey will be conducted by the same consultant for approximately \$87,097 in New Jersey only. Currently \$164,250 is available in Pennsylvania PL and SMLF and \$395,000 is available in State of New Jersey funds.

The Board unanimously adopted the following motion:

MOTION by Mr. Beetle, seconded by Ms. Thomas that the Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into, negotiate and execute a contract with NuStats Research and Consulting of Austin, Texas to create, implement and supply data gathered from a Household Travel Survey of the Delaware Valley Region and Southern New Jersey.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was stated.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Hanna announced that PECO Energy/Unicom merger has been approved. The proposed corporate headquarters would be located in Chicago and the proposed headquarters for the generation division will remain in the Philadelphia region.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.