

10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx

NEW YORK STATE

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Public Comment Hearing

APPLICANT: Greenidge Generation LLC  
590 Plant Road

P.O. Box 187  
Dresden, New York 14441

PERMITS APPLIED FOR:  
Article 19 Air Title V Facility (8-5735-00004/00017)  
Article 19 Title IV (Phase II Acid Rain) (8-5736-  
00004/00017)

DATE: October 13, 2021

TIME: 1:02 p.m. TO 4:29 p.m.

VENUE: WebEx

BEFORE; ALJ LARA OLIVIERI

Reported by Janet Wallravin

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2 APPEARANCES:

3 CHRIS HOGAN  
4 MARIA KATCHMAR  
5 MOLLY MCBRIDE  
6 ANDREA LINTON  
7 EMMA ANTOLAS  
8 JOE BINDER  
9 TIM PANASKI  
10 EMILY THIEL

11

12 SPEAKERS:

13

14 DOUGLAS PADDOCK  
15 ANNA KELLES

16

17 KEN CAMERA  
18 MICHAEL LAUSELL  
19 RICK WILSON  
20 ANTHONY DEL PLATO  
21 STEVE CHURCHILL  
22 RICHARD HARPER  
23 DALE IRWIN  
24 DANIEL RAPAPORT  
25 RACHEL TREICHLER  
ERIC WOOD  
ABI BUDDINGTON

26

27 ELIZABETH MORAN  
28 ROGER DOWNS

29

30 ALEX BEAUCHAMP  
31 DAVID ALICEA

32

33 KIMBERLY BOSTWICK  
34 MARY FINNERAN  
35 IVO ROVEDO  
36 JEFF SCHUMANN  
37 ROBERT CIESIELSKI  
38 MILES MCMANUS  
39 TESSA SAGE FLORES  
40 DAVID KEEGAN  
41 JOHANNA FALLERT  
42 MARK DUNLEA  
43 DENISE KATZMAN

44

45 BRIAN EDEN  
46 MICHAEL DAVIS

47 **ARII@courtsteno.com**

48 TIMOTHY DENNIS  
49 JESS MULLEN

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2           VALDI WEIDERPASS

          ANN LOGAN

3           MAURA STEPHENS

          JOHN ELDER

4           PETER BARDAGLIO

          ANNA SEARS

5           ERIC WELTMAN

          JAMES SMITH

6           KAREN SMITH

          TOM DIADDIGO

7           AMBER RUTHER

          GERRI WILLEY

8

          ANN FINNERAN

          LINDSAY SPEER

9

          WANDA BOEKE

10          CHRIS ANNEAER

          ALLISON CONSIDINE

11          LARRY CAMPBELL

          ELMER EWING

12          MARY THORPE

          JEN METZGER

13          NATALIE POLVERE

          REGI TEASLEY

14          DAVID ETTMAN

          JESSE BEARDSLEE

15

          KRYN CAIL

          MARILYN CROOKER

16

          MIKE COLYER

          RICHARD MAHER

17

          JOHN ELDER

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2                               (The hearing commenced at 1:02 p.m.)

3                           A.L.J. OLIVERI:  -- of Environmental  
4       conservation.  I will be presiding over this public  
5       comment hearing to accept comments on the application  
6       to renew the Title Five and Title Four permits for  
7       the Applicant, Greenidge Generation L.L.C. regarding  
8       their facility Greenidge Station located at 590 Plant  
9       Road in Dresden, New York.

10                       The Department has determined that the  
11       applications to renew the Title Five and Title Four  
12       permits for the Greenidge Generation Station are  
13       complete for the purposes of public review and  
14       comment.  While the Department has made the draft  
15       permits available for public review and comment, the  
16       Department has not made a tentative or final  
17       determination to issue any final permit for this  
18       facility.

19                       The legal notice of the complete  
20       application including the availability of draft  
21       permit -- permits, and the announcement of the  
22       virtual public comment hearings was published on  
23       September 10th, 2021 in the Finger Lakes Times  
24       newspaper.  This public comment hearing is being held  
25       through the Webex electronic webcast platform.

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2                           Assisting me today from the D.E.C.'s  
3           Office of Communication Services are Maria Katchmar,  
4           Emma Antolas and Andrea Linton. You should only have  
5           audio input from one device, otherwise you may  
6           experience issues with feedback. Everyone has been  
7           muted upon entry. If at any time during this hearing  
8           you experience technical issues, you may call five  
9           one eight four zero two eight zero four four. Again,  
10          that number is five one eight four zero two eight  
11          zero four four.

12                        The purpose of today's public comment  
13          hearing is to allow members of the public to comment  
14          on the renewal of the Greenidge Generation Station  
15          Title Five and Title Four permits. Today is not a  
16          question and answer session. The Department has  
17          given an extension for written comments, and they may  
18          now be submitted until November 19th, 2021.

19                        If submitted by email, the written  
20          comments must be sent by November 19th, 2021, and if  
21          mailed, they must be postmarked by November 19th,  
22          2021 in order to be considered by the Department.  
23          Equal weight is given by the Department to both  
24          written and oral comments. For those who are  
25          attending this hearing via the internet, we have the

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2           information for the submission of written comments on  
3           the screen.

4                       For those of you are attending over  
5           the phone, we will read the information off shortly  
6           to you. Anyone who wishes to speak today was  
7           required to register by October 8th, 2021. We will  
8           call on elected officials first and then we will call  
9           on all registered speakers in the order in which they  
10          registered.

11                      Due to the number of people who wish  
12          to speak today, we will limit each speaker to two  
13          minutes to make their comments in order to allow  
14          everyone time to speak. Please be respectful of the  
15          time limit. If you have not completed your comments  
16          after two minutes, we will ask you to conclude. For  
17          those who of you attending over the internet, there  
18          will be a two-minute timer on the screen to help you  
19          keep track of your time.

20                      We will call your name when it is your  
21          turn to speak. At that time, your line will be  
22          unmuted if you have attended over the internet. If  
23          you have attended by phone, when we call your name,  
24          we will ask you to press star three on your telephone  
25          to raise your hand and then we can unmute your line.

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2           Please do not press star three until we have called  
3           your name.

4                       When you make your statement, please  
5           speak loudly, slowly and clearly. All comments today  
6           are being recorded by a court reporter. If we cannot  
7           hear you, there is a concern that we will not have an  
8           accurate record. I will now read the mailing address  
9           for the submission of written comments for those  
10          attending by phone.

11                     The mailing address for the submission  
12          of written comments is New York State D.E.C.,  
13          Division of Environmental Permits, Bureau of Energy  
14          Project Management, at 625 Broadway, Albany, New York  
15          12233-1750 attention Chris Hogan, H-O-G-A-N. Again,  
16          that's New York State D.E.C., Division of  
17          Environmental Permits, Bureau of Energy Project  
18          Management, at 625 Broadway in Albany, New York. The  
19          zip code is 12233-1750, attention Chris Hogan.

20                     The email address for the submission  
21          of written comments is the word comment, C-O-M-M-E-N-  
22          T dot Greenidge Generating 2021 at Greenidge, G-R-E-  
23          E-N-I-D-G-E. The word generating, G-E-N-E-R-A-T-I-N-  
24          G, 2021 at D.E.C. dot N.Y. dot gov. Please state  
25          Greenidge comments in your subject line. Now we will

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2           begin taking public comments. Your line will be  
3           unmuted when it is your turn to speak.

4                       And if, again, if you are attending by  
5           telephone, when you hear your name call, please press  
6           star three on your phone. That will raise your hand  
7           so we know which phone line you are on and we can  
8           unmute your line. We will now begin calling  
9           speakers. I apologize in advance if I mispronounce  
10          anyone's name. Please correct me if I state your  
11          name incorrectly, and then please state it correctly  
12          for the court reporter. And as a reminder, please  
13          speak slowly and clearly for the court reporter --  
14          reporter.

15                      The first speaker today will be  
16          Assembly Member Anna Kelles. Assembly Member Anna  
17          Kelles, you can -- you can speak now. Okay. I will  
18          call the next speaker and we will call Assembly  
19          Member Anna Kelles again when we're done calling the  
20          other electives.

21                      Council Member Ken Camera, are you on  
22          the line? Okay. Chairman Douglas Paddock, are you  
23          on the line? Next, I will call --

24                      MS. KATCHMAR: Judge, I do see Douglas  
25          Paddock on.



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2                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: Okay.

3                   MS. KATCHMAR: But Webex, I'm not  
4           seeing -- if he's a call-in user, he'll have to raise  
5           his hand.

6                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: Okay. Mr. Paddock,  
7           if -- could you please raise your hand by pressing  
8           star three if you're on the phone? Okay. Is anyone  
9           raising their hand?

10                  MS. KATCHMAR: No, not that I'm  
11           seeing.

12                  A.L.J. OLIVERI: Okay. Okay. Is  
13           Legislator Richard Harper on the line? And if you  
14           are on the phone, please press star three.

15                  MS. KATCHMAR: Again, I see that name,  
16           but Webex is not allowing to unmute that line. In  
17           fact, it's not -- wait a minute. I'm not sure if  
18           we're having an actual issue or not with Webex. Hold  
19           on one second. By what? Hold on one second. Hi.  
20           Okay. So we did repair that. Sorry for that delay.  
21           Douglas Paddock is -- should be unmuted right now, if  
22           we could go back.

23                  A.L.J. OLIVERI: Okay.

24                  MS. KATCHMAR: A few are on the line.

25                  MR. PADDOCK: Can you hear me now?

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2 MS. KATCHMAR: Yes, we can.

3 MR. PADDOCK: This sounds like a  
4 Verizon commercial. But yes, I was unable to unmute.  
5 Thank you for doing so. I suspect Mr. Harper has the  
6 same issue that I did, so. I am the Chairman of the  
7 Yates County Legislature, Doug -- Douglas Paddock, P-  
8 A-D-D-O-C-K. Do you want me to start my comments  
9 now?

10 A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes, thank you.

11 MR. PADDOCK: Thank you. Greenidge  
12 supplies electrical power to the grid every day  
13 ensuring that the homes, businesses and governmental  
14 entities depend on electricity have the power they  
15 need. The Greenidge Plant has been in place in the  
16 Town of Torrey since 1937 and burned coal until it  
17 was mothballed in 2011.

18 It was converted to burn natural gas,  
19 and it's been using that fuel since it resumed  
20 operation in 2017. Emissions have been significantly  
21 reduced from 1990 levels. Yesterday the Yates County  
22 Legislature unanimously passed one abstention  
23 resolutions supporting Generation -- Greenidge  
24 Generation L.L.C. stating it is in favor of renewing  
25 the Title Four and Five Air Permits.

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2                           Points stated in the resolution in  
3           part, Greenidge has created and filled forty-five  
4           high paying jobs in Yates County, contribute to  
5           significant amounts of tax revenue to Yates County.  
6           2020 average raise -- raise -- wage at Greenidge was  
7           seventy-seven thousand five hundred sixty-five  
8           dollars.

9                           In 2016, the New York State Department  
10          of Environmental Conservation, the United States  
11          Environmental Protection Agency carefully and  
12          thoroughly reviewed potential impacts of a new  
13          generation and determined there could be no  
14          significant environmental impacts in the generating  
15          plant operating full time, a hundred and six  
16          megawatts of electricity produced.

17                          Greenidge operates the plant in full  
18          compliance with existing air and water permits issued  
19          by New York State Department of Environ --  
20          Environmental Conservation and Greenidge's  
21          cryptocurrency mining operation on site to one  
22          hundred percent carbon flow operation. It's resuming  
23          operation in 2017. Greenidge has made a significant  
24          contribution to economy of Yates County.

25                          Growing tax payments to the Town of

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2           Torrey, Canyon Central School, Yates County  
3           significantly offset real property taxes directly due  
4           to its data processing center. Local tax payments  
5           increased in 2020 by almost three hundred thousand  
6           dollars are anticipated to increase significantly in  
7           further years.

8                         Recent study by Appleseed Incorporated  
9           stated that the estimate Greenidge combined  
10          operations and capital investments of 2020 directly  
11          and indirectly supported one hundred eight jobs in  
12          New York, total earnings of nearly eight point four  
13          million dollars, nearly sixteen point eight million  
14          in statewide.

15                        And in 2020, during the peak of the  
16          COVID-19 am -- pandemic, Greenidge supported over  
17          eighty businesses in New York. As a result of  
18          environmental leadership and positive economic impact  
19          (unintelligible). Certified copy of the resolution  
20          will be forwarded to the D.E.C. Thank you.

21                        A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you. Next, I  
22          will call Assembly Member Anna Kelles.

23                        MS. KELLES: Hi, yes, can you hear me?

24                        A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes, thank you.

25                        MS. KELLES: I -- I am at a

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2           legislative briefing, so I'm multitasking. But I'm  
3           speaking to you today to urge the D.E.C. to reject  
4           Greenidge Generating Stations application for air  
5           permit, and to uphold New York's Climate Leadership  
6           and Community Protection goals. The D.E.C. must  
7           assess the Title Five permit with respect to its use  
8           as a plant that supplies necessary energy to the  
9           grid, not under the new use of excessive highly  
10          polluting crypto mining.

11                       Greenidge Generating Station currently  
12          houses a large proof of work cryptocurrency mining  
13          operation. There are many forms of validation  
14          methods such as proof of work, proof of stake,  
15          authority, proof of space, and many more. Because of  
16          the nature of the engineering design behind proof of  
17          work, it stands alone in the magnitude of energy  
18          required to operate.

19                       No other cryptocurrency transaction  
20          validation method is designed on this competition  
21          model, and therefore they do not require miners or  
22          significant energy demands. The largest  
23          cryptocurrency that is based on the proof of work  
24          validation method uses approximately a hundred and  
25          twenty-eight terawatt hours of energy per year, more

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2           than the global energy -- annual energy consumption  
3           of Amazon, Google and Facebook combined and more than  
4           countries such as Sweden and Chile.

5                       Not only are other cryptocurrency  
6           transaction validation methods such as proof of stake  
7           significantly more energy efficient, they are also  
8           more secure, making the older proof of work  
9           technology unnecessary for a cryptocurrency market to  
10          thrive in New York. The nature of Green -- Greenidge  
11          Generating Station has changed fundamentally from a  
12          facility that intermittently supplies energy to the  
13          grid to one that operates three hundred and sixty-  
14          five days a year with statewide plans to use five  
15          hundred megawatts of energy for proof of work  
16          cryptocurrency mining by 2025.

17                      Here is some critical data. The  
18          current Greenidge air permit allows for up to six  
19          hundred and forty-one thousand eight hundred and  
20          seventy-eight tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.  
21          January 2020, they emitted only twenty-eight thousand  
22          three hundred and one tons. December 2020, they  
23          emitted two hundred and forty-three thousand one  
24          hundred and three tons.

25                      Proposal for up to fifty-five

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2           megawatts of operation will produce five hundred and  
3           fifty-one thousand five hundred and sixty nine tons,  
4           and the company plans to expand across the state to  
5           have five hundred megawatts by 2025. Not only is  
6           this plant that used to -- used to run a few weeks  
7           out of the year, now running three hundred and sixty-  
8           five days per year with a corresponding significant  
9           increase in air pollution, it also pulls in over one  
10          point five million gallons of lake water a day as a  
11          coolant and releases it back into a Class C trout  
12          stream at up to eighty-six degrees in summer and  
13          hundred and eight degrees in winter, significantly  
14          increasing water temperatures in the stream with  
15          concurrent implants on one of the last freshwater  
16          bodies in the country.

17                   Today you will hear from proponents  
18          who will say that cryptocurrency mining is the  
19          solution to climate change. They will argue that  
20          proof of work cryptocurrency mining operations like  
21          Greenidge are willing to invest in renewable energy  
22          technology, and that they will escalate the rate of  
23          progress in the green sector.

24                   Don't be fooled by these promises. If  
25          we are serious about meeting our C.L.C.P.A. goals

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2           here in New York, we must not let P.O.W. mining  
3           expand across our state, especially when there are  
4           far less energy intensive technologies available to  
5           crypto companies. They are using up our natural  
6           resources for free. In the last quarter alone, they  
7           made over forty million dollars.

8                         In the same quarter, Greenidge earned  
9           seven hundred and twenty-nine Bitcoin. They earned  
10          four hundred and forty thousand dollars a day and yet  
11          are only getting three hundred -- three hundred  
12          thousand to the local community edition in 2020 -- in  
13          2020. The equivalent of what they use per day, each  
14          Bitcoin is ninety gallons of gas per day equivalent.  
15          And there are over three hundred and thirty thousand  
16          Bitcoin transactions per day for a total of three --  
17          thirty million gallons of gasoline equivalent per day  
18          used for Bitcoin transactions.

19                        And they are creating an enormous  
20          amount of waste. We cannot afford as a state nor  
21          planet. And I asked again that D.E.C. not approved  
22          this permit, air permit renewal, for the Title Five  
23          permit for Greenidge. Thank you.

24                        A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you Assembly  
25          Member Kelles. The next speaker is Robert Kent



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2 Camera. Is -- Mr. Camera, are you on the line?

3 MR. CAMERA: I'm here. Can you hear  
4 me?

5 A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes, we can. Thank  
6 you.

7 MR. CAMERA: Okay. Thank you for this  
8 opportunity to -- to present the views of the City of  
9 Geneva. I'll just start reading my text. For your -  
10 - just for your information, I'm a City Councilor in  
11 the City of Geneva, and I have a background in energy  
12 policy and utility economics.

13 The City of Geneva and the region's  
14 interests are clear and perennial. As the largest  
15 municipality on Seneca Lake, we are mindful of our  
16 own impact on the health of Seneca Lake as well as  
17 the actions by other operations and communities. The  
18 Finger Lakes including the Seneca Lake watershed is  
19 home to a three billion agricultural and tourist  
20 industry a year that depends on a stable climate.

21 We require a climate that moves  
22 predictably through four normal seasonal cycles and  
23 duration to provide the harvests and the temperatures  
24 to promote our wellbeing and sustains our livelihoods  
25 and business. Anticipated air emissions from the

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2           Greenidge Generation L.L.C. operation at full build  
3           out is an anticipated one million tons of CO per  
4           year, which will promote climate change that will  
5           impact our region and our state economy forever.

6                       At a local level, the heated water has  
7           already destroyed a fish habitat and directly  
8           promotes harmful algal blooms that reach the water's  
9           edge in Geneva. Right below the Isle of New York  
10          sign and logo in our Finger Lakes Welcome Center. As  
11          a City Councilor of the City of Geneva, I was co-  
12          sponsor of our Resolution 17-2021 in support of the  
13          Article Seventy-eight action filed by the committee  
14          to preserve the Finger Lakes, Seneca Lake Guardians,  
15          and which was passed unanimously by the City Council  
16          in our February 21, 2021 meeting.

17                      What about the D.E.C., the New York  
18          State D.E.C., what is the New York State D.E.C.'s  
19          mission? From the website, the D.E.C. says their  
20          mission is to, "to conserve, improve and protect New  
21          York's natural resources and environment and to  
22          prevent -- prevent, abate and control water, land and  
23          air pollution in order to enhance the health, safety  
24          and welfare of the people of the state of New York,  
25          and their overall economic and social wellbeing".

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2                           This sounds like a convergence between  
3           our collected missions, city and the state. We are  
4           grateful to the Commissioner Basil Seggos for  
5           agreeing that the D.E.C. needs to hear from the  
6           public on the matter of cryptocurrency operations,  
7           not only here at the Finger Lakes but around the  
8           state. There is no harm in New York being a leader,  
9           again, in protecting our beautiful land from  
10          environmental degradation, as it did from -- with its  
11          fracking ban five years ago, which most recently was  
12          codified permanently by the New York State  
13          Legislature in its 2021 fiscal budget.

14                        But Greenidge Generation Project is an  
15          industrial operation that is incompatible with dozens  
16          of state and municipal and regional efforts to  
17          protect and care for our lakes. Until now it has  
18          been circumvented (unintelligible) complete and  
19          thorough analysis. In the broadest sense, the New  
20          York D.E.C. Public Service Commission are charged  
21          with balancing the impacts of power plants and  
22          industrial complexes against the societal benefits of  
23          any significant activity.

24                        In the case of grants, its marginal  
25          benefit as an electric grid stabilization component

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2           gave it a legitimate purpose in this balancing act  
3           between public and private goods. And Title Five Air  
4           Permit in this operating mode could be construed as a  
5           reasonable trade off, some air emissions two hundred  
6           thousand tons of greenhouse gas emissions in return  
7           for a reg -- electric grid stabilization.

8                         However, in the case of Greenidge as a  
9           Bitcoin power plant, there is no longer a public  
10          purpose or benefit, and it is no longer needed.  
11          Today, its stated purpose is to provide power for the  
12          purely private peculiarly interest of wealthy private  
13          investors, rich people and greenhouse gas emission  
14          rates exceeding -- expected to exceed a million tons  
15          per year.

16                        In the case of Greenidge Generation  
17          L.L.C. and the other operations of its kind across  
18          New York State, there is no longer a balance at all.  
19          There is no public benefit. Given the fundamental  
20          purpose of the New York State Government, to create  
21          and protect the public good. Permitting of this  
22          project would be the existential stress, exact --  
23          existential threat to its existence by fundamentally  
24          undermining our climate remediation goals.

25                        There is no threat there could be more

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2           substantive or significant. Investment in tax  
3           payments that are being paid -- by the way, the  
4           investment and tax payments that are being paid to  
5           the town and county entities in Yates County are  
6           simply transferable payments that are really bribes  
7           to allow them to damage the rest of the Finger Lakes  
8           to approve these benefits.

9                       Overall, this action still fails a  
10          societal test that encompasses all the communities in  
11          the region and harms the sustainability of the entire  
12          region's economy. Thank you for the time to speak.

13                      A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you for your  
14          statement. Next, I will call County Legislator  
15          Michael Lausell. Michael Lausell, are you on the  
16          line please?

17                      MR. LAUSELL: Hello. Yes.

18                      A.L.J. OLIVERI: Mr. Lausell?

19                      MR. LAUSELL: Yes.

20                      A.L.J. OLIVERI: Hi, thank you.

21                      MR. LAUSELL: Thank you. My name is  
22          Michael Lausell. And I'm a Schuyler County  
23          Legislator. Schuyler County wraps around the  
24          southern end of Seneca Lake. And the legislative  
25          district that I represent, the northern half of the

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2           Town of Hector, includes a sizable portion of the  
3           eastern shore of Seneca Lake.

4                       During the eight years I have served  
5           on the county legislature, the Schuyler County  
6           legislature has been very active in helping to  
7           protect the water quality of Seneca Lake. We  
8           completed a new wastewater treatment plant that  
9           replaced the aging water treatment plants that served  
10          the Villages of Lakin's Glen and Montour Falls.

11                      Schuyler County, along with the Town  
12          of Hector, has joined the Seneca Watershed Inter-  
13          Municipal Organization, an organization that is  
14          completing a nine elements plan that will identify  
15          the contributing factors that are threatening the  
16          quality of the waters of Seneca Lake. This plan will  
17          provide us with the information necessary to embark  
18          on future steps to protect and preserve the water  
19          quality of Seneca Lake, to protect the organisms, the  
20          plant life and aquatic life that rely on those  
21          waters, including ourselves and our local economies  
22          on which we rely.

23                      This hearing today is in regard to  
24          Greenidge's Title Five Air Permit application. It  
25          will allow far greater emissions of carbon dioxide

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2           and nitrous oxide. It will entail far greater  
3           quantities of heated cooling water being released  
4           into Seneca Lake that is a byproduct of the operation  
5           of the power plant and the Bitcoin mining operation.

6                       Many steps can be taken and be  
7           required to reduce these effects by a closed loop  
8           cooling system. This last week, we observed one of  
9           the largest algae blooms seen on Seneca Lake. This  
10          is another example of the unusual events we're seeing  
11          across the country. The events that have been  
12          predicted as the consequences of climate change.

13                      New York is taking bold steps to  
14          address our contribution to these unfortunate  
15          changes. I urge Governor Hochul to deny the permit  
16          application as a step toward promoting the goals of  
17          the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act  
18          and protecting our natural environment for the  
19          present day, and for future generations. Thank you.

20                      A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you. The next  
21          speaker is Legislator Rick Wilson.

22                      MR. WILSON: -- on a toy in which  
23          Greenidge resides. I'm a lifelong resident, my  
24          wife's family has been on Arrowhead Beach, just north  
25          of the power plants since, I think 1932. You've

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2           heard some other -- our Chairman go over some of the  
3           contributions that Greenidge had made for us. I  
4           would like to kind of add a few more things.

5                       One of the things that he pointed out  
6           is that Greenidge has employed over eighty businesses  
7           either servicing or has been buying products from in  
8           their operation. Some of those businesses,  
9           particularly the O'Connell Electric, is a union shop.  
10          And believe me, those guys are very happy not to be  
11          traveling out of state for their work. That's an  
12          important thing.

13                      I'd also like to point out that  
14          Greenidge was built just prior to World War Two. It  
15          was to supply energy to what was then Samson Naval  
16          Base, Samson Air Base, as we ramped up for World War  
17          Two. It continues to be a strategic supplier of  
18          energy during times when there is peak demand. We  
19          just witnessed this past winter, the state of Texas  
20          where they depend -- depended on solar and wind power  
21          to the point where it didn't perform well, and there  
22          were people who froze, building damage from frost, et  
23          cetera.

24                      That -- that is an important thing for  
25          people to remember. That fills in, you know, when we



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2           really need the help. And that's an important issue.  
3           The last thing I'd like to say is that the financial  
4           viability of Greenidge allows them to continue to use  
5           their earnings to do environmental cleanup projects  
6           that benefit the health and welfare of the local  
7           residents. And they would not be able to do that if  
8           they were not able to have the money to do so. Thank  
9           you for allowing me the time.

10                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you. Before we  
11           move on to the next speaker, I just would like to ask  
12           Mr. Paddock to please lower your hand. I see that  
13           you have it raised. Did you need anything?

14                   MR. PADDOCK: Yes, I believe you  
15           stated in the beginning that there would be a two  
16           minute limit on speakers, correct?

17                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes.

18                   MR. PADDOCK: Well, my timing on  
19           Councilman Camera was well over five minutes. I  
20           believe Assemblyman Kelles was more than four  
21           minutes. Just wanted to point that out, you know, if  
22           we're all going to play by the rules, we should play  
23           by the rules.

24                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: Okay. Thank you for  
25           pointing that out. I will pay more attention to the

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2           timing. And also -- also please remember, if you  
3           have anything that you'd like to say that you didn't  
4           get a chance to say today, you're more than welcome  
5           to submit written comments as well until November  
6           19th. Thank you.

7                       The next speaker is Anthony Del Plato.  
8           Mr. Del Plato. Are you on the line?

9                       MR. DEL PLATO: Yes, I am. Can you  
10          hear me?

11                      A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes, thank you.

12                      MR. DEL PLATO: Okay. Thank you for  
13          this opportunity to speak. I'm the Village Trustee  
14          and Water Commissioner of the Village of Interlaken.  
15          My name is Anthony Del Plato. Also speaking on  
16          behalf of my partner, Gina Nigro (phonetic spelling),  
17          partners of a Stone's Throw Bed and Breakfast at 3509  
18          West Avenue, Interlaken.

19                      I'm not going to give you the  
20          scientific evidence to reject the Greenidge Title  
21          Five and Four Air Permit for the operators to  
22          Greenidge Power Plant, Greenidge Generation L.L.C.  
23          No doubt we have lots of scientific testimony before  
24          you by those who are far more informed about these  
25          matters than I. I'm going to talk to you about what

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2           is at stake.

3                       Seneca Lake is already in trouble for  
4           a variety of reasons. What are the risks? Those who  
5           live and work in the region will pay the price if  
6           things go wrong. Investors, wherever they live, will  
7           only lose their money. We, who live here, lose our  
8           source of clean, healthy water. I'm urging you to  
9           reject the permit to Greenidge Generation L.L.C.  
10          because of the risks they are putting the water  
11          supply to over a hundred thousand people who depend  
12          upon Seneca Lake for drinking water.

13                      I'm urging you to reject the permit  
14          because the power plant is a threat to the health and  
15          wellbeing of the fish and other aquatic creatures.  
16          All creatures on earth deserve healthy and safe  
17          water. I urge you to deny the permit to the  
18          Greenidge operators because of the threat to the  
19          economic wellbeing of the farmers in the region  
20          including vineyards and wineries in Finger Lakes.

21                      I am urging you to deny the permit  
22          because my business, a Bed and Breakfast depends upon  
23          a thriving tourism industry. This power plant is a  
24          threat to my life and business as well as thousands  
25          of other businesses in the region. There are many

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2           scientific facts to support the denial of the permit.  
3           This information presents an extremely strong case  
4           against any power plant using lake water as a  
5           coolant, regardless of the source of power.

6                       We who live in these beautiful land  
7           refuse to put at risk our efforts to create a  
8           sustainable economy in the region for this and future  
9           generations. The boom and bust cycle of  
10          cryptocurrencies are a threat to our livelihoods and  
11          wellbeing. The Greenidge Power Plant, Bitcoin and  
12          other cryptocurrency speculators are threatening the  
13          stability of our lives. Greenidge --

14                     A.L.J. OLIVERI: Mr. Del Plato, I'm  
15          sorry, but if you could please wrap up your comments,  
16          I'd appreciate that.

17                     MR. DEL PLATO: Sure. I just -- I'm  
18          at the last paragraph. This is an unacceptable risk.  
19          Industry and profit are secondary to the ecological  
20          wellbeing of our water, air and land. For too long,  
21          our ecological wellbeing has taken a backseat to  
22          development plans for the region. I and thousands of  
23          others who depended upon the right to clean and  
24          healthy water demand that you reject the permit of  
25          the Greenidge Generation L.L.C.

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2                           Thank you for the extra moment.   Shall

3           I submit my statement in the comments via email, or

4           is my testimony sufficient?

5                           A.L.J. OLIVERI:   It's sufficient.   If

6           you'd like to submit anything further in writing

7           either by email or mail, that's fine as well.

8                           MR. DEL PLATO:   All right.   Thank you

9           very much.

10                          A.L.J. OLIVERI:   Thank you.   The next

11           speaker will be Steve -- Mr. Steve Churchill.   Mr.

12           Churchill, are you on the line?

13                          MR. CHURCHILL:   I am.   Can you hear

14           me?

15                          A.L.J. OLIVERI:   Yes, thank you.

16                          MR. CHURCHILL:   Okay.   I'm not going

17           to exceed the two minutes if you start the clock when

18           I give you a thumbs up, fair enough.

19                          A.L.J. OLIVERI:   Okay.

20                          MR. CHURCHILL:   I'm only kidding.   My

21           name is Steve Churchill.   I reside -- I reside in the

22           beautiful Finger Lakes in the Town of Seneca Falls.

23           I currently sit on the Seneca Falls Town Council.

24           Previously, I served four terms in the Seneca County

25           Board of Supervisor, where I was for eight years

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2           Chair of the Environmental Affairs Committee.

3                       Today, I would like to go on record to  
4           strongly urging our outstanding new Governor Kathy  
5           Hochul to continue to demonstrate great leadership  
6           and direct the D.E.C. to deny Greenidge Title Five  
7           Air Permit. In 2019, New York State passed the  
8           Climate Leadership and Protection Act. This Act  
9           established -- established some lofty goals to  
10          control green -- greenhouse gas emissions, but  
11          absolutely necessary goals that the Empire State  
12          should be expected to set.

13                      We as New Yorkers should be both proud  
14          of and committed to reaching those goals, such as  
15          forty percent reduction in greenhouse gases by 2030.  
16          And with eighty-five percent target by 2050. These  
17          goals that when -- when reached will demonstrate  
18          great leadership and understanding of the gravity of  
19          the issue at hand, which is, we need to combat the  
20          catastrophic effects to our planet global warming.

21                      There are no options. We can and must  
22          meet the goal set by the 2019 Climate Leadership Act.  
23          But then comes along an industry like Bitcoin mining,  
24          powered by old retired power generation plants, a  
25          process that will consume as much energy as can be

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2           generated, but energy produced at a very, very high  
3           cost, a cost that stands in total opposition to the  
4           goals set by the 2019 Climate Leadership Act.

5                       A cost that sides with the enemy in  
6           our global battle to fight climate change. We simply  
7           will fail if -- if we permit the Greenidge operation  
8           to move forward, to grow and to continue to consume  
9           and pollute. And failure in the global climate  
10          change came is simply not option. D.E.C.  
11          Commissioner Basil was spot on when he recently  
12          stated that Greenidge has not shown "compliance" with  
13          the New York State or with New York's Climate  
14          Leadership and Comm -- Community Protection Act.

15                      And we must allow -- and we must not  
16          allow Greenidge to play the carbon credit shell game.  
17          There is only one way forward, deny the permits where  
18          non-compliance is obvious and blatant. I'm confident  
19          and I pray that the D.E.C. already knows the answer  
20          to these permit renewal requests. And at this and  
21          other hearings are mere formality. I implore the  
22          D.E.C. to make the just and right decisions.

23                      The climate change battle will allow  
24          no second chances, no redos and we need to get it  
25          right and get it right the first time. D.E.C.

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2           Governor Hochul, deny, deny, deny the Greenidge Title  
3           Five Air Permit. Thank you very much. And I give  
4           back my time to Ken Camera.

5                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: All right. Thank  
6           you. The next -- next speaker is Legislator Richard  
7           Harper. Richard Harper, are you in the line?

8                   MR. HARPER: Yes, I am. Can you hear  
9           me okay?

10                  A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes, thank you.

11                  MR. HARPER: Okay. So my name's  
12          Richard Harper, and I live at 2191 Stevens Corners  
13          Road in Penn Yan, about six miles from the Greenidge  
14          Power Plant. I'm a Yates County Legislator and  
15          represent the Town of Torrey where Greenidge Power  
16          Plant's located. I worked for over forty years at a  
17          facility bordering the Greenidge property.

18                  The key to Title Five reg -- meeting  
19          those regulations starts with (unintelligible). The  
20          Greenidge facility has already demonstrated their  
21          commitment to the environment through the conversion  
22          of the facility from coal to natural gas, which in  
23          turn directly improved water and air emissions. The  
24          various public meetings I've attended in both county  
25          and town level, the current management at Greenidge



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2           is repeatedly committed to running the facility in a  
3           safe and environmentally conscious manner that meets  
4           or exceeds regulatory discharge.

5                       Greenidge supplies power to the grid  
6           the past four decades. It's not just a hundred  
7           percent cryptocurrency use, if it were, many of those  
8           negative comments that's being made probably would  
9           not be. New York State has set a goal of seventy  
10          percent from solar or wind by 2030 for power  
11          generation. They also want to move to push electric  
12          vehicles with the goal of two million by 2030.

13                      The need for electricity to charge  
14          those batteries will expand even more as that  
15          increases. Locally, Yates County and two local  
16          townships that I represent have had four solar  
17          projects in their towns halted due to transmission  
18          line access. Until transmission line storage  
19          solutions are in place that support better wind and  
20          solar generations, power facilities such as Greenidge  
21          are absolutely necessary.

22                      Greenidge continues to be an important  
23          economic source to the towns in Yates County with  
24          forty-four high -- highly paid employees. They  
25          support local businesses and are an important tax

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2           revenue source to the local town, county, and school  
3           systems. For the above reasons, I support Greenidge  
4           Title Five re -- and Title Four renewals.

5                       A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you. The next  
6           speaker I will call is Mr. Dale Irwin. Mr. Irwin,  
7           are you on the line?

8                       MR. IRWIN: Yes, I am.

9                       A.L.J. OLIVERI: Okay. Go ahead.

10                      MR. IRWIN: Thank you, Your Honor.  
11           I'm Dale Irwin, President C.E.O. of Greenidge  
12           Generation L.L.C. I grew up on this beautiful Lake  
13           Seneca. I still spend days and days in the summer at  
14           Seneca Lake and really enjoy the winters out duck  
15           hunting on Seneca Lake. I've worked at the Greenidge  
16           facility for over twenty years. I lead the  
17           transformation of an existing coal unit to a clean  
18           burning natural gas emission unit.

19                      For years now, Upstate New York has  
20           been promised that New York is open for business, and  
21           we believe that. And we have brought close to a  
22           hundred million dollars of investment and great  
23           opportunities to rural New York at the time when our  
24           children are leaving New York by the thousands.  
25           Almost fifty teammates and dozens of contractors that

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2           support hundreds of family members in our area work  
3           daily at our facility.

4                       On average, our people make twice the  
5           average wages of others in this area. We have  
6           increased our tax contribution to the state and local  
7           residents by hundreds of thousands of dollars and it  
8           keeps growing. We have broad local support,  
9           I.B.E.W., hundreds of local businesses and a super  
10          majority at the town planning level. Just yesterday,  
11          Yates County Legislation -- Legislation voted  
12          thirteen to zero to support the renewal the Greenidge  
13          air permit.

14                      This is all happening while Greenidge  
15          facility has reduced CO by seventy percent over the  
16          1990 baseline set by the state. Every minute of<sup>2</sup>  
17          every day we are online, Greenidge is providing power  
18          and ancillary services to the people of New York.  
19          Thank you for this opportunity. And I'd like to hand  
20          it over to Mike Colyer from Foundry. I'm done.  
21          Thank you.

22                      A.L.J. OLIVERI: Okay. Thank you for  
23          your statement. Next, I will be calling Mr. Daniel  
24          Rapaport. Mr. Rapaport, are you on the line?

25                      MR. RAPAPORT: I am. Thank you. My

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2           name is Dan Rapaport, and I li -- live in New Field,  
3           New York, and I urge Governor Hochul to direct the  
4           D.E.C. to deny Greenidge's Title Five Air Permit.  
5           Greenidge describes themselves as a vertically  
6           integrated Bitcoin mining and power generation  
7           company. They link power generation to Bitcoin  
8           mining. The Bitcoin mining machines are an integral  
9           part of the power generation infrastructure.

10                       As an integral part of the power  
11           infrastructure, the D.E.C. should consider the impact  
12           of adding this plant equipment to power generation  
13           and consider the impact on air emissions. So let's  
14           look at this equipment. Greenidge has discussed  
15           using the Antminer S Nineteen Pro, which consumes  
16           thirty-two hundred and fifty watts, which there's  
17           others that use more than that.

18                       Running twenty-four hours, three  
19           hundred and sixty-five days a years, that's twenty-  
20           eight thousand four hundred seventy kilowatt hours  
21           per machine. And that does not include energy used  
22           for cooling room or any of the switches a network  
23           infrastructure needed. Now a 1970s refrigerator uses  
24           about fifteen hundred kilowatt hours a year. Modern  
25           fridge uses three hundred kilowatt hours a year.

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2                       Running five thousand of these Bitcoin  
3           mining machines, and they're looking to use thirty  
4           thousand uses -- it's like running ninety-four  
5           thousand nine hundred ninety-seven -- 1970s  
6           refrigerators in the plan which add nothing of value  
7           to the public, and instead add massive amounts of air  
8           pollutants and greenhouse gases, as well as adding a  
9           huge amounts of pollutants per kilowatt that leaves  
10          the plant.

11                      The D.E.C. would never allow this  
12          addition to -- infrastructure to run. And if somehow  
13          it found there was a reason to allow it, the D.E.C.  
14          would add a minimum require the plant use modern  
15          refrigerators using one-fifth the energy and making  
16          one-fifth of the emissions. So what's the equivalent  
17          of the modern refrigerator, the alternative to proof  
18          of work, there are actually many.

19                      Bitcoin uses an obsolete energy cloud  
20          method to validate the blockchain. No new blockchain  
21          applications have used proof of work for the last  
22          four years at least, but for state projects like  
23          (unintelligible) open voting representative, projects  
24          like (unintelligible) reduce energy use by a factor  
25          of over twenty million.

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2                       Essentially, this alternative replaces  
3       those ninety-four thousand nine hundred 1970  
4       refrigerators or about four hundred and seventy-five  
5       modern ones with a sixteen watt L.E.D. light bulb.  
6       Under Governor Cuomo, the D.E.C. failed to consider  
7       this new plan infrastructure. It did not complete a  
8       thorough environmental review as required by  
9       (unintelligible) at its onset.

10                      Now Governor Hochul has an opportunity  
11       to demonstrate that New York is serious about climate  
12       change and reverse this by denying the permit  
13       renewal. The facility is not consistent with a  
14       C.L.C.P.A., and I respectfully request that Governor  
15       Hochul direct D.E.C. to deny the Title Five Air  
16       Permit for Greenidge. Thank you.

17                      A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you, Mr. --

18                      The next speaker is Rachel Treichler.

19                      MS. TREICHLER: Hello.

20                      A.L.J. OLIVERI: Hello.

21                      MS. TREICHLER: My name is Rachel  
22       Treichler. I am a lawyer in Hammondsport, New York,  
23       which is in the Seneca Lake watershed. I'm speaking  
24       today as a concerned citizen. I became active on  
25       issues involved in the operation of the Greenidge

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           Power Plant in 2015 when I learned of the proposal of  
3           the plant's new owners to restart the plant and build  
4           a new gas pipeline to the plant.

5                       I asked the Hochul administration to  
6           give careful scrutiny to the environmental impacts of  
7           the Bitcoin mining operations at the plant, scrutiny  
8           that was never given during the Cuomo administration.  
9           I urge D.E.C. to deny the Greenidge air permit  
10          renewals until a full environmental impact statement  
11          is prepared addressing the new Bitcoin mining  
12          operations.

13                      The C.L.C.P.A. requirements must be  
14          incorporated into the SEQR review, along with other  
15          climate change considerations as required by SEQR.  
16          The significant regulatory changes resulting from the  
17          enactment of the C.L.C.P.A. and the significant  
18          operational changes resulting from a Greenidge's  
19          expansion into Bitcoin mining mandate a full E.I.S.

20                      A type two SEQR designation, D.E.C.  
21          has given to the renewal of the Greenidge air permits  
22          is inappropriate. What happens with the Greenidge  
23          permits will set an important precedent for  
24          cryptocurrency mining operations around the state and  
25          will demonstrate the Hochul administration's

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2           commitment to protecting our environment and  
3           enforcing our environmental laws. Thank you.

4                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you. The next  
5           speaker is Eric Wood.

6                   MR. WOOD: Can you hear me?

7                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes.

8                   MR. WOOD: Good afternoon and thank  
9           you for the opportunity to testify at today's  
10          hearing. My name is Eric Wood ,and I'm here today to  
11          deliver the statement of the New York Public Interest  
12          Research Group or NYPIRG. NYPIRG is a non-partisan  
13          public education organization that works to examine  
14          important issues, produce studies and engage New  
15          Yorkers' public education campaigns, protect our  
16          environment and public health.

17                   NYPIRG today calls on the New York  
18          State Department of Environmental Conservation, the  
19          D.E.C., to deny the application for Title Five and  
20          Title Four Air Permits submitted by the Greenidge  
21          Generating facility for the purpose of crypto mining  
22          interests in New York. Climate change is the  
23          greatest environmental threat facing the planet.

24                   The accumulation of carbon dioxide and  
25          other greenhouse gases like methane in the atmosphere



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2           are causing extreme weather events, harmful algal  
3           blooms, ocean acidification and rising sea levels.  
4           If we don't aggressively curb our use of fossil fuels  
5           to generate energy, we'll see an intensification of  
6           the devastating impacts already felt on New York's  
7           economy, infrastructure, public health, coastal areas  
8           and natural ecosystems.

9                       The death and damage caused by the  
10          torrential remnants of Hurricane Ida in early  
11          September are a fresh reminder. The aftermath, more  
12          than a dozen New Yorkers are dead, most perishing in  
13          flooded basement apartments. The message is  
14          unmistakable. We need to eliminate the unwise,  
15          unnecessary use of energy sources that are causing  
16          this crisis.

17                      The process of proof of work crypto  
18          mining is extremely energy intensive. Moreover, the  
19          public benefits of these activities are questionable.  
20          Most of the energy generated by burning gas at the  
21          current generating site will not go into the  
22          electrical grid to serve general public interest.

23                      Instead, it will be used by private  
24          technology companies for the financial rewards remain  
25          the companies themselves and their investors. All

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2           the environmental impacts are externalized, impacting  
3           our community, our state and our ever warming world.  
4           As we rush to avoid climate catastrophe, the  
5           challenges we face in shifting our energy grid to a  
6           hundred percent renewable energy are formidable.

7                       Our ambitious goals, including those  
8           in the C.L.C.P.A. will be difficult to achieve.  
9           Energy and activities intensive like crypto mining,  
10          make an already steep path towards the goal of  
11          hundred percent carbon neutral energy by 2040 even  
12          more difficult. New York has always had a poor  
13          record of meeting its energy goals.

14                     And that trend is likely to continue  
15          if we allow facilities like Greenidge Generating to  
16          come here and undo all the current climate work that  
17          the state has achieved. Converting the Greenidge  
18          Generating Plant to a fossil fuels crypto mining  
19          operations does not advance the state's energy goals.

20                     In fact, it would effectively negate  
21          gains made in renewable energy. NYPIRG believes that  
22          the permit should be denied, it's incompatible with  
23          the C.L.C.P.A. and the state's energy goals. At a  
24          minimum, much further environmental review is  
25          warranted with respect to the Greenidge Generating

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2           facility permit application before approving air  
3           pollution permits.

4                       The Title Five and Title Four Air  
5           Permit application needs to be denied, and the  
6           Greenidge needs to be sent back to the drawing board  
7           before coming back to apply for a new one. D.E.C.  
8           should undertake a framework assessment of crypto  
9           mining through a generic environmental impact  
10          statement, such as the comprehensive review process,  
11          should evaluate compatibility with the C.L.C.P.A. as  
12          a prime consideration before continuing to review  
13          data mining permit applications on a case by case  
14          basis. Thank you for your consideration.

15                     A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you, Mr. Wood.  
16          The next speaker is Gary McIntee.

17                     MR. WOOD: I went over a little bit.

18                     A.L.J. OLIVERI: Mr. McIntee, are you  
19          on the line? Okay. One more time, Mr. Gary McIntee,  
20          if you're on the line, please let us know.

21                     MS. KATCHMAR: If he's a call-in user,  
22          we could have him raise his hand.

23                     A.L.J. OLIVERI: Press star three if  
24          you're on the telephone. Okay. We'll move on to the  
25          next speaker. Vinnie Aliperti, are you on the line,

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2           please? Mr. Vinnie Aliperti, are you on the line?  
3           And if you're on the phone, please press star three.  
4           Okay. Is Abi Buddington on the line?

5                       MS. BUDDINGTON: Yes. My name is Abi  
6           -- hi, my name is Abi Buddington, and I am --

7                       A.L.J. OLIVERI: Okay.

8                       MS. BUDDINGTON: I'm sorry. Do you  
9           want me to start? And I'm a concerns community  
10          member and property owner in the Village of Dresden,  
11          Town of Torrey. Our community experiences the  
12          negative impacts of the plant's operation on multiple  
13          levels. Two of which are noise and air pollution.

14                      The noise generated is disturbing that  
15          quiet with a constant hum that drowns out songbirds  
16          and the gentle lapping of water on the shore.  
17          Constant noise pollution harms human health and  
18          wildlife. I urge the D.E.C. to deny Greenidge's  
19          Title Five Air Permit. Also helpful and harmful --  
20          also harmful to human health and crops, especially  
21          sensitive are grapes, are air emissions and  
22          particulate matter from power plants like Greenidge.

23                      According to the Center for the  
24          Advancement of the Steady State Economy, globally,  
25          four million premature deaths occur each year as a

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2           result of air pollution. A sizeable fraction of  
3           which are due to coal and natural gas combustion in  
4           power plants. The C.L.C.P.A. advisory panel found  
5           that New York state can cut CO emissions by up to  
6           forty percent by 2030 if we eliminate fifty percent<sup>2</sup>  
7           of our greenhouse gas emitting facilities and only  
8           produce fifteen million tons of CO equivalents per<sup>2</sup>  
9           year.

10                       If Greenidge expands to their  
11           capacity, they alone are projected to produce one  
12           million tons of that fifteen million tons. Dr.  
13           Robert Howard, a member of the C.L.C.P.A. advisory  
14           panel and Cornell Ecology professors said, "We can  
15           make the cuts quickly by ramping up renewable energy  
16           sources, but we can't do it if we have Greenidge and  
17           other Greenidge like plants."

18                       The decision you reach with this test  
19           case will have exponential impacts because Greenidge  
20           threatens the environmental and economic  
21           sustainability of this region, produces noise  
22           pollution, which is a human health concern and is not  
23           consistent with the C.L.C.P.A. I urge the D.E.C. to  
24           deny the Title Five Air Permit for Greenidge and also  
25           for Governor Hochul to direct the D.E.C. to deny as

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2           well. Please do not allow this model to replicate  
3           elsewhere.

4                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you. The next  
5           speaker is Ann Logan. Ann Logan, if you are on the  
6           phone, please press star three so we can see your  
7           raised hand. Okay. The next speaker is Elizabeth  
8           Moran. Elizabeth Moran.

9                   MS. MORAN: Yes, I am here. Thank you  
10          so much.

11                  A.L.J. OLIVERI: All right. Go ahead.

12                  MS. MORAN: I'm good to go? Okay.

13                  A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes.

14                  MS. MORAN: Thank you so much for the  
15          opportunity to comment today. My name is Liz Moran,  
16          and I'm the New York policy advocate for Earth  
17          Justice. Earth Justice is a nonprofit public  
18          interest law firm dedicated to protecting the  
19          magnificent places, natural resources and wildlife --  
20          wildlife of this earth, and defending the right of  
21          all people to a healthy environment.

22                   Earth Just -- Earth Justice urges the  
23          Department to deny the Title Five Air Permit for the  
24          Greenidge Generating Station, as it would not align  
25          with the goals of the Climate Leadership and

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2           Community Protection Act. The Department's action on  
3           the Title Five permit for Greenidge will have far  
4           reaching impacts across the state and beyond.

5                       Proof of work cryptocurrency mining  
6           consumes tremendous amounts of energy, which  
7           generates tremendous amounts of greenhouse gas  
8           emissions. For example, proof of work cryptocurrency  
9           mining currently uses one hundred and thirty-three  
10          point six eight terawatt hours per year of  
11          electricity globally, more than three times as much  
12          the data at the beginning of 2019.

13                      By way of comparison, Bitcoin mining  
14          consumed around half as much electricity as all of  
15          the U.K. and more electricity per year than some  
16          entire countries. This upward trend of electricity  
17          usage and increasing greenhouse gas emissions is not  
18          going to go away. Greenidge itself has told its  
19          investors that it's assisting other Bitcoin mining  
20          companies to replicate its model of owning a captive  
21          low cost power source -- power source.

22                      And this is just one company among  
23          many. There are other towns that will be grappling  
24          with this issue. The emissions at Greenidge  
25          Generating Station have increased significantly in

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2           recent years and the company's operations continue to  
3           grow. Today, the greenhouse gas emissions at the  
4           Greenidge Generating Station are skyrocketing. There  
5           -- the company recently told investors it hopes to  
6           have eighty-five megawatts of Bitcoin mining  
7           operations onsite and an additional five hundred  
8           megawatts of energy for Bitcoin mining elsewhere by  
9           2025.

10                           By Greenidge's own emission reporting  
11           D.E.C., there was an approximately tenfold increase  
12           in emissions in just 2020. For comparison,  
13           Greenidge's emissions in 2020 equal the amount of  
14           emissions of an additional fifty-one thousand twenty-  
15           seven passenger vehicles on the road for one year.

16                           And Greenidge's 2020 emissions were  
17           that high even though the plant was only operating at  
18           approximately seventeen percent of its total  
19           capacity. New York State has goals under the  
20           C.L.C.P.A. to reduce greenhouse gas emissions eighty  
21           percent below 1990 levels by 2050, and to reduce  
22           energy consumption and buildings by hundred and  
23           eighty-five trillion British thermal units from 2025  
24           projections.

25                           The energy consumption from facilities



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2           like Greenidge prevent the state from meeting these  
3           important goals. Thank you for the opportunity to  
4           testify today.

5                       A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you. The next  
6           speaker is Roger Downs. Yes.

7                       MR. DOWNS: My name is Roger Downs.  
8           I'm the Conservation Director for the Sierra Club  
9           Atlantic chapter. We wish to thank the Department  
10          for holding this public comment period on what is  
11          typically a ministerial renewal of a Title Five Air  
12          Permit. The operators of the Greenidge plant have  
13          argued that nothing has changed since the Department  
14          issued air permits five years ago, and renewals  
15          should be proforma.

16                      But clearly there have been two  
17          profound changes. The original Title Five Air  
18          Permitting process never contemplated the  
19          construction of a behind the meter Bitcoin mine that  
20          would turn a facility that only ran intermittently  
21          during peak demand to a twenty-four seven operation  
22          to produce cryptocurrency, and secondly, the 2019  
23          enactment of our nation leading climate law that  
24          seeks to reduce greenhouse gases forty percent by  
25          2030, a goal that runs across the grain of an energy

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2           hungry Bitcoin mine.

3                       Combine these two factors create a new  
4           project not covered under the old permit structure  
5           that requires environmental review, and this current  
6           air permit should be denied. When the Sierra Club  
7           and others first challenge the repowering of the  
8           Greenidge coal plant in 2014, we were urged by Cuomo  
9           -- the Cuomo administration to understand that this  
10          plant's operations would be needed if we hoped to  
11          force the closure of dirtier coal powered sources in  
12          the region.

13                      We were assured that the Greenidge  
14          Plant would use nowhere near their outsized  
15          allotments of air pollution and water withdrawals  
16          allowed by their permits because the plant would only  
17          operate when peak demand made it profitable. But in  
18          the first year, the Bitcoin mining facility started  
19          operating, carbon dioxide emissions increased  
20          tenfold. And that was only at a thirteen percent  
21          capacity.

22                      If we were to believe that Greenidge  
23          intends to ramp up its capacity to thirty-two  
24          thousand miners at ninety-five megawatts, it's  
25          difficult to see how they're going to stay within the

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2           limits of their permits, even before upstream  
3           emissions are factored in. And at the risk of  
4           setting a precedent that could spread to dozens of  
5           other fossil fuel facilities across New York, D.E.C.  
6           should reject this Title Five Air Permit renewal and  
7           place a moratorium on the operation of all proof of  
8           work cryptocurrency mining facilities until a full  
9           environmental impact statement can demonstrate that  
10          such facilities comply -- can comply with our climate  
11          laws and not endanger New York's environment. Thank  
12          you.

13                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you. The next  
14          speaker is Bill Mattingly. Bill Mattingly, are you  
15          on the line? And if you're on the telephone, if you  
16          could press star three?

17                   Okay. The next speaker is Michael  
18          Thomas. Michael Thomas, are you on the line? Okay.  
19          The next speaker is David Alicea. David Alicea, if  
20          you're on the line please let us know. The last name  
21          is spelled A-L-I-C-E-A.

22                   Okay. The next speaker is Alex  
23          Beauchamp.

24                   MR. BEAUCHAMP: Hi, can you hear me?

25                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes.

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2 MR. BEAUCHAMP: Okay. Thank you. I'm  
3 Alex Beauchamp.

4 A.L.J. OLIVERI: Mr. Beauchamp, we're  
5 having some trouble hearing you.

6 MR. BEAUCHAMP: Okay. I'm sorry. Is  
7 that better?

8 A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes.

9 MR. BEAUCHAMP: (unintelligible).

10 A.L.J. OLIVERI: If the re -- yes, I  
11 just want to make sure the reporter can hear you.

12 MR. BEAUCHAMP: Okay. Sorry about  
13 that. I'm on a bus actually on the -- on the way to  
14 D.E.C. for the people versus fossil fuels action  
15 where we are going to demand that President Biden  
16 stop fossil fuel projects, but I'm -- I'm delighted  
17 to have the opportunity to -- here today to demand  
18 that Governor Hochul do the exact same thing.

19 And specifically demand that Governor  
20 Hochul and the D.E.C. deny the Title Five Air Permit  
21 for the Greenidge facility. You know, it's not that  
22 we're even considering that we're in the middle of a  
23 climate crisis. It isn't something in the distant  
24 future. This is something that's happening to New  
25 Yorkers now with the recent death after Hurricane

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2           Ida, as serving as yet another tragic reminder of  
3           just how high the stakes are.

4                   And in that atmosphere, bare minimum  
5           that New York can do, the bare minimum that Governor  
6           Hochul can do and the bare minimum the D.E.C. can do  
7           is to stop approving new fossil fuel projects. We  
8           will never get to our emission reduction goals if we  
9           keep approving facilities like Greenidge. But you  
10          know, Greenidge isn't just a new fossil fuel project.  
11          It's more like a zombie power plant. This is  
12          something that we fought, that many fought long and  
13          hard to stop dirty power plants and to retire them  
14          all across New York State.

15                   And make no mistake, if the D.E.C.  
16          grants their permit, Greenidge will be the tip of the  
17          iceberg. There are dozens of facilities across the  
18          state that could be repowered just as this one has to  
19          the power cryptocurrency mining operations. We  
20          cannot let that happen. And the strongest possible  
21          thing the state can do to prevent that from happening  
22          is to deny the Title Five Air Permits.

23                   I urge Governor Hochul to do that.  
24          And as Roger just mentioned, we need a moratorium on  
25          the approval of any similar cryptocurrency mining

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2           operations anywhere in the state. Thanks so much.

3                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you. Okay.  
4           I'm going to go back to David Alicea. If you are on  
5           the line, please let us know.

6                   MR. ALICEA: Hi, thank you. My name  
7           is David Alicea, and thank you for the opportunity to  
8           testify at this hearing. I live in Wayne County, and  
9           I'm here to ask the D.E.C. deny the air permit for  
10          Greenidge. Seneca Lake is close to my heart. When I  
11          started dating my now wife, we took frequent weekend  
12          trips to Seneca Lake.

13                   As a native Long Islander, it was just  
14          the scenery was just jaw dropping. We loved the  
15          wine. We loved meeting the people in the area, and  
16          for my wife, it was just sort of returning home. She  
17          lived nearby and used to vacation often in the Finger  
18          Lakes.

19                   In 2016, we were married at one of the  
20          vineyards, just south of Greenidge. And we were so  
21          excited to invite our friends and family to one of  
22          our favorite parts of New York. Over the years,  
23          we've seen how extreme weather puts peoples' lives  
24          and the economic lifeblood of the region at risk.  
25          We've seen extreme drought in the Finger Lakes, we've

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2           seen extreme rain. We've seen it all.

3                   And this extreme weather, it puts the  
4           farmers, the winemakers and the ecological value of  
5           our region at risk. And that's exactly the reason  
6           why we can't allow Greenidge to continue operating  
7           much less expand. The state legislator has already  
8           made the decision, we need to be drying climate  
9           pollution down.

10                   And there is no way that this plant,  
11           which is just continually increasing the output, its  
12           output, can be compatible with our targets in the  
13           Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.  
14           There are smarter and more environmentally friendly  
15           ways to create investment in our local communities  
16           and to create high paying union jobs.

17                   Our state and in this region, we're  
18           seeing investment in wind and solar facilities that  
19           will support our schools, that will pay prevailing  
20           wage and will allow us to move off fossil fuels. So  
21           for the sake of our climate, and the sake of the  
22           Finger Lakes, I ask the D.E.C. and Governor Hochul  
23           deny the Title Five permit for Greenidge. And thank  
24           you for your time.

25                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: I have a request to

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2           read out names just several at a time so people have  
3           a heads up as to whether they will be called in the  
4           next ten minutes or so. So I will start doing that.  
5           The next several speakers will be Kimberly Bostwick,  
6           Martha Upton, Jeff Schumann, Mary Finneran, Nivo  
7           Rovedo, Robber Ciesielski, Denise Katzman. So our  
8           next speaker I'll call will be Kimberly Bostwick.

9                       MS. BOSTWICK: Am I supposed to unmute  
10          myself or does somebody else unmute me?

11                      A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes, we can hear you.

12                      MS. BOSTWICK: Okay. I just got on  
13          this phone call. And I'd love to warm up. Is there  
14          any way I can -- you can call me again in five or ten  
15          minutes, or you just want me to go?

16                      A.L.J. OLIVERI: I'm sure if you're  
17          not ready to speak, I think I can go to the next  
18          person and come back to you.

19                      MS. BOSTWICK: I would greatly  
20          appreciate that. Thank you.

21                      A.L.J. OLIVERI: The next speaker is  
22          Martha Upton. Martha Upton, are you on the line?  
23          Okay. The next speaker is Jeff Schumann. Jeff  
24          Schumann, are you on the line? Okay. The next  
25          speaker is Mary Finneran.



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2                   MS. FINNERAN: Hello.

3                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: Hi, Ms. Finneran.

4                   MS. FINNERAN: Yes.

5                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: Okay. Yes, go ahead.

6                   MS. FINNERAN: Thank you. The D.E.C.

7           must deny the Title Five and Title Four permit  
8           renewals for the Greenidge Power Plant as they are  
9           inappropriate. The project and laws including the  
10          recent C.L.C.P.A. are different now. It's a request  
11          for money for profit and for admiration for those who  
12          have accrued far more than needed to be at the  
13          expense of life itself.

14                   I don't think I'm being hyperbolic  
15          when I asked if Greenidge's proof of work crypto  
16          miners understand that the planet is truly at a  
17          crisis point and all the climate destroying G.H.D.  
18          emitting natural gas produced electricity, they use  
19          (unintelligible) will contribute more and more to  
20          fire, floods, the huge flora and fauna extinctions  
21          into migrations of people on an unprecedented scale,  
22          with exponentially fewer and fewer habitable places  
23          on earth.

24                   Maybe the crypto miners live to their  
25          virtual coins and don't care that their grandchildren

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           won't know the same planet. Maybe they will read  
3           stories to their grandchildren about elephants like  
4           we heard about dinosaurs. Maybe the miners don't get  
5           excited when they see the eagle's triumphant return  
6           or care that their grandchildren might see the  
7           eagle's complete demise.

8                       The national bird becoming a  
9           historical myth. Maybe they don't care that their  
10          children's children won't have a swing from a shady  
11          maple, enjoy the lawn in a city park, climbing apple  
12          tree to steal the fruit and make a whistle from an  
13          acorn blade of grass. I don't care to live in a  
14          planet without chickadees myself.

15                      Bottom line, proof of work  
16          cryptocurrency adds to G.H.D. levels in an  
17          unsustainable and climate decimating degree and must  
18          be stopped. Deny the Title Five and Title Four  
19          permits. Deny the use of the Greenidge Plant for  
20          private profit for very few, deny all future proof of  
21          work crypto mining, or deny our children and their  
22          children's children a planet worth living on. You  
23          have the power, please use it wisely. Thank you.

24                      A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you. Mr.  
25          Schumann, are you on the line please? And if you're

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           on the phone, please press star three. Okay. The  
3           next speaker is Nivo Rovedo. Nivo Rovedo, if you're  
4           on the line, please let us know or press star three  
5           to raise your hand if you're on the telephone. Okay.  
6           Kimberly Bostwick, are you prepared to speak at this  
7           time? Okay. I'll come back to you, Ms. Bostwick.

8                       The next speaker is Robert Ciesielski.  
9           Is Robert Ciesielski on the line, please? And if  
10          you're on the phone, please press star three. Okay.  
11          The next speaker is Denise Katzman.

12                      MS. KATCHMAR: Can you tell her?

13                      MR. ROVEDO: Hello.

14                      MS. KATCHMAR: Who's unmuted right  
15          now?

16                      MR. ROVEDO: Hello. Can you hear me?

17                      A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes. Who is this,  
18          please?

19                      MR. ROVEDO: Yes, this is Nivo Rovedo.  
20          Before, I couldn't unmute myself and you didn't  
21          unmute me.

22                      MS. KATCHMAR: We were experiencing  
23          technical difficulties with Webex.

24                      MR. ROVEDO: Oh, okay. Well, I'm glad  
25          you got me back on. Can I start?

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx

2                   A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes, go ahead, Mr.

3           Rovedo.

4                   MR. ROVEDO: Thank you. My name is

5           Nivo Rovedo, and I live in the Lagrangeville, New

6           York. I totally oppose the Article Five and Four

7           permitting for the Greenidge facility. I urge the

8           D.E.C. to deny the permits. The expansion of this is

9           not to help the greater society but to mine Bitcoin.

10                   These permits would greatly increase

11           the greenhouse gas emissions for the plant and for

12           what, there is no good coming from some game of

13           calculations that produce imaginary cryptocurrencies,

14           intangible ones and zeros. There is no benefit to

15           society. This would adversely impact Seneca's Lake

16           water quality, the air, the agriculture, the human

17           health and tourism in the area.

18                   It is a threat to the natural beauty

19           of the regions and the important environmental

20           resources there. The permit would make it more

21           difficult for the state to meet its climate goals

22           under the C.L.C.P.A., and the third thing is I'd like

23           to point out is that the permitting would set a very

24           bad precedent for others who are trying to use this

25           scheme for cryptocurrency mining, this folly.

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2                           This must be stopped.   It makes no  
3       sense to waste the resources in this way for this  
4       kind of an endeavor.   There are more helpful ways for  
5       the town to get revenue then destroying the  
6       environment for this.   Thank you.

7                           A.L.J. OLIVERI:   Thank you, Mr.  
8       Rovedo.   I will go back to Kimberly Bostwick.

9                           MS. BOSTWICK:   Oh, there it is.   Hi.

10                          A.L.J. OLIVERI:   Hi.

11                          MS. BOSTWICK:   Can you hear me now?

12                          A.L.J. OLIVERI:   Yes, thank you.

13                          MS. BOSTWICK:   Yeah.   I was just muted  
14       and couldn't get unmuted.   Okay.   So my name is Kim  
15       Bostwick.   I live in Covert, New York, which is in  
16       Seneca County, just over the border from Trumansburg,  
17       and north of Ithaca, New York.   I am a evolutionary  
18       biologist.   I study birds.   I'm a mother, and I do  
19       permaculture homesteading.   I eat local foods.

20                          I am a stand that Governor Hochul and  
21       the D.E.C. do their jobs to deny the Title Five Air  
22       Permit renewal for Greenidge -- for Greenidge.   There  
23       is a lot that could be said about this, even if --  
24       even if just heating up the waters to -- to generate  
25       the energy of Seneca Lake wasn't a good enough

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           reason. And even if the trout steam -- trout in the  
3           stream that they release their water in weren't  
4           vulnerable, this would be a bad idea. Even if this  
5           didn't involve bringing fuel, even if this didn't  
6           involve particulate matter downstream of the air.  
7           There's so many reasons why this is a bad idea even  
8           if there wasn't climate change. But with climate  
9           change and with the world struggling in a battle to  
10          move towards reduced emissions and New York State  
11          itself having tried to take a bold leadership role in  
12          this with its own climate goals, this -- the  
13          existence of this plant is a -- it exists in the face  
14          of all of the things we're trying to -- to do to  
15          improve the lives of the people of New York and the  
16          people of the world in general.

17                       And for the -- for this reason above  
18          all others it just does not make sense. Let me see  
19          if there is anything else I would want to say about  
20          that. Yeah. It just doesn't make any sense. And --  
21          and essentially, I think you can look at what has  
22          happened in the last couple of years with the  
23          Greenidge facility and the mining of Bitcoin and see  
24          that essentially the -- the corporate interest found  
25          a way into the state before -- before the state had a

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           chance -- before people could even know to stop it  
3           and they snuck in.

4                       But now we know that we're here, we  
5           know they're not in our interest and it's time to let  
6           them not get away with the loophole or the little  
7           thing, the little in that they found. It's time to  
8           shut that door. They never should have been here in  
9           the first place. So yes, I -- I reiterate, I'm a  
10          stand that Governor Hochul direct the D.E.C. to deny  
11          the Title Five Air Permit renewal for Greenidge.  
12          It's just -- just the wrong thing for so many  
13          reasons. Thank you.

14                     A.L.J. OLIVERI: Okay. Thank you. I  
15          will call Martha Upton again. Martha Upton, are you  
16          on the line? And if you're on the phone, please  
17          press star three. Okay. Next Jeff Schumann, are you  
18          on the line? And if you're on the phone, please  
19          press star three. Okay. The next speaker is --

20                     MR. SCHUMANN: Can you -- can you hear  
21          me?

22                     A.L.J. OLIVERI: Oh, I'm sorry. Yes.  
23          Is this Mr. Schumann?

24                     MR. SCHUMANN: Yes, it is. Sorry.  
25          We're having, I guess, technical problems. I wasn't

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           able to unmute myself.

3                       A.L.J. OLIVERI: Okay.

4                       MR. SCHUMANN: So my name is Jeff  
5           Schumann. I'm a resident in New York. I oppose the  
6           renewal of the Title Five Air Permit for Greenidge  
7           L.L.C. If approved, the greenhouse gas emissions  
8           that run each plant will increase remarkably, making  
9           it much more difficult for New York to meet the  
10          C.L.C.P.A. goals of forty percent reduction in  
11          greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and eighty-five  
12          percent by 2050.

13                      So therefore, a renewal of the permit  
14          is in opposition to the C.L.C.P.A. I'd also like to  
15          note that the plant uses fracked gas to generate  
16          electricity and the drilling, transportation and  
17          burning of fracked gas increases atmospheric methane,  
18          which is a major, major driver in global warming.

19                      I'd like also point out, it's been  
20          said before, that the original Title Five Air Permit,  
21          there is no mention of the plant being used for  
22          Bitcoin mining, which has been noted requires a high  
23          demand for electricity, not just for the computers,  
24          but for cooling as well.

25                      So it seems to me that the new Bitcoin



1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           operation is not in accord with the original permit,  
3           and therefore, the D.E.C. should treat this  
4           application as a new with that -- with the cool  
5           environmental impact statement required. I also want  
6           to just quickly point out that the -- it's been  
7           mentioned that Greenidge was carbon neutral, I think  
8           that's my mind is greenwashing.

9                       If Greenidge L.L.C. was truly carbon  
10          neutral, they would be using that for renewable  
11          resources for their generation, not fracked gas.  
12          Thank you.

13                     A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you. The next  
14          speaker is Robert Ciesielski. Robert Ciesielski, if  
15          you're on the phone, if you could press star three?

16                     MR. CIESIELSKI: Hello.

17                     A.L.J. OLIVERI: Hello.

18                     MR. CIESIELSKI: Can you hear me?

19                     A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes, I can.

20                     MR. CIESIELSKI: Okay. I'm sorry. I  
21          thought I was unmuted. Good afternoon. I'm Bob  
22          Ciesielski. I'm a volunteer with the Sierra Club and  
23          chair of the chapters Energy Committee. The  
24          Greenidge facility was granted permission by New York  
25          State several years ago to reopen and operate several

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           weeks a year as a gas powered peaker plant to provide  
3           necessary electricity at times of high demand.

4                       This purpose has been trimmed and  
5           transformed by the plants owner to behind the meter,  
6           private proof of work Bitcoin mining operation, which  
7           provides no social benefits. Management has --  
8           management's estimated emissions by the Greenidge  
9           Bitcoin facility is considerably understated under  
10          New York law.

11                      The Climate Leadership and Community  
12          Protection Act requires that greenhouse gas emissions  
13          must include those produced upstream of the facility,  
14          including the high volume drilling for fracked  
15          methane gas, which is used as a fuel at the facility,  
16          its storage and transportation by truck or pipeline,  
17          all required in the fueling process.

18                      Methane itself is a dangerous  
19          greenhouse gas retaining eighty-six times the heat of  
20          an equal amount of CO in the first twenty years of  
21          its release to the atmosphere.<sup>2</sup> The pollution of  
22          upstream methane emissions places the CO equivalent<sup>2</sup>  
23          release significant -- significantly above Title Five  
24          standards.

25                      The goal of Greenidge management is to

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           utilize at least ninety-six megawatts of electricity  
3           year round, powered by fracked methane gas for mining  
4           of this speculative currency. The process will  
5           provide huge profits for the company owners and also  
6           maintain a market for the out of state frack gas  
7           industry.

8                               But it will do so at the expense of  
9           huge unnecessary energy usage and increased  
10          greenhouse gas emissions contrary to the state's  
11          clean energy standard, and the Climate Leadership and  
12          Community Protection Acts goals of reducing manmade  
13          emissions in light of the climate change emergency.  
14          Thank you.

15                           A.L.J. OLIVERI: Thank you. I'll read  
16          off the next several names so that everyone can be  
17          prepared for their name to be called. Denise  
18          Katzman, Miles McManus, Tessa Sage Flores, David  
19          Keegan, Johanna Faller, Thomas Ned Bailey and Mark  
20          Dunlea.

21                           The next speaker will be Denise  
22          Katzman. Denise Katzman, are you on the line? And  
23          if you're on the phone, please press star three.

24                           MS. KATCHMAR: Denise was unmuted.

25                           A.L.J. OLIVERI: Katzman, are you on

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           the line? Okay. The next speaker is Miles McManus.  
3           Miles McManus, if you're on the line, please let us  
4           know, or press star three on your telephone.

5                       MR. MCMANUS: Hello, can you hear me  
6           now?

7                       A.L.J. OLIVERI: Yes.

8                       MR. MCMANUS: Great. Thank you. My  
9           name is Miles McManus, and I live in New York City.  
10          I am here today to oppose Greenidge's permit  
11          applications. As a parent and a proud New Yorker,  
12          I've been active on climate issues in the state for  
13          years. I'm used to seeing energy companies put  
14          profits over people.

15                      But when I learned what Greenidge was  
16          doing, I was honestly speechless. As far as I know,  
17          this is the first time that a corporation has dared  
18          to assault New York's environmental and community  
19          health for profit without even pretending to provide  
20          a public benefit for the emissions that were  
21          generated.

22                      Now, no one who allows this to  
23          continue can call themselves a public servant.  
24          Despite Greenidge's shameless greenwashing, burning  
25          fracked gas to mine Bitcoin is obviously in conflict

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           with New York State law and the guidance from every  
3           reputable scientific and energy body in the world.  
4           We must end fossil fuels now.

5                       Unfortunately, under ex-Governor  
6           Cuomo, Commissioner Seggos and the D.E.C. have been  
7           slow walking C.L.C.P.A. implementation and abdicating  
8           their responsibility to protect the people of New  
9           York State. Their priority was to protect their boss  
10          from corporate blowback and hits to his campaign  
11          funding. But the Cuomo Era is over.

12                      Governor Hochul, it's time for you to  
13          pick a side. You're either with the people of New  
14          York or against us. If you're interested in a future  
15          in New York State politics, we need you to step in  
16          now. Please remind Commissioner Seggos what D.E.C.  
17          stands for. Deny Greenidge's permits and ban behind  
18          the meter Bitcoin mining immediately. Then show us  
19          what real leadership looks like.

20                      Ban all new fossil fuel infrastructure  
21          and get our union neighbors new, good paying jobs,  
22          moving the state to one hundred percent renewables  
23          now before it's too late. Thank you.

24                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: The next speaker is  
25          Tessa Sage Flores. Tessa Sage Flores, if you're on

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           the line, please let us know, or press star three if  
3           you're on the telephone.

4                       MS. KATCHMAR: So I am unmuting Tessa,  
5           if -- okay, you're on -- but her line is muting and  
6           unmuting, so I don't know if she's having a problem  
7           on her end. Hello, Tessa, are you there?

8                       MS. FLORES: Well, I would like to be,  
9           but I'm not sure that you can --

10                      MS. KATCHMAR: Yes.

11                      MS. FLORES: -- hear me.

12                      MS. KATCHMAR: We can.

13                      MS. FLORES: Okay, great. Hi. My name  
14           is Tessa Sage Flores. I reside in the town of  
15           Ithaca. And I'm here to urge Governor Hochul to  
16           direct the D.E.C. to deny Greenidge's Title Five and  
17           -- well, both Four and Five Air Permit. As you all  
18           know by now, New York State has committed to the most  
19           aggressive clean energy and climate agenda in the  
20           country by passing the Climate Leadership and  
21           Community Protection Act. Greenidge's bid to renew  
22           their Title Four and Five Air Permit is precedenting  
23           -- precedent setting case for other potential New  
24           York facilities like the Fortistar plant in North  
25           Tonawanda.

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2 Let's not let this thing get started.

3 Let's stop it now. A C.L.P.A. advisory panel found  
4 that New York State can cut CO emissions up to forty  
5 percent by 2030 if we eliminate <sup>2</sup> fifty percent of our  
6 greenhouse gas emitting facilities, and only produce  
7 fifteen million tons of CO equivalents per year. If  
8 Greenidge is allowed to expand <sup>2</sup> their capacity, they  
9 alone are projected to produce one million of those  
10 fifteen million tons. And this is not a sustainable  
11 model.

12 In 2020, Greenidge's emissions equaled  
13 more than fifty-one thousand additional passenger  
14 vehicles on the road for one year. They are already  
15 producing too many emissions to be consistent with a  
16 sustainable future for New York State. Currently,  
17 Greenidge is no longer operating to provide power to  
18 the public, and has become largely a private  
19 operation to mine Bitcoin.

20 The company and its investors are  
21 reaping the financial rewards. And the people of New  
22 York and the environment are absorbing the impacts of  
23 its intensive energy use. And I see my time is up  
24 and I'm a mother and a grandmother and I want a  
25 sustainable world -- world for my grandchildren's

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           grandchildren. And to get that we have to stop this  
3           kind of thing right now. Thank you.

4                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: The next speaker is  
5           David Keegan.

6                   MR. KEEGAN: Hello -- hello, can you  
7           hear me?

8                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes.

9                   MR. KEEGAN: Hi. My name is David  
10          Keegan, and I live in Brooklyn, New York. And I  
11          would like to say that I think the Title Five and  
12          Title Four permits should be denied for this project.  
13          My wife is a -- is a nurse at the emergency room at -  
14          - at Bellevue City Hospital in New York. And the day  
15          after Hurricane Ida, she could barely get into work.  
16          Subways weren't running, the roads were -- were --  
17          were messed up and as -- as you know, I think more  
18          than forty people died in our area.

19                   Disasters like Ida are going to get  
20          worse in the future as climate change -- as the  
21          effects of climate change increase, and the people of  
22          New York -- taxpayers of New York are going to be on  
23          the line for -- paying for billions of dollars of  
24          protection against rising seas and who allow a  
25          project to go forward to mine Bitcoin that will



1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           generate a lot of energy just seems like a -- the  
3           wrong move right now. So thank you for listening,  
4           and I yield my time.

5                       A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
6           speaker is Johanna Fallert.

7                       MS. FALLERT: Good afternoon. Can you  
8           hear me?

9                       A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes. Thank you.

10                      MS. FALLERT: Your Honor, my name is  
11          Johanna Fallert. I live in Poughkeepsie. I'm a  
12          member of Mothers Out Front, a grass root movement  
13          that advocates for a livable climate today and for  
14          our children's future. The Greenidge Power Plant  
15          should not be granted a Title Five Air Permit,  
16          because the electricity it generates is not vitally  
17          needed by the people of the Seneca region.

18                      A close look at the operation of this  
19          facility shows that Greenidge threatens the air, the  
20          water (unintelligible) and is destroying the lake's  
21          sustainability as the lake trout capital of the  
22          world. Above all those, Greenidge contributes to the  
23          existential threat we are experiencing from climate  
24          warming and emergency that we should work urgently to  
25          mitigate. In 2011 Greenidge was shut down because

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           there was not a sufficient demand for electricity.

3                       New owners lobbied state officials  
4           winning a grant to convert coal burning facility to  
5           natural fracked gas. The D.E.C. granted permits for  
6           its operation and even waived the normal requirement  
7           for an environmental impact statement because it  
8           believed that there would be no new demand for  
9           electricity regeneration. Soon after, Greenidge  
10          started operations it turned to Bitcoin mining with  
11          its intense and growing demand for electricity.

12                      Greenidge does not serve the public,  
13          it serves the needs of investors. Tax payments to  
14          the region do not offset the harm Greenidge poses.  
15          Consider that Greenidge was piping fracked natural  
16          gas that leads methane from the moment it is  
17          extracted and transported to the plant. Methane is  
18          far more potent in heating the atmosphere over a  
19          twelve to twenty-year period, the critical window of  
20          time we have to beat back irreversible climate change  
21          that will make our world a living hell.

22                      By its own estimates, Greenidge will  
23          emit millions of tons of carbon dioxide that lasts  
24          hundreds of years as a climate warming greenhouse  
25          gas. There's not enough time to detail the harm

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           caused by a seven-foot diameter water intake pipe  
3           greater than the length of two football fields before  
4           it gets below the surface of Seneca Lake or the harm  
5           from the hot water discharge (unintelligible) that  
6           changes the normal temperature of the lake.

7                       These and other issues raised today  
8           require the public service commission to follow the  
9           signs and deny the Title Five Air Permit. Thank you  
10          for your consideration.

11                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
12          speaker is Thomas Nadbielny. Thomas Nadbielny, if  
13          you're on the telephone, please press star three.  
14          Okay, the next speaker is Mark. The last name is not  
15          clear, but it looks like it's Dunlea.

16                      MR. DUNLEA: It's Mark Dunlea. And I  
17          submit these comments as chair of the Green Education  
18          and Legal Fund to request that D.E.C. and the Hochul  
19          administration do not issue the air Title Five  
20          facility permit for Greenidge Generating Station as  
21          currently drafted. The power plant with its new use  
22          as a Bitcoin mining operation and its enormous  
23          increases in greenhouse gas emissions will adversely  
24          impact our water and air quality, degrade in the  
25          pastoral nature of the region, and damaging vital

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2           environmental resources and/or health.

3                       This facility will not promote the  
4           aesthetic cultural or commercial values that have  
5           made the Finger Lakes a premier destination. This  
6           facility and others like it will prevent the state  
7           from meeting its critical climate goals established  
8           under the C.L.C.P.A. Facilities -- these types of  
9           Bitcoin operations already having a major negative  
10          impact on climate changes worldwide resulting in  
11          significant increases in greenhouse emissions.

12                     Greenidge is a precedent setting case  
13          for other New York facilities, as is the Fortistar  
14          Plant and North Tonawanda. The G.H., greenhouse gas  
15          emissions, at the generating facility are -- are  
16          skyrocketing. C.L.C.P.A. advisory panel found that  
17          New York state can cut emissions up to forty percent  
18          by 2030 if we eliminate fifty percent of the  
19          greenhouse gas emitted facilities, not add them.

20                     Dr. Bob Howard, Cornell University,  
21          member of the Climate Action Council, said we can  
22          make the cuts by quickly ramping up renewable energy  
23          sources, but we cannot do it if we have Greenidge and  
24          other -- and other Greenidge like planets. Most of  
25          the energy generated in this plant is not going to

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2           the grid, instead being used by a private tech  
3           company with the financial rewards remaining with the  
4           company because Greenidge threatens the environmental  
5           and economic sustainability of the region is a  
6           precedent setting case for other aging power plants  
7           in New York and it's not consistent with C.L.C.P.A.

8                       GELF requests that Governor Hochul and  
9           D.E.C. deny the Title Five Air Permit for Greenidge.  
10          Thank you.

11                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: I'll read off the  
12          next several names I will call. Iris Hisk, Brian  
13          Eden, Michael Davis, Timothy Dennis, Brian Ackert,  
14          Jess Mullen, James, the last name is unclear. The  
15          email starts with J-X-K. Then Cyrus Umrigar, Valdi  
16          Weiderpass and Maura Stephens.

17                      The next speaker I'll call is Iris,  
18          and the last name looks like it's Hisk. Iris Hisk,  
19          if you're on the telephone please press star three.

20                      MS. KATZMAN: Hello, it's Denise --  
21          it's Denise Katzman. Can you hear me?

22                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Oh, okay, Ms.  
23          Katzman, I did not call --

24                      MS. KATZMAN: Well, there were --  
25          there were -- I'm sorry. But there were major

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2           problems with me doing this virtually, so I'm on the  
3           phone.

4                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay.

5                   MS. KATZMAN: May I speak now?

6                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yeah, yes, yes. I  
7           see your name. We tried to call you. Go ahead.

8                   MS. KATZMAN: Yes, thank you. D.E.C.,  
9           thank you for this vitally important hearing. There  
10          is significant evidence that allowing Greenidge to  
11          expand will increase methane G.H.G., which is a  
12          perpetual violation of the C.L.C.P.A. and New York  
13          State's Paris Agreement participation. Methane,  
14          noise and the intense heat mining computers throw off  
15          are Greenidge's constant anthropogenic pollution.  
16          The former coal plant can transition to geothermal.

17                   Two of the largest utilities in New  
18          York State Con Ed and National Grid created community  
19          scale geothermal, that's the legacy New Yorkers  
20          deserve. Geothermal mitigates climate crisis, aligns  
21          with the C.L.C.P.A. and Paris Agreement. And whoever  
22          spoke at the top of this from Yates County lied.  
23          Carbon neutral doesn't use methane. D.E.C.,  
24          protecting clean air and H two O ecosystems is your  
25          mandate. Allowing Greenidge to expand is an

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2           outrageous determination.

3                       This is personal due to what I just  
4           said. And I work with a NYSERDA portfolio company  
5           that lessens the heat island syndrome. New York  
6           State has the highest hash rate, nineteen point nine  
7           percent, in the U.S. collective mining sector. 2015,  
8           the New York State Department of Finance allowed an  
9           exemption for miners and mining pools. This must  
10          end. May 2019, Atlas Holdings, Greenidge's parents  
11          received NASDAQ noncompliance notices.

12                     August 31, 2020, Atlas received an  
13          S.E.C. hearing's panel delist determination for  
14          noncompliance with S.E.C. Regs. There is a current  
15          lawsuit regarding that and it further justifies that  
16          Atlas and Greenidge can't be trusted. No one can  
17          verify cryptocurrency's originator. Its facilities  
18          and value are highly volatile and risk management is  
19          neglected. Prior Bitcoin operations in New York  
20          State failed.

21                     2019 Plattsburgh, New York, residents  
22          saw their energy bills skyrocket, and a Bitcoin  
23          mining moratorium was instituted. The S.E.C. is  
24          addressing climate protection as a top priority along  
25          with fraud and ransomware. This week on Monday,

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2           Jamie Diamond, exec -- chief executive of the largest  
3           bank in the U.S., J.P. Morgan Chase, he personally  
4           and holistically gets it right. Bitcoin "it's  
5           worthless, the bank won't custody it". Assembly  
6           Member -- I'm in Ithaca, New York. Assembly Member  
7           Anna Kelles' moratorium was not a job killer, has to  
8           been made a factually false decision to oppose.  
9           September 8, (unintelligible) tweet --

10                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Ms. Katzman --

11                   MS. KATZMAN: -- Greenidge have --

12                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: -- you're going to  
13           have to --

14                   MS. KATZMAN: (unintelligible).

15                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: You're going to have  
16           to summarize --

17                   MS. KATZMAN: I have a few --

18                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: -- your comments.

19                   MS. KATZMAN: I have a few more words.

20           Greenidge has not shown compliance with New York's  
21           climate law. Fabulous Gov. Kathy, I demand that you  
22           must deny Greenidge's Air Permits and expansion.  
23           Atlas take your "model for the industry and hang your  
24           shingle in taxes." The former coal plant on Seneca  
25           Lake must be decommissioned and revitalized as a



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2           geothermal plant with solar and energy storage,  
3           clean, resilient energy for Upstate New York, that's  
4           a positive D.E.C. legacy. Thank you.

5                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay. Thank you.  
6           The next speaker is Brian Eden.

7                   MR. EDEN: Hi, am I -- I'm ready?

8                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes, go ahead.  
9           Thank you.

10                  MR. EDEN: In April 2014, Atlas  
11           Holdings of Connecticut, a private investment firm  
12           whose business model was to acquire companies under  
13           financial and operational stress purchased a plant  
14           with the intent of reopening it as a coal fired  
15           peaker plant. What was Atlas plan for profitability  
16           of a closed age coal electric facility in an era of  
17           coal plant closures? It appeared to include large  
18           public subsidies enlightened regulation.

19                  I wanted to go extensively into the  
20           meeting that was held in the executive chambers in  
21           March 2015 that has a lot of questionable, you know,  
22           political donations and insider lobbying  
23           considerations, but I -- I -- there's no time for  
24           that. So I'll just say that three months later, the  
25           -- the D.E.C. approved that there would not be an

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2           environmental impact statement, so this was not  
3           transparent.

4                       So we've had a lot of issues in New  
5           York with Governor Cuomo's political cronyism and I'm  
6           -- I see this as another evidence of his cronyism.  
7           If you look at the background, you'll see that I was  
8           a -- I'm an ethics advisory board member in my county  
9           and our focus is to develop a new set of best  
10          practice principles to serve as a guide for ethical  
11          behavior and the appearance of adherence to such  
12          principles as a critical to public trust in  
13          government and agencies.

14                     Governor Hochul last week, issued  
15          restoring trust in government is a top priority  
16          initiative. And she's turning the Joint Committee on  
17          political ethics upside down. And I will be calling  
18          upon my New York legislators, so the whole  
19          legislative hearings to assess the performance of New  
20          York State D.E.C. under -- during the Cuomo  
21          administration. Hopefully we shall achieve more  
22          merit -- meritorious agency decision-making in the  
23          future.

24                     Maneuvers are in this hearing having  
25          speculated that a proper political influence as long

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2           and present and numerous other permit reviews. Atlas  
3           should not continue to receive the benefits of the  
4           poison fruit from the lack of an adequate  
5           environmental review in 2015. Thank you.

6                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
7           speaker is Michael Davis.

8                   MR DAVIS: Can you hear me?

9                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes.

10                  MR DAVIS: Hi, my name is Michael  
11          Davis. I live in Clyde, New York, in Wayne County.  
12          I'm the business manager for the International  
13          Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in Geneva. I have  
14          people who work in this facility (unintelligible).  
15          While there's been a great deal of noise about  
16          Greenidge lately, there should be no ambiguity about  
17          where our loyalty falls at the I.B.E.W. Local 840.  
18          We stand with Greenidge because we know their track  
19          record.

20                   We have people working in there daily,  
21          we see their commitment to the environment, to safety  
22          and their community at large. During the worst of  
23          the COVID-19, Greenidge has fully approved Bitcoin  
24          mining operation provided our workers via partnership  
25          with O'Connell Electric with steady employment day

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2           after day supporting their families.

3                       Greenidge is not seeking to increase  
4           their power generation capacity. What they are doing  
5           with our help is creating high tech jobs of the  
6           future right here in Upstate New York. We encourage  
7           the Department to swiftly complete their work and  
8           issue the final Title Five Air Permit for Greenidge.  
9           Thank you very much for your time.

10                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
11           speaker is Brian Ackert (phonetic spelling). Brian  
12           Ackert, are you on the line? If you're on the  
13           telephone, please press star three. Okay, the next  
14           speaker is Timothy Dennis. Timothy Dennis, are you  
15           on the line?

16                   MR. DENNIS: Hello.

17                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Hi, is this Mr.  
18           Dennis?

19                   MR. DENNIS: Hello? Yes, can you hear  
20           me?

21                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes.

22                   MR. DENNIS: Okay, can I start?

23                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes, go ahead.

24           Thank you.

25                   MR. DENNIS: I am Timothy Dennis from

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2           Penn Yan, New York. I served twelve years on the  
3           Yates County Legislature representing District Two in  
4           which Greenidge is located. In addition, I served  
5           four years as finance committee chairman and four  
6           years as chairman of the legislature, the highest  
7           elected office in Yates County. I enthusiastically  
8           support Greenidge Generation and their application  
9           for renewal of air permits.

10                       They have an unblemished record of  
11           complying with D.E.C. regulations. Compared to 1990,  
12           the air emissions today are reduced by seventy  
13           percent. Greenidge is an economic driver at our  
14           small rural community. The increased property taxes,  
15           sales tax and pilot payments had significantly helped  
16           to offset increases in real property tax. From two  
17           employees in 2014, the workforce has grown to over  
18           forty. The average wage is about double the Yates  
19           County overall average.

20                       Greenidge has established a  
21           philanthropic position in the county with significant  
22           grants to our soldiers and sailor's hospital,  
23           community center, outlet trail, sheriff's camp,  
24           habitat for humanity and many more. It is  
25           significant that the Yates County legislature had

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2           unanimously endorsed Greenidge and its air permit  
3           application. Those who speak from the negative side  
4           certainly do not represent the majority of the  
5           residents of the village of Dresden, Town of Torrey  
6           or Yates County.

7                       I submit that many claims that state  
8           such things as Greenidge is destroying or even  
9           harming Seneca Lake, Greenidge will harm the wine and  
10          tourism industry or there is no benefit to the  
11          community are mere emotional reactions with no basis  
12          and fact. The previously referenced draft nine  
13          element plan for Seneca and Keuka Lake watershed  
14          makes no mention of Greenidge Generation with regard  
15          to degradation of Seneca Lake.

16                      I thank you for this time. I want to  
17          clarify that I'm chairman of the Greenidge Community  
18          Advisory Committee, which was formed in February of  
19          2021. Thank you.

20                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. I'm  
21          calling Brian Ackert one more time. Brian Ackert,  
22          are you on the line? Okay, the next speaker is Jess  
23          Mullen.

24                      MS. MULLEN: Hi, can you hear me?

25                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes. Go ahead.

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2                           MS. MULLEN: Thanks. I'm Jess Mullen,  
3           and I live in Kingston. Thanks for the chance to  
4           speak today. The recently proposed moratorium on  
5           proof of work cryptocurrency mining needs to be  
6           prioritized by legislators and the D.E.C. needs to  
7           uphold the C.L.C.P.A. and deny the air permitting for  
8           Greenidge Generation. A few years ago I purchased  
9           Bitcoin, Ethereum and a few other random  
10          cryptocurrencies. At that time, I couldn't imagine  
11          the negative impacts that cryptocurrencies -- many of  
12          them have on the climate crisis. But the truth is  
13          out.

14                        When I learned about Greenidge's use  
15          of fossil fuels to meet Bitcoins energy intensive  
16          needs, I got rid of my Bitcoin along with the other  
17          cryptocurrencies I held. I researched more  
18          environmentally responsible currencies that don't use  
19          the energy intensive proof of work system. There's a  
20          long growing list of crypto options that don't use  
21          proof of work. Now, I hold one cryptocurrency called  
22          Cardano, which uses the proof of stake system.

23                        So it requires far less energy than  
24          proof of work currencies like Bitcoin need to use.  
25          And if it turns out that it's not as sustainable as

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2           the industry is saying, I'll sell that too. But that  
3           brings us to the huge problem we're facing. We're  
4           allowing a free for all to happen with  
5           cryptocurrencies. They operate unfettered by  
6           regulations that traditional industries are required  
7           to adhere to because they can. The government has  
8           not caught up with the technology enough to make  
9           policies that require Bitcoin to use less energy.

10                   And here in New York, we have this  
11           novel strange issue of fracked gas plant sacrificing  
12           the clean air and health of New Yorkers in the name  
13           of cryptocurrency because they can, it's just absurd.  
14           It's mind blowing, but we need to catch up to  
15           reality. Greenidge burns fracked gas and our state  
16           climate law states that we must transition off fossil  
17           fuels. Greenidge is against our state climate law.

18                   According to estimates from the  
19           digital (unintelligible), Bitcoin energy consumption  
20           index, a single Bitcoin transaction uses enough  
21           electricity that could power an average U.S.  
22           household for sixty days. There's no way that we  
23           will meet our state climate goal of reducing our  
24           emissions by eighty-five percent by 2050 if Greenidge  
25           isn't stopped. Please adhere to this C.L.C.P.A. and



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2           deny the air permits. Thank you.

3                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
4           speaker -- first name has his name James. The last  
5           name was not put down. The email starts with J-X-K.  
6           And if you're on the phone, please press star three.  
7           Okay, the next speaker is Cyrus Umrigar.

8                   MR. UMRIGAR: Hi, can you hear me?

9                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes.

10                  MR. UMRIGAR: Oh, you can? Okay,  
11           because it still shows me muted. Okay, great. I'm  
12           Cyrus Umrigar, and I'm speaking on behalf of my wife,  
13           Julie Hanson and myself. We live in Brooktondale,  
14           New York. We would like to ask the D.E.C. to deny  
15           the permit. We -- we see absolutely no social value  
16           in Bitcoin mining. Cryptocurrencies are just  
17           speculation, they make a few people rich, but they  
18           create no inherent wealth. There is nothing of value  
19           in them.

20                   If they can be done without a huge  
21           expenditure of energy, fine, I'm not opposed to that.  
22           But -- but what we are talking about is an enormous  
23           use of energy. Bitcoin mining around the world uses  
24           more energy than the entire country of Finland, the  
25           entire country of Denmark, the entire country of

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2           Sweden, it's ridiculous. In this time, you know,  
3           when we are facing an existential climate to -- to  
4           waste our resources on that is absolutely ridiculous.

5                       Now, I certainly appreciate that the  
6           power plant creates some local jobs, and we do need  
7           local jobs. But against that, you have to consider  
8           all the jobs that are being destroyed, and not just  
9           jobs, or the lives that are being destroyed. I mean,  
10          how many wildfires? How many hurricanes? How many  
11          lives lost do we need to have before we wake up and  
12          stop this insanity? So I would also like to refute  
13          some things that were said by people who were on --  
14          in favor of it.

15                      One person said that it is carbon  
16          neutral, that's a ridiculous claim, it cannot be.  
17          One -- somebody said that the power outages in Texas  
18          were due to solar and wind that was not the case.  
19          The fossil fuel plants failed as well. So please  
20          deny the permit. If -- if it was used -- if -- if it  
21          was being used for powering houses, our industry  
22          that's one thing, but for cryptocurrencies, no, thank  
23          you.

24                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
25          speaker is Valdi Weiderpass.

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2                           MR. WEIDERPASS:   Thank you for this  
3           opportunity.   My name is Valdi Weiderpass, and I live  
4           in Endicott, New York, ZIP Code 13760.   I'm a member  
5           of Sierra Club, and voluntarily serve as chair of the  
6           Susquehanna Group of the Sierra Club.   I urge the  
7           D.E.C. to deny Greenidge's Title Four and Five Air  
8           Permit and any other permits associated with this  
9           operation, and if necessary to make this happen for  
10          Governor Hochul to direct the D -- D.E.C. to deny  
11          this permit and to make an announcement when it is  
12          denied to the public that explains why and how  
13          important this denial is.

14                       Greenidge is no longer operating  
15          solely to provide power to the public, and has become  
16          largely a private operation to mine Bitcoin  
17          cryptocurrency.   The financial rewards of this  
18          operation remain with the company and its investors  
19          while the environmental impacts of its intensive and  
20          growing energy use are externalized, impacting our  
21          community, our state and the world.

22                       It is now obvious that Greenidge's  
23          applicants are disingenuous in claims that this  
24          plant's purpose is for public good.   And they are  
25          asking -- the actual reason they are asking is to

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2           take us further toward potential climate change  
3           catastrophe by planning to increase greenhouse gas  
4           emissions by more than a factor of five, all to just  
5           increase their own profits. This should be an easy  
6           obvious decision if you are care about protecting the  
7           environment, which is the D.E.C.'s mission.

8                           Under Governor Cuomo, the D.E.C.  
9           failed to consider this a new source, and did not  
10          complete a thorough environmental review with an  
11          E.I.S. as required by SEQRA when it requested permits  
12          to reopen as a gas fired plant. Now, D.E.C. and  
13          Governor Hochul have an opportunity to demonstrate  
14          that New York is serious about climate change, and  
15          reverse this flawed project by denying the permit  
16          renewal.

17                          This new use operation and its  
18          increased gas emissions negatively impact air  
19          quality, noise levels, people's health and the  
20          viability of vibrant agriculture within one of the  
21          state's largest agricultural counties, and reproduce  
22          thermal pollution which harms the lake's ecosystem.  
23          We must reduce greenhouse gas emissions not -- not  
24          increase them if we want to save for the habitable  
25          climate. Please deny the permits for this plant.

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2           Thank you.

3                           A.L.J. OLIVIERI:   Thank you.   The next  
4           speaker is Ann Logan.

5                           MS. LOGAN:   Hello.   My name is Ann  
6           Logan, and I live in Manhattan.   I'm not a local, but  
7           I care about what happens in my state.   And I care  
8           about what happens in this country.   We have a  
9           tremendous climate crisis problem facing us that gets  
10          worse every day.   We cannot afford to do something  
11          like use increased amounts of fracked gas.   We need  
12          to not increase the size or production of fossil fuel  
13          plants.   In particular, we are in the state of New  
14          York, which is one of the leading states on the  
15          climate issue.

16                          For instance, we have a statute, the  
17          Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act,  
18          which mandates zero emissions by 2050.   We're going  
19          to have a hard time reaching that standard even by  
20          changing over the sources of energy for the plants  
21          that we need for daily existence for our residents  
22          and for the businesses in our state.

23                          We do not need to be adding additional  
24          energy consuming in massive volumes, businesses that  
25          are not producing anything but a few jobs, but are

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2           producing massive emissions that are going to hurt  
3           our state, our country and the globe. We need to not  
4           approve any increase or new fossil fuel plants. This  
5           permit should be denied.

6                       A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
7           speaker is Maura Stephens.

8                       MS. STEPHENS: I'm Maura Stephens, a  
9           longtime journalist and cofounder of the coalition to  
10          protect New York. I've just spent weeks researching  
11          cryptocurrency mining for a co-written forty-seven-  
12          hundred-word story. It took that many words to tell  
13          a simplified version of what I've concluded is one of  
14          the biggest Ponzi schemes in recent history. It's a  
15          bubble readying to burst, and when it does, the  
16          consequences will be catastrophic.

17                      Mostly for governments, local  
18          communities, and small investors just like the last  
19          big bubble built on lousy mortgages. Cryptocurrency  
20          has no intrinsic value. It is not an economic  
21          equalizer. It does not democratize anything. It  
22          serves only to further enrich the wealthy. Even if  
23          the economic realities weren't so the sheer enormity  
24          of the energy used would be enough for any sensible  
25          policymakers to nix it immediately.

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2                           Prior speakers extoll natural gas  
3       emissions claiming they're lower than in 1990. Well,  
4       that year we were just becoming aware of greenhouse  
5       gas dangers for climate. And we know a lot better  
6       about methane now. Others claimed Greenidge creates  
7       jobs. Cryptocurrency is a virtual business requiring  
8       very little onsite supervision. It is not a long-  
9       term secure jobs creator. We learned about such  
10      false promises also during our fight to stop fracking  
11      in New York.

12                        There's no justification today when  
13      we're watching climate events grow more dire every  
14      season, to permit a facility like Greenidge or an  
15      unregulated industry like cryptocurrency, it makes a  
16      joke of the C.L.C.P.A. and New York's plans for a  
17      just transition. It goes against every particle of  
18      self-preservation and common sense we have. And  
19      despite industry claims, there's no way to make it  
20      greener. The county must be stopped now here in New  
21      York before it takes over every abandoned power plant  
22      in the country.

23                        A vote to permit it would state loudly  
24      and clearly that short-term profits for a few matter  
25      more than the wellbeing and health of the millions of

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2           people who rely on Seneca Lake, eat local foods and  
3           want to breathe freely. If China can ban it, we can  
4           deny these permits.

5                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
6           speaker is John Elder.

7                   MR. ELDER: (unintelligible).

8                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Mr. Elder, are you  
9           on the line? I'm having some trouble hearing you.

10                  MR. ELDER: (unintelligible).

11                  THE REPORTER: I'm sorry. This is the  
12           court reporter. I cannot hear him at all.

13                  A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Mr. Elder, are you  
14           able to put your volume up? We -- we cannot hear  
15           you.

16                  MR. ELDER: Well (unintelligible).

17                  A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Mr. Elder, your --

18                  UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And then we  
19           could quickly go through the agenda.

20                  A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Is this still Mr.  
21           Elder? We are having a lot of trouble hearing you.

22                  MR. ELDER: (unintelligible).

23                  MS. KATCHMAR: I don't think he's on  
24           this call. I think he's having another conversation.

25                  A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay. We'll move on



1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           to the next speaker. And I'll go through the next  
3           few speakers so everybody's aware of their name  
4           that's going to be called. Okay. So next -- the  
5           next few speakers will be Laura Burkhardt, Peter  
6           Bardaglio, Couchon, Norman Kutcher, Matthew Kane,  
7           Stephen Griffin, Eric Weltman, Anna Sears and James  
8           Smith. The next speaker will be Laura Burkhardt.

9                       Laura Burkhardt, are you on the line?

10                      THE REPORTER: Sorry. Sorry,  
11           Associated Reporters.

12                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: If you're on the  
13           telephone, please press star three. Okay, the next  
14           speaker is Peter Bardaglio.

15                      MR. BARDAGLIO: Yes, hi. Can you  
16           speak -- can you hear me?

17                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes, thank you.

18                      MR. BARDAGLIO: Thank you. Good  
19           afternoon. My name is Peter Bardaglio. I reside in  
20           Trumansburg, and I'm the coordinator of the Tompkins  
21           County Climate Protection initiative. I speak today  
22           to urge the D.E.C. to deny Greenidge's Title Five Air  
23           Permit. When Greenidge transitioned to a gas burning  
24           facility, no one knew it would become a Bitcoin  
25           mining operation. No one knew it would go on to

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2           produce the amount of greenhouse gases that it does  
3           today.

4                       Governor Hochul and the D.E.C. can  
5           demonstrate that New York is serious about climate  
6           change by denying this permit renewal. Under the  
7           C.L.C.P.A., Greenidge is required to factor in both  
8           greenhouse gases it produces on site and emissions  
9           generated upstream. The combined emissions according  
10          to Greenidge's own calculations exceed the limit on  
11          its Title Five Air Permit by nearly sixty-seven  
12          percent. These emissions negatively affect the air  
13          quality in our region and economy.

14                      Finger Lake's economy is dependent  
15          upon its clean air and water to support the two key  
16          factors driving it, wine production and tourism.  
17          This economy generates three billion dollars annually  
18          and supports fifty-eight thousand jobs. Greenidge is  
19          exploiting our natural resources and putting human  
20          health and people's livelihoods at risk.  
21          Furthermore, Greenidge is precedent setting test  
22          case. Greenidge and other facilities like it will  
23          prevent our state from achieving its climate targets.

24                      Greenidge claims it is utilizing  
25          carbon offsets to counteract its emissions. New

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2           York's climate law, however, stipulates that  
3           stationary power plants cannot use carbon offsets.  
4           Greenidge also recently announced it will be building  
5           a solar farm that will generate an estimated five to  
6           fifteen megawatts of power, which is but a small  
7           portion of the eighty-five megawatts it will be  
8           producing with fossil fuel.

9                       Because Greenidge threatens the  
10          environmental and economic sustainability of our  
11          region in the precedent setting test case other  
12          similar power plants in New York and is not  
13          consistent with the C.L.C.P.A. I urge the D.E.C. to  
14          deny the Title Five Air Permit for Greenidge. Thank  
15          you.

16                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
17          speaker is Doug Couchon. Doug Couchon, if you're on  
18          the telephone, please press star three?

19                      Okay, the next speaker is Norman  
20          Kutcher. Norman Kutcher, if you're on the telephone,  
21          please press star three.

22                      MS. KATCHMAR: I unmuted his line.

23                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay, Mr. Kutcher,  
24          we unmuted your line. You should have heard a beep.  
25          That would mean that your line is unmuted. Just make

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           sure you're not muted on your end. Hello? Norman  
3           Kutcher, are you -- are you on the line?

4                       Okay, the next speaker is Matthew  
5           Kane. Matthew Kane, if you're on the telephone,  
6           please press star three.

7                       MS. KATCHMAR: His line is unmuted as  
8           well.

9                       A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Matthew Kane, if you  
10          -- we -- we did unmute you. Just make sure that  
11          you're not muted on your end.

12                      Okay, the next speaker is Stephen  
13          Griffin. Stephen Griffin, if you're on the  
14          telephone, please press star three.

15                      Okay, the next speaker is Eric  
16          Weltman. Eric Weltman, if you're on the telephone,  
17          please press star three.

18                      Okay. The next speaker is Anna Sears.

19                      MS. SEARS: Can you hear me? Can you  
20          hear me now?

21                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes. Hi, is this  
22          Anna Sears?

23                      MS. SEARS: Yes.

24                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay.

25                      MS. SEARS: Hello, my name is Anna

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2           Sears. I reside in Fairport, New York, around  
3           Rochester, but spend a great deal of my time in the  
4           Finger Lakes. I'm attending this hearing today as a  
5           concerned citizen to urge Governor Hochul to direct  
6           the D.E.C. to not renew Greenidge's air permits.  
7           Globally, sixty-five percent or more of Bitcoin  
8           mining operations took place in China until early  
9           this past summer when China banned all cryptocurrency  
10          mining.

11                       These companies are now moving to less  
12          restrictive countries like the U.S.A. For example,  
13          the C.E.O. of B.T.C. dot TOP, which alone accounts  
14          for more than eighteen percent of China's Bitcoin  
15          mining, wrote in response to the ban "next we will  
16          mainly mine in North America." Suddenly, America's  
17          aging and mothballed plant -- power plants are  
18          becoming hotspots for Bitcoin mining. The old power  
19          plant in Dresden, New York, is a key example of this  
20          business model and New York's canary in the coal  
21          mine.

22                       When Atlas purchased the mothball  
23          power plant in Dresden in 2017, D.E.C. grandfathered  
24          in the decades old regulations from the original coal  
25          plant and gave Greenidge the go ahead to convert the

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2           plants to natural gas. In the process, D.E.C. did  
3           not treat this conversion as a new source. Two years  
4           later in 2019, Greenidge purchased equipment to mine  
5           for Bitcoin. Now, it is one of the largest and most  
6           polluting Bitcoin mines in the U.S.

7                        Their energy use is growing  
8           exponentially at a breakneck speed without updated  
9           greenhouse gas emissions limitations. Scientists  
10          have warned that Bitcoin alone could push the Earth's  
11          temperature two degrees above historical levels and  
12          could exceed the global warming targets set by the  
13          Paris Agreement. The Greenidge Bitcoin mining  
14          operations dangerously high carbon and methane  
15          emissions are a significant risk to the environment  
16          and economic sustainability of the Finger Lakes'  
17          terrifically successful wine and tourism industries,  
18          and would undermine the C.L.C.P.A. goals.

19                       So why on earth during this global  
20          warming emergency, would New York even consider  
21          permitting and enabling an energy hog polluter like  
22          Greenidge to expand its Bitcoin -- Bitcoin mining  
23          operation? It is incumbent on Governor Hochul and  
24          the D.E.C. to deny renewal of the air permits to  
25          Greenidge Generation. Thank you. I'm done.

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2 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay, thank you.

3 Okay, it looks like someone has raised their hand,

4 call-in user six one seven three --

5 MR. WELTMAN: Hi, can you --

6 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: -- zero four.

7 MR. WELTMAN: Hi, can you hear me?

8 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes. Who is this?

9 MR. WELTMAN: My name is Eric Weltman.

10 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay, hi, Eric

11 Weltman, how are you? Thank you.

12 MR. WELTMAN: Hi. Good. So again, my  
13 name is Eric Weltman, and I'm a Brooklyn based senior  
14 organizer with Food & Water Watch. We're proud to  
15 join (unintelligible) Justice, NYPIRG, the Sierra  
16 Club, Seneca Lake Guardian and so many other amazing  
17 allies and activists here today and sending a message  
18 to Governor Hochul, no fracked gas for cryptocurrency  
19 mining. The decision over Greenidge's permit is an  
20 important test of hopes on leadership on climate and  
21 moving New York off fossil fuel.

22 It is essential that Governor Hochul  
23 block this fracked gas power plant and halt any new  
24 fossil fuel infrastructure in New York. The science  
25 is clear and so are Governor Hochul's moral and legal

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2           obligations, New York must move off fossil fuels and  
3           that means stopping the Greenidge Power Plant. New  
4           York has banned fracking but we remain threatened by  
5           an onslaught of pipelines and power plants that  
6           transport and burn fracked gas.

7                       Governor Hochul, I visited the  
8           communities in Pennsylvania where the gas were  
9           burning is fracked. I've seen the dirty water, I've  
10          smelled the pollution, I've heard the noise. I've  
11          met parents who are terrified that their children are  
12          being poisoned, and they are. Their children are  
13          being poisoned, Governor Hochul. I've seen the  
14          devastation that the Geenidge plant would cause in  
15          the communities where the fracked gas is finally  
16          sucked out of the ground.

17                     Governor Hochul, this is your first  
18          important test on the climate and protecting the  
19          climate, and protecting so -- so much more. And the  
20          science is very clear. You must pass this test.  
21          Governor Hochul, as the devastation from Hurricane  
22          Ida tragically showed, our communities are at risk  
23          and our lives are at stake. We need you to stop this  
24          dangerous fracked gas project. Finally, I'd like to  
25          close with the call to action to my fellow activists



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2           on the call.

3                       Please take out your phones and get  
4           ready to call this hotline number to Governor Hochul.  
5           Here's the number, eight seven seven two three five  
6           six five three seven. Again, that's eight seven  
7           seven two three five six five three seven. Please  
8           call Governor Hochul this afternoon, this evening,  
9           tomorrow, spread the word. Urge people to call  
10          Governor Hochul to stop this dangerous project.  
11          Thank you.

12                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
13          speaker is James Smith.

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

15                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes.

16                      MR. SMITH: Thank you. My name is  
17          James Smith. I'm a third generation resident of the  
18          town of Torrey on Seneca Lake. I'm a former Yates  
19          County legislator, and I was the founding chairman  
20          and -- and the current treasurer of the Seneca  
21          Watershed Intermunicipal Organization. I'm also a  
22          candidate for Torrey Town supervisor. I support  
23          Greenidge Generation L.L.C. and its production of  
24          needed electrical generation. It is critically  
25          important to have a local reliable source of

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2           electricity when needed in this time of energy  
3           insecurity.

4                       The positive economic impact of  
5           Greenidge and its significant investment in the  
6           Finger Lakes region, Yates County and the Town of  
7           Tory is a benefit to all in the region. Greenidge  
8           was a coal fired power plant, which had been in place  
9           and operational in Yates County since 1937. It was  
10          historically the largest taxpayer in Yates County.  
11          It was shuttered in 2009 which resulted in a  
12          significant drop in tax revenue to the community and  
13          the elimination of jobs.

14                      Since its purchase in 2014,  
15          significant investment was made to convert the plant  
16          to a state-of-the-art clean natural gas fired power  
17          plant, and it resumed operations generating  
18          electricity. At that time, it was hoped and expected  
19          that Greenidge would find a market for -- for its  
20          electricity sufficient to make it a profitable and  
21          viable producer. Greenidge operates its power  
22          facility in full compliance with existing air and  
23          water permits issued by the state of New York.

24                      Greenidge has made an outsize  
25          contribution to the economy of Yates County. The

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2           company has created many high paying jobs filled by  
3           local residents, and its growing tax payments are  
4           vital to the Penn Yan Central School, Yates County  
5           and the town of Torrey. Greenidge's annual tax  
6           payments significantly helped offset the real  
7           property taxes paid by the town's other taxpayers.

8                       A viable and profitable Greenidge  
9           plant is a welcomed business in the town of Torrey, a  
10          positive steward of the environment and an excellent  
11          community partner. I strongly urge Governor Hochul  
12          to work with the D.E.C. to approve the Title Five Air  
13          Permit. Thank you.

14                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. I'll  
15          read out the next several names that I will call.  
16          Karen Smith, Tom Diaddigo, Amber Ruther, Gerri Wiley,  
17          Ann Finneran, Lindsay Speer, Quentin DeSarno,  
18          Elizabeth Whitehouse, Wanda Boeke and Chris Anneaer.

19                      The next speaker will be Karen Smith.

20                      MS. SMITH: Can you hear me?

21                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes. Thank you.

22                      MS. SMITH: My name is Karen Smith.

23          I'm a concerned citizen who has lived in the Burdett  
24          Hector area for over thirty years. I'm speaking  
25          today to urge the Hochul administration and the

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2           D.E.C. to deny the Greenidge Facilities' Title Four  
3           and Five Air Permits. The factual information I  
4           based my judgments on was provided by Crisp Magazine  
5           and the Seneca Lake Garden -- Guardian primarily.  
6           Besides the effect I just don't get the value of  
7           cryptocurrency. It reminds me of the Rumpelstiltskin  
8           story with the king's desire to have straw spun into  
9           gold. It's obviously nothing new that businesses  
10          like Greenidge need to try to recoup their losses and  
11          can be self-serving doing so. But my main point is  
12          that there is a stunning imbalance and inequity  
13          involved in Bitcoin mining. Here a facility  
14          originally designed to provide power to the public  
15          was quietly converted into a facility that chiefly  
16          benefits its owners and investors, and if I heard an  
17          earlier speaker correctly under fifty direct  
18          employees.

19                   And it does this while putting the  
20          regional population and its whole surrounding  
21          ecosystem in harm's way. As we've been learning,  
22          pollution of air and water does not have firm  
23          boundaries. Bitcoin mining itself is automated, so  
24          is not a major job creator for this region. But its  
25          environmental impact can gradually threaten the

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2           economy of the Finger Lakes, which heavily depends on  
3           clean air and water. As people have already said,  
4           Bitcoin mining is terribly energy intensive.

5                       A single Bitcoin transaction could  
6           power the average households for over a month.  
7           Greenidge is already one of the largest Bitcoin  
8           operations in the country, and the question of its  
9           continuation and expansion is likely to be seen as a  
10          precedent setting case. For this reason, Governor  
11          Hochul now has the opportunity to reverse the mistake  
12          made either by the -- by the Cuomo administration and  
13          to demonstrate that New York is serious about climate  
14          change by directing the D.E.C. to deny these permits.  
15          Thank you.

16                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: The next speaker is  
17          Vinny Aliperti. Vinny Aliperti, if you're on the  
18          line, please press star three. Vinny Aliperti, if  
19          you're on the line, please press star three.

20                      Okay, the next speaker is Tom. The  
21          last name was not put down, but it looks like from  
22          his email it's Tom Diaddigo. Tom Diaddigo, if you're  
23          on the line, please press star three if you're on the  
24          telephone.

25                      MR. DIADDIGO: Well, can you hear me?

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2 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Hello?

3 MR. DIADDIGO: The microphone too low?

4 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: So I'm having some  
5 trouble hearing you. Are you able to speak any  
6 louder?

7 MR. DIADDIGO: Can you hear me now?

8 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: I'm not sure the  
9 court reporter will be able to hear you.

10 MR. DIADDIGO: I'll submit my comments  
11 through email, then.

12 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay, I'm -- I'm  
13 sorry, if you can call back on another device.  
14 You're also welcome to submit written comments. But  
15 I -- we can barely hear you.

16 MR. DIADDIGO: Okay, thank you.

17 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay, let's call the  
18 next speaker, Amber Ruther.

19 MS. RUTHER: Hi, my name is Amber  
20 Ruther, and I'm with the Alliance for a Green  
21 Economy, which is based in Syracuse. I'm speaking  
22 today to ask you to reject Greenidge's Title Five and  
23 Title Four permits. Allowing an old fossil fueled  
24 plant like Greenidge to expand to mine cryptocurrency  
25 would be a disaster for our air, water and climate.

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2                           Allowing this plant to expand would  
3       clearly violate the C.L.C.P.A. because it would  
4       needlessly add massive amounts of air pollutants and  
5       greenhouse gases, including up to one million tons of  
6       CO per year to our atmosphere at a time when we need  
7       <sup>2</sup>to be scaling back overall energy use and phasing out  
8       fossil fuel use as quickly as possible. It would  
9       also dump thermal pollution into Seneca Lake causing  
10      harmful algal blooms, bacteria and stressing aquatic  
11      life.

12                       This would threaten public health and  
13      the local agriculture, fishing and tourism  
14      industries. Trust me, I'm from Lake George  
15      originally, and I've seen the way that short-sighted  
16      pollution in our lake has closed beaches, harmed the  
17      tourism industry and ruined our drinking water.  
18      Water is life and we need to protect it. It would  
19      also set a dangerous precedent for the thirty other  
20      power plants in New York like Fortistar that may also  
21      be expanded to mine cryptocurrency.

22                       Every single proof of work  
23      cryptocurrency transaction uses energy equivalent to  
24      ninety gallons of gasoline every single transaction.  
25      It has also been estimated that Bitcoin transactions

1           10-13-2021   -   Greenidge Generation LLC   -   WebEx  
2           alone use more energy than the entire country of  
3           Sweden. Eliminating wasteful uses of energy is  
4           critical to addressing the climate crisis because we  
5           also need to electrify all of our buildings, heating  
6           systems, cooking systems and our transportation  
7           systems to get off of fossil fuels.

8                        Electrification will greatly increase  
9           energy use at a time when we still don't have nearly  
10          enough renewables online to meet the goals of the  
11          C.L.C.P.A. While most Americans are doing their best  
12          to conserve energy, the crypto mining industry wastes  
13          massive amounts of energy for the sole purpose of  
14          transferring wealth to a few lucky investors. And as  
15          more investors join the network, the computational  
16          puzzles used to verify transactions become harder,  
17          requiring even more energy to solve.

18                      It's literally allowing people to  
19          trade pollution for profit at an exponential rate,  
20          and that is a slippery slope that we and our planet  
21          cannot afford. There are also sixteen other ways to  
22          mine cryptocurrency that are not nearly as energy  
23          intensive as -- as proof of work crypto mining is.

24                      I urge both D.E.C. and Governor Hochul  
25          to reject this permit, to reject all proposed



1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           expansion of fossil fuel use and to take the bold  
3           action needed to halt the irreversible damage of the  
4           climate crisis. Thank you.

5                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
6           speaker is Gerri Wiley.

7                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Hello, is this Ms.  
8           Gerri Wiley? Is -- are you on the phone?

9                   MS. WILEY: Yes, it is.

10                  A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay --

11                  MS. WILEY: Okay.

12                  A.L.J. OLIVIERI: -- go ahead. Sorry.

13                  MS. WILEY: Okay. Thank you. My name  
14           is Gerri Wiley. I'm a concerned citizen and energy  
15           navigator working throughout the state and living in  
16           Owego, New York. The following questions I believe  
17           need to be asked, the answers of which all shout out  
18           a huge no to Greenidge's bid for renewal of their air  
19           permits. Question Number One, what are the benefits  
20           of Greenidge's Bitcoin operation? Who benefits and  
21           how does it serve the common good?

22                   Question Two, is Greenidge's role as a  
23           crypto casino worthy of having any D.E.C. permit to  
24           pollute in the first place? Question Three, does  
25           Greenidge's plan to off -- offset their emissions

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           serve a meaningful role in this eleventh hour  
3           mitigation attempt in a climate crisis, in which  
4           every one of us must pull together to reduce methane  
5           and nitrogen oxide emissions instead of kicking the  
6           can down the road with offsets?

7                       And Question Four, how does  
8           Greenidge's enormous use of energy impact the  
9           willingness of many people like me who work day after  
10          day helping people to reduce their energy use? Will  
11          we give up our efforts seeing that anything we do  
12          about climate change will be undermined by energy  
13          intense proof of work cryptocurrency mining? The  
14          D.E.C. and I share the goals of energy conservation.  
15          And I trust that you will deny Greenidge's request  
16          for permit renewal. Thank you.

17                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: The next speaker is  
18          Ann Finneran.

19                      MS. FINNERAN: Hi, can you hear me?  
20          Can you hear me?

21                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes.

22                      MS. FINNERAN: Okay. Thank you.  
23          Thank you. Okay, I'm -- I'm Ann Finneran. I'm a  
24          resident of Sullivan County, New York. I'm a native  
25          Painted Poster. The Finger Lakes are home to me,

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           especially Seneca and Keuka Lakes. I just wanted to  
3           call them to deny the -- request that you deny the  
4           air permit renewals. And they should -- they should  
5           be -- go back to ground zero on that -- on that  
6           matter, go back to the -- the initial -- doing an  
7           initial E.I.S. and following up on that whole thing.

8                         This is a completely different animal  
9           than it was in 2015 through 2017. The -- I wanted to  
10          correct a couple of things that the town board  
11          members were saying, one of them with the Texas  
12          freezing event was due to the lack of the  
13          installation of remedies to prevent freezing which  
14          are well in place in New York State. That argument  
15          does not apply. The power for public consumer use is  
16          one thing. And that is why the plant was allowed to  
17          be converted to fracked gas from coal -- the coal ash  
18          spin, so to speak in 2017.

19                        Without, I must say adequate public  
20          input at the time and with an exemption on the E.I.S.  
21          and certain E.I.S.'s and a water concern exemption  
22          until 2022. I'll say at this point I am -- I work on  
23          with the Sierra club. I'm a volunteer chair of the  
24          Water Issues Committee. But this has to do with air  
25          so I'll -- I'll just follow up that. The plant was

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           not presented at that time to be intended to run at  
3           full capacity twenty-four seven, as it is running  
4           now.

5                       I'd like to see a side by side -- oh,  
6           I'm already done. Okay, let me just end up to say,  
7           yes, if they understand or care that even if future  
8           electrical generation for this heinous and  
9           egregiously self-serving enterprise might be from  
10          renewables that they would be taking from real energy  
11          needs like energy consumption for decent living  
12          standards by the general public. Thank you. I'm  
13          done.

14                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. Thank  
15          you. The next speaker is Lindsay Speer.

16                      MS. SPEER: Hi.

17                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Hi.

18                      MS. SPEER: Thank you for the  
19          opportunity to comment today. My name is Lindsay  
20          Speer, and I live in Syracuse, New York. I'm the  
21          Director of Community Programs for the Alliance for a  
22          Green Economy. I urge the D.E.C. to deny the Article  
23          Five Air Permit for Greenidge Power Plant. In 2015  
24          when repowering the shutdown coal plant -- coal power  
25          plant with fracked gas was proposed, New Yorkers

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           rightly questioned the need for this facility; I was  
3           among them.

4                       There was ample power generation in  
5           Zone J already. Now, the true purpose has been  
6           revealed. Greenidge is no longer operated solely to  
7           provide power to the public. It has become largely a  
8           private operation to mine Bitcoin operating twenty-  
9           four hours a day, seven days a week. It benefits the  
10          company, its investors while the environmental  
11          impacts are externalized.

12                      We fought too hard to ban frack in New  
13          York to allow plants like Greenidge bring more and  
14          more fracked gas into our state, to leak methane into  
15          our atmosphere, to burn gas into our sky and use our  
16          water. New York has been fighting so hard, it's shut  
17          down the dirtiest power plants in our state and power  
18          economy with renewables like wind and solar to  
19          address the climate crisis. Cryptocurrency mining  
20          for proof of work coins like Bitcoin are extremely  
21          energy intensive and take us in the wrong direction.

22                      In 2015, the D.E.C. failed to consider  
23          this as a new source that does not complete a full  
24          environmental impact review as required by SEQRA is  
25          offset Power plants that have been previously shut

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           down should be considered new sources, especially if  
3           there's any inclination that the ultimate reuse is  
4           different. This is a loophole that must be closed.  
5           The Title Five Air Permit issued in 2015 did not  
6           consider that this facility would be used for Bitcoin  
7           mining and this new use must be fully evaluated.

8                       The D.E.C. must also review this  
9           facility through the lens of the 2019 Climate  
10          Leadership and Community Protection Act. Under the  
11          C.L.C.P.A., Greenidge is not carbon neutral. Sources  
12          in the electric generating sector are not allowed to  
13          participate in the carbon offset stream. Under the  
14          C.L.C.P.A., Greenidge is required to factor in both  
15          onsite and upstream greenhouse gas emissions. These  
16          combined emissions, according to Greenidge's own  
17          calculations, would exceed the limit on its Title  
18          Five Air Permit by nearly sixty-seven percent.

19                      Because Greenidge is a precedent  
20          setting test case for other agent power plants in New  
21          York and this is not consistent with the C.L.C.P.A..  
22          I respectfully request that the D.E.C. deny Title  
23          Five Air Permit for Greenidge. Thank you.

24                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
25          speaker is Quentin DeSarno. Quentin DeSarno, if you

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           are on the telephone, please press star three.

3                       Okay, the next speaker is Elizabeth  
4           Whitehouse. Elizabeth Whitehouse, if you're on the  
5           telephone, please press star three.

6                       Okay, the next speaker is Wanda Boeke.  
7           Wanda Boeke, if you're on the line, please let us  
8           know.

9                       MS. BOEKE: Can you hear me?

10                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes.

11                      MS. BOEKE: Great. Thanks. My name  
12           is Wanda Boeke. I'm a resident of the Greater Finger  
13           Lakes area. And I don't want to repeat the many,  
14           many, many useful comments that people have already  
15           made regarding, for example, the bait and switch  
16           technique that Green -- Greenidge has engaged in  
17           starting as a peaker which is, you know, an excellent  
18           concept to help out with electrical generation, but -  
19           - and which is a public good but as one speaker said  
20           now it wants to trade pollution for profit and turn  
21           itself into a Bitcoin factory.

22                      The D.E.C. itself, or I should say the  
23           2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act,  
24           states that electrical generation sector shall not be  
25           eligible for green -- greenhouse gas offsets, but

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2           somehow, you know, it -- and Greenidge claims that  
3           oh, well, look, you know, we changed over from a coal  
4           plant to gas, now look, we're carbon neutral. But  
5           it's not really true because if you go back to the --  
6           the point source emissions of the fracked gas, it's  
7           more than a million tons which is way above the  
8           permitted limit of gases.

9                        Okay. About the point source  
10          emissions, the fact is that Greenidge is located on -  
11          - well, a large lake. But as the Federal Register  
12          review of the primary national ambient air quality  
13          standards for sulfur oxides, that's from March 2019,  
14          states point source emissions of sulfur oxides create  
15          a plume of appreciably higher concentrations in the  
16          air near the source, which would be the plant.

17                      And I think when people talk about  
18          tons of this and tons of that going in the air, one  
19          of the things that D.E.C. needs to remember is that  
20          the -- immediately next to the plant is where the  
21          sulfur oxides, SO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>3</sub>, so, you know, are going to  
22          hit the water and go across to Hector which is a very  
23          fine line area and effect grapes and there -- and the  
24          plants there. Algae blooms will be, you know,  
25          increased tremendously.



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2                               So I would recommend the D.E.C. reject  
3       the Title Four and Five Air Permits because it just -  
4       - it -- the bait and switch, it's -- it's no longer  
5       for the project that it was originally for.

6                               A.L.J. OLIVIERI:   Okay, thank you.

7       The next speaker is Chris Anneaer.

8                               MR. ANNEAER:   Hi, can you hear me?

9                               A.L.J. OLIVIERI:   Yes.

10                              MR. ANNEAER:   Wonderful.   Thank you.

11       My name is Chris Anneaer, and I reside in Geneva, New  
12       York.   I'm an associate professor of anthropology at  
13       Hobart and William Smith Colleges.   I research and  
14       teach food and environmental studies, and I urge  
15       Governor Hochul to direct the D.E.C. to deny  
16       Greenidge's -- Greenidge the Title Five Air Permit.  
17       Yates County is one of the largest agricultural  
18       producing counties in New York State in the heart of  
19       the Finger Lakes.

20                              While the economy is dependent upon  
21       its clean air and water to support its thriving  
22       economic engine, which of course, is wine in tourism.  
23       This agricultural and tourist driven economy  
24       generates three billion dollars in New York state  
25       annual and supports fifty-eight thousand jobs.   This

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2           corporation is exploiting our natural resources at  
3           the risk to human health, people's livelihoods and  
4           our economy.  Air emissions and particulate matter  
5           from -- from power plants such as Greenidge's are  
6           harmful to human health and crops, particularly  
7           grapes.

8                       Electricity production, the raw  
9           material of Greenidge's proof of work cryptocurrency  
10          has a profound human cost.  Globally, four million  
11          premature deaths occur each year as a result of air  
12          pollution, a sizeable fraction of which are due to  
13          coal and natural gas combustion in -- in power  
14          plants.  Furthermore, because Greenidge threatens the  
15          environmental and economic sustainability of this  
16          region, it is a -- it is a precedent setting test --  
17          test case for other aging power plants in New York.

18                      I'm running out of time so I'm just  
19          going to cut to the chase.  As a citizen of this  
20          region, community member and teacher scholar of our  
21          food and environment, I implore Governor Hochul to  
22          direct the D.E.C. to deny Greenidge's Title Five Air  
23          Permit.  Greenidge's Bitcoin operations harm our air  
24          and productive -- and productive food base while  
25          taxing our environment in order to enrich its

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2           investors. It must not be permitted to continue.  
3           Thank you.

4                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Read off the next  
5           few names so everyone can be prepared. Allison  
6           Considine, Larry Campbell, Mary Cronk, Elmer Ewing,  
7           Mary Thorpe, Mel Tishler, Jen Metzger, Natalie  
8           Polvere, Regi Teasley and David Ettman.

9                   The next speaker is Allison Considine.  
10          Allison Considine, if you're on the line, please let  
11          us know, or press star three if you're on the  
12          telephone.

13                   MS. CONSIDINE: Hi, can you hear me?

14                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes.

15                   MS. CONSIDINE: Hi, thank you for this  
16          opportunity to speak. My name is Allison Considine.  
17          I'm a native of Monroe County and spent four years  
18          going to school in Ithaca where many of my dear  
19          friends and family still live and where I might hope  
20          to live someday. I just wanted to take this  
21          opportunity to urge the D.E.C. to deny the Title Five  
22          Permit for the Greenidge facility, not only is it  
23          having a disastrous impact on Seneca Lake which is  
24          invaluable resource to the region and -- and harming  
25          fish life, plant life and -- and having numerous

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2           other effects that many other speakers have  
3           referenced, it also represents a real climate  
4           disaster. New York State has an obligation to reduce  
5           its emissions from power generation one hundred  
6           percent by 2040, to have a completely zero emissions  
7           electric sector. And the goal of that is to really  
8           get off burning fossil fuels entirely as a power  
9           source.

10                       And this sort of behind the meter  
11           loophole that Greenidge is exploiting to continue  
12           burning fossil fuels at a facility that advocates  
13           fought to -- to shut down to ensure cleaner air and a  
14           healthier climate stands in direct violation to the  
15           Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act and  
16           to the moral obligation we have in our state to  
17           reduce emissions as much as possible and to ensure  
18           that we're not unnecessarily burning emissions that  
19           will continue to change our climate leading to more  
20           deaths from extreme storms, droughts, and numerous  
21           other impacts.

22                       So I urge the D.E.C. to deny this  
23           permit and put a moratorium on this practice until  
24           the full implications of burning fossil fuels for  
25           cryptocurrency mining can be evaluated in the context

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           of the state's climate law. Thank you.

3                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
4           speaker is Larry Campbell.

5                   MR. CAMPBELL: Yes, my name is Larry  
6           Campbell. I reside in Geneva, New York. I urge  
7           Governor Hochul and the D.E.C. to deny Greenidge's  
8           Title Five Air Permit. The Keuka Outlet is a seven-  
9           mile stream carrying overflow water from Keuka Lake  
10          at Penn Yan to Seneca Lake at Dresden. The trail  
11          that follows the stream through a small isolated,  
12          wooded and -- wooded canyon is a historic and natural  
13          delight, great for hiking, biking, skiing, horseback  
14          riding and just relaxing with nature.

15                   Along the way are the waterfalls and  
16          relics of the old mills that once were the industrial  
17          backbone of the region. At a time when we could  
18          operate our essential machinery without polluting the  
19          air or the water, the remnants of the old canal can  
20          still be seen which once carried a boat traffic  
21          between the lakes. I and my family have frequently  
22          enjoyed this wonderful natural attraction. But what  
23          do you find at the end of the trail in Dresden?

24                   An abomination, an old-fashioned dirty  
25          power plant renamed Greenidge in an attempt to make

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2        people think that there's something natural and  
3        wholesome about what is going on there. It is  
4        totally out of place on a lake that is now devoted to  
5        wine, agricultural, recreation and tourism. It  
6        should only be tolerated if absolutely necessary. We  
7        have after all learned to live with some dirty  
8        industries out of necessity.

9                        So when enacted simply as a backup  
10       power source for our electric grid, there were  
11       reasonable grounds for tolerating it. But now, the  
12       permit, which is being offered for renewal is so out  
13       of date and inconsistent with this original purpose  
14       that it is a travesty that New York State is  
15       classifying it as a renewal. It should be reviewing  
16       this as a new application.

17                      New York State is being asked to  
18       approve a project which will vastly increase  
19       greenhouse gas emissions, noise, water pollution, and  
20       use of hydrogen -- hydrocarbon fuel, not for the good  
21       of the local community and environment, but solely  
22       for the enrichment of wealthy financial interests.  
23       This decision should be a no brainer. Thank you.

24                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
25       speaker is Mary Cronk. Mary Cronk, if you're on the

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2           telephone, please press star three.

3                       Okay, the next speaker is Elmer Ewing.

4                       MR. EWING: Hello?

5                       MS. KATCHMAR: We have unmuted a call-

6           in user.

7                       MR. EWING: Hello?

8                       A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Hello. Is this

9           Elmer Ewing?

10                      MR. EWING: Yes, I'm Elmer Ewing.

11           Okay.

12                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes, go ahead.

13                      MR. EWING: Thank you. I'm -- I'm

14           Elmer Ewing. I'm an emeritus professor at Cornell's

15           College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. But I

16           speak only for myself. Well, also for my wife, five

17           children, ten grandchildren and two great

18           grandchildren. Global warming -- global scorching is

19           here. We hear about many of the sensational effects,

20           not always -- there are a lot of other ones that are

21           more -- or that just not -- are not reported.

22                      Our daughter in Idaho has had four

23           hundredths of an inch of rain since March. That's

24           point zero four inches of rain. Her two horses were

25           munching on what little grass they could find in the

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           lawn. Her son in Oregon could not spend time  
3           outdoors the last two summers because of smoke from  
4           wildfires. My brother-in-law in Central Illinois was  
5           looking at the best corn crop in memory. Then eleven  
6           inches of rain in one day led to water so deep he  
7           couldn't see chest high corn.

8                       Typically, the weather he gets in  
9           Central Illinois visits us two days later. I'm glad  
10          that downpour didn't follow. In 1976, we had four  
11          inches of rain in forty-five minutes at our house.  
12          Route 79 in front of the house was closed by flooding  
13          and Ithaca lost its water supply. If four inches did  
14          that, I shudder to think how we would cope with  
15          eleven inches.

16                      How do I rank reducing the damage from  
17          what is already a climate in chaos with the  
18          importance of supporting cryptocurrency? The answer  
19          is obvious. The D.E.C. must deny the renewal of time  
20          of -- of Title Five Air Permits for Greenidge  
21          Generation. Compliance with the C.L.C.P.A. demands  
22          it. Common sense demands it. We cannot bear all the  
23          extra emissions of greenhouse gas that would come  
24          from accepting its renewal. Again, thank you for the  
25          chance to comment.



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2 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Next speaker is Mary  
3 Thorpe.

4 MS. THORPE: Hello. Hi.

5 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Hello.

6 MS. THORPE: Hi, this is Mary Thorpe.

7 I reside in Sherman County, New York. And I'm  
8 speaking as a private citizen with just concerns  
9 about our climate change and how this project would  
10 add to it. I was not in favor of Greenidge  
11 converting to natural gas when that happened, but at  
12 least that has public good, but Bitcoin mining, no.

13 And I'm not going to go into any of  
14 the technical details that have been so well covered  
15 by others, but just to add my voice to say no to --  
16 to renewing this permit with its enhanced  
17 expectations. Thank you.

18 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. Our next  
19 speaker is Camille Tischler. Camille Tischler, are  
20 you on the line? If you're on the telephone, please  
21 press star three.

22 Okay. The next speaker is Jen  
23 Metzger.

24 MS. METZGER: Hi, there, good  
25 afternoon. My name is Jen Metzger, and I live in

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           Rosendale in Ulster County. I appreciate the  
3           opportunity to comment. I formerly served in the  
4           state senate, where I contributed to and helped pass  
5           the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

6                       The application before your department  
7           to renew the Title Five permit for the Greenidge  
8           Generating Station represents what I feel is a major  
9           decision point for New York State. In the face of a  
10          climate crisis, are we going to embrace a new  
11          industry that wastes energy by design and seeks to  
12          provide a new lease on life to the climate damaging  
13          fossil fuel burning plants, or are we going to  
14          support the kind of economic development that will  
15          enable New York to meet its ambitious climate goals?

16                      Your decision will be precedent  
17          setting on this question potentially opening the door  
18          to an unsustainable process of cryptocurrency mining  
19          that will make it difficult or impossible to reach  
20          the state's greenhouse gas production and renewable  
21          energy targets.

22                      When upstream emissions are considered  
23          as required by New York's climate law, Greenidge's  
24          greenhouse gas emissions total over a million tons  
25          annually far exceeding the allowable limit of the

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2           proposed permit. Moreover, the company's publicly  
3           stated that it's looking to expand beyond the  
4           Greenidge facility, increasing generating capacity to  
5           at least five hundred megawatts in the next four  
6           years. If the D.E.C. approves this permit, it would  
7           set a precedent for repowering fossil gas burning  
8           plants behind the meter and will open the door to  
9           similar projects elsewhere ratcheted up greenhouse  
10          gas emissions at a time when we must deeply reduce  
11          those emissions.

12                       I want to raise just one more point.  
13          It is not only or even primarily the choice of fuel  
14          that brings this application into conflict with New  
15          York's climate law. It is the extreme energy use  
16          inherent in Bitcoins choice validation process. The  
17          proof of work method for validating Bitcoin  
18          transactions and mining new tokens requires massive  
19          amounts of computing power, which in turn requires  
20          massive amounts of electricity.

21                       Bitcoin currently uses more  
22          electricity than many countries. A new industry that  
23          relies on this level of electricity consumption is in  
24          direct contradiction of the state statutory energy  
25          efficiency target and the policy goals of cleanly

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2           electrifying major sectors of the economy to  
3           eliminate fossil fueling.

4                       We cannot afford the energy waste  
5           inherent in operations like Greenidge, it is simply  
6           unsustainable. Thank you very much.

7                       A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. Our next  
8           speaker is Natalie Polvere.

9                       MS. POLVERE: Hello.

10                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Hello.

11                      MS. POLVERE: My name is Natalie  
12           Polvere. I live in Yonkers, New York. I am asking  
13           the Department of Environmental Conservation to deny  
14           the Title Five Air Permit renewal for the Greenidge  
15           Generating Station in Dresden, New York. Although I  
16           live three hundred miles south of the facility, I  
17           have many reasons to oppose granting the permit.

18                      Some of them have to do with a  
19           terrible precedent that would be met by allowing this  
20           outdated fossil fuel power plant to be -- to repower  
21           for the purpose of manufacturing cryptocurrency at  
22           the expense of public health. But I will cite two  
23           objections that I believe apply just to this specific  
24           facility.

25                      The facility's greenhouse gas

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2           emissions are not consistent with the law of the  
3           C.L.C.P.A., the facility's greenhouse gases are  
4           increasing at -- emissions are increasing and not  
5           decreasing as they must. And the regions rich  
6           agricultural production and heritage depends on clean  
7           water and on air that it's not laden with particulate  
8           matter.

9                               Greenidge is emitting pollutants that  
10          are a significant cause of acid rain and that reduce  
11          air quality for local residents. So I ask that the  
12          permit renewal be denied. Thank you very much.

13                           A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. Our next  
14          speaker is Regi Teasley.

15                           MS. TEASLEY: Can you hear me?

16                           A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes.

17                           MS. TEASLEY: Good. My name is Regi  
18          Teasley. I live in Ithaca, New York. I have resided  
19          in the Finger Lakes since 1979. I love this area.  
20          Today, I urge the D.E.C. to deny Greenidge's Title  
21          Five Air Permit. We should all know by now that to  
22          address global heating, we have a very short time to  
23          make dramatic changes in our way of life.

24                           We must shift to renewable energy and  
25          much greater energy efficiency in all sectors of the

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2           economy. We must stop the emission of CO and other  
3           greenhouse gas emissions or face the consequences.  
4           Right now, according to the latest I.P.C.C. report,  
5           we have our last real chance to avoid the worst  
6           aspects of climate change.

7                       I fear for my granddaughter's future.  
8           Greenidge and its counterpart stand in opposition to  
9           this required change. Here's a power plant that  
10          should have remained shuttered and is now producing  
11          large amounts of CO using massive amounts of power,  
12          while contributing nothing to the transformation we  
13          desperately need.

14                      And I would remind my sisters and  
15          brothers in the I.B.E.W. that there are no good jobs  
16          in an overheated planet. I have done much to reduce  
17          my own energy usage and remove to renewable energy.  
18          Will our state government do their part.  
19          (unintelligible) has called out rightly, in my  
20          opinion, leaders who promised much and repeatedly  
21          failed to follow through. We are running out of  
22          time.

23                      We who live in the Finger Lakes know  
24          that this beautiful region could be a leader in  
25          resilience in the face of climate crisis. Greenidge

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2           is a burden that fails our era for imaginary wealth.  
3           It's time for the D.E.C. to lead in protecting New  
4           Yorkers by denying Greenidge's air permit. Thank you  
5           for hearing my comments.

6                       A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Next speaker is  
7           David Ettman. David Ettman, if you are on the  
8           telephone, please press star three.

9                       MR. ETTMAN: Computer. Thank you. My  
10          name is David Ettman. I am the Seneca county  
11          attorney, and I'm appear -- or appearing to make this  
12          statement on behalf of the Seneca County Board of  
13          Supervisors, and in particular, our environmental  
14          committee with supervisor Paul (unintelligible).

15                      I find it unusual that I'm looking at  
16          a letter that we wrote to the department a year ago  
17          having to do with the hydraulic or hydrology issues  
18          and the temperature issues with the discharge water  
19          from the plant. And we specifically cited the  
20          dangers of the harmful algal blooms, the impact of  
21          increased temperatures and the issues for the water  
22          supply of the nearly three hundred thousand to more -  
23          - or more people that rely on Seneca Lake.

24                      A year later, we have had some of  
25          those substantial algae blooms. We are constantly

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2           having to deal with water quality issues and plant  
3           intakes for the drinking water for municipal systems.  
4           Again, the communities surrounding Seneca Lake and  
5           beyond. At the end of this hearing, there are very  
6           few topics that I can touch on that have not already  
7           been addressed.

8                               But clearly the fact that we've  
9           already seen the error of allowing this plant to  
10          operate for over a year now and with those prophecies  
11          coming true is clearly, clearly concerning. I love  
12          the phrases in their own website that talks about  
13          clean burning natural gas, the methane, the  
14          production. Quite frankly, there is no clean burning  
15          natural gas.

16                           And also they talk about their net  
17          zero reliance upon carbon offsets. When the problem  
18          is carbon offsets are wonderful unless you're under  
19          the gun of those carbon products, which Seneca County  
20          is. We ask that the department review simply an  
21          aerial map and see where the gases go and see that  
22          Seneca County as well as the variety of communities  
23          surrounding this plant are directly impacted for  
24          forty coins of silver. Thank you, and we ask that  
25          this permit be denied.



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2 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
3 speaker is Kristina Hazlitt. Kristina Hazlitt, if  
4 you're on the telephone, please press star three.

5 MR. DIADDIGO: Hello.

6 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Hello, who is this,  
7 please?

8 MR. DIADDIGO: Hello. This is Tom  
9 Diaddigo. I got kicked off earlier because you  
10 couldn't hear me.

11 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay. I'm sorry.  
12 What is your name again?

13 MR. DIADDIGO: My name is Tom  
14 Diaddigo.

15 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay.

16 MR. DIADDIGO: Can I go?

17 A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yeah. Sure. Go  
18 ahead. Thank you.

19 MR. DIADDIGO: Okay. I live in  
20 Corning, New York, but I spend a lot of time on the  
21 Finger Lakes. I'm a retired computer scientist, so I  
22 know a little about the heat that microprocessors  
23 generate. I also know about the water problems that  
24 we're having. Don't forget, whatever happens in  
25 Dresden does not stay in Dresden, the last speaker

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2           from -- from Seneca County mentioned about algae  
3           blooms.

4                       And if you have algae blooms in Seneca  
5           Lakes, they're going to find their way to the other  
6           Finger Lakes. And you know, if -- if -- if the  
7           Bitcoin mining, if all those computers were aimed at  
8           finding a cure for cancer, it's one thing, but -- but  
9           for some solving numerical puzzles to promote  
10          (unintelligible) economical thing that the I.R.S.  
11          will sit down in a couple years anyhow, seems to me  
12          to be foolish.

13                      The -- the other counties of  
14          neighboring Yates County seem to be against this, as  
15          I am, by the way on the record. And it's interesting  
16          to me that the -- the neighboring counties are  
17          against it. but Yates County is not because they see  
18          a few jobs and a -- a little bit of economy, which  
19          would be offset by -- by loss of tourism anyhow. And  
20          my basic message is, when are we ever going to learn  
21          that the -- that the mistakes we make now carry  
22          forward for decades and generations?

23                      I grew up along the Ohio River and for  
24          -- for a century, we thought that was a -- or the  
25          mills thought that that was a great conduit to get

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2           rid of waste. Well, that was a short-term solution.  
3           And now the mills are dead as Bitcoin will be. Thank  
4           you. Bye.

5                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. I'll  
6           read off the remaining speaker names. Jamie Cooney,  
7           Jesse Beardslee, Marie Fitzsimmons, Krys Cail,  
8           Marilyn Crooker, David Locke, Laura Chanel, Theresa  
9           Wilson, Mike Colyer, Richard Moher and James  
10          Hufnagel.

11                   The next speaker will be Jamie Cooney.  
12          Jamie Cooney, if you're on the telephone, please  
13          press star three.

14                   MS. KATCHMAR: We just unmuted Jamie  
15          fine. And now Jamie, if you could just talk. Your  
16          line is unmuted. I don't see a hand up. And Jamie  
17          seems to be having a problem with her audio.

18                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay.

19                   MS. KATCHMAR: I can try to unmute one  
20          more time. Hold on. Okay. Can you hear us? Jamie?  
21          No.

22                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: The next speaker is  
23          Jesse Beardslee.

24                   MS. BEARDSLEE: Hi, can you hear me?

25                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes.

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2 MS. BEARDSLEE: Okay. Well, thank you  
3 for hosting this public hearing and for allowing  
4 everyday folks like myself the opportunity to voice  
5 our opinions on this platform. I know there are many  
6 fossil fuel and cryptocurrency enthusiasts with a lot  
7 of money and power making their voices heard as well.

8 My name is Jessie Junko Beardslee.

9 I'm a Hector, New York, resident and the owner of two  
10 Finger Lakes based businesses, Themis and Thread and  
11 Hector Handmade. I was born on Seneca Lake and was  
12 raised on the farm winery roster vineyards  
13 (unintelligible). I may not have a lot of money and  
14 power, but I do have a lot of love and hopes for the  
15 Finger Lakes region.

16 I'm here today to urge Governor Hochul  
17 to direct the Department of Environmental  
18 Conservation to deny Greenidge's Titles Four and Five  
19 Permits because of the environmental degradation that  
20 have already begun to initiate. Air reviving and  
21 efficient unstable washed up and retired fossil fuel  
22 power plants to unnecessarily pollute our air and  
23 water as they waste valuable resources mining  
24 Bitcoin.

25 Greenidge is using Seneca Lake to draw

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2           up a blueprint to bring back to life power plants  
3           that have begun to red -- reduce output, so they can  
4           capitalize while the environment pays the price. My  
5           sustainable style, local art and agritourism based  
6           businesses will suffer. My quality of life will  
7           suffer. My air, water and land will suffer if  
8           Greenidge continues their dirty work.

9                           The Finger Lakes has valuable  
10          spectacular delicate environmental ecosystems, and  
11          now years into a pandemic and even more delicate  
12          nature based economy revolving around our beautiful  
13          lakes, waterfalls, wineries and countryside. This is  
14          an opportunity. It could be an opportunity for  
15          Greenidge to sweep the entire state with filthy  
16          practices, destroying communities and industry or it  
17          could be an opportunity for the Department of  
18          Environmental Conservation to set a strong precedent  
19          in favor of our most precious resources, our land and  
20          water, culture and people.

21                          I urge Governor Hochul to deny  
22          Greenidge and choose us over big business pollution  
23          and greed. We have a unique and sustainable industry  
24          deserving of protection. Any industrial endeavors  
25          are simply direct threats to our livelihood, not to

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           mention our health.

3                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
4           speaker is Marie Fitzsimmons. Fitzsimmons, if you're  
5           on the telephone, please press star three. The next  
6           speaker is Krys Cail.

7                   MS. CAIL: Can you hear me?

8                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes.

9                   MS. CAIL: Okay. Thank you. My name  
10          is Krys Cail. I live in Ulysses, New York. I am  
11          retired. I have lived here since 1971. And have  
12          very avidly watched the development of the local and  
13          regional farm and rural economy and also had the good  
14          fortune to study and practice some in developing.

15                   I've -- definitely agree with a lot of  
16          people who have spoken already about some of the  
17          important point -- points about why these permits  
18          should be rejected. But I want to focus on a couple  
19          of things I have some expertise about. For one, this  
20          is without question a poor, lower income agricultural  
21          area.

22                   Nonetheless is a very proud  
23          agricultural heritage there and the importance of the  
24          lake in some of the -- of the agricultural endeavors  
25          and some of the tourism can't be overstated. The

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2           harmful algal blooms are definitely getting worse,  
3           and the air quality is also likely to impact how --  
4           how the tourism is -- is -- is marketed and  
5           understood.

6                       So I -- I think it's extremely  
7           important that we do look at, you know, what is the  
8           reliability of this industry in terms of -- the  
9           Bitcoin industry in terms of future jobs. And it's  
10          very unreliable, it's extremely volatile. And on  
11          some level, there is no product, it's -- it's  
12          something of a gambling type product.

13                      So to use precious resources and have  
14          this kind of an effect on the -- on the climate for  
15          something that is -- not something you can eat or  
16          enjoy. Seems foolhardy at this time. Thank you for  
17          the chance to speak.

18                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
19          speaker is Marilyn Crooker.

20                      MS. CROOKER: Can you hear me?

21                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes.

22                      MS. CROOKER: All right. My name is  
23          Marilyn Crooker, and I am a concerned citizen and  
24          landowner on Cayuga Lake in Trumansburg. In fact,  
25          the land I am living on has been in the family since

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2           it was bought in 1793. And I feel it is important to  
3           speak up on this issue. Even though I know the  
4           current permits being sought are on Seneca Lake, I  
5           live across from Milligan Power Station and was  
6           thrilled when it closed and stopped burning coal.  
7           But now I realize that this cryptocurrency mining  
8           could also happen here as well in the future. I urge  
9           the D.E.C. to deny the renewal permits and set a  
10          higher standard for climate control throughout the  
11          state.

12                       More oversight is needed, not less.  
13          And accountability for thermal pollution must be  
14          upheld. Even as far back as when I was first here in  
15          1965, the professors at Cornell were fighting then  
16          the thermal pollution that was coming into the lake.  
17          And here we are more than fifty years later, still  
18          fighting the same things.

19                       I am speaking today to help protect  
20          the lake for my children and my grandchildren and  
21          other future generations. We must save our natural  
22          resources in this beautiful Finger Lakes region.  
23          Thank you for hosting this open forum. I appreciate  
24          it. Thank you.

25                       A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next



1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           speaker is David Locke. David Locke, if you're on  
3           the telephone please press star three.

4                       Okay. The next speaker is Laura  
5           Shindell. Laura Shindell, if you're on the  
6           telephone, please press star three.

7                       The next speaker is Therese Wilson.

8                       Okay. The next speaker is Mike  
9           Colyer.

10                      MR. COLYER: All right. Can you hear  
11           me?

12                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yes.

13                      MR. COLYER: Perfect. My name is Mike  
14           Colyer. My wife and I were born and raised in the  
15           Finger Lakes region of Western New York, and I'm  
16           proud to say I graduated from the University of  
17           Buffalo. I've spent twenty plus years of my career  
18           in traditional business and four years ago, I  
19           discovered blockchain technology.

20                      I pivoted my career, because I felt  
21           like this was the best way to make a positive impact  
22           on the world, and here in western New York. I'm now  
23           the C.E.O. of Foundry, a company based out of  
24           Rochester. At Foundry, we empower decentralized  
25           infrastructure by providing many products including

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2           financial services to companies in the cryptocurrency  
3           industry. Primarily Bitcoin mining company is in  
4           North America.

5                       Since we started a little over a year-  
6           and-a-half ago, we have generated over sixty highly  
7           skilled, full-time jobs at our office and have  
8           contracted several companies and vendors in New York  
9           State. We are currently growing at a rate of five to  
10          ten people per month and plan to continue our  
11          expansion right here in Western New York.

12                      I'm very proud to be building a  
13          cutting edge technology company in Rochester. One of  
14          my main motivations was to put Western New York on  
15          the global map of this rapidly growing cryptocurrency  
16          industry. Blockchain -- blockchain technology forms  
17          the basis of web three point zero, and is not  
18          controlled by Silicon Valley.

19                      Every one of the world has the  
20          opportunity to participate in these decentralized  
21          networks. One application of the blockchain --  
22          blockchain technology is cryptocurrencies, Bitcoin  
23          being one example. Blockchain technology empowers  
24          everybody around the world including the unbanked  
25          with currencies that are minted transparently in a

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2           digital environment and truly as a result of market  
3           forces and not as a result of the decisions made by a  
4           few people behind closed doors.

5                       In 2020, processing Bitcoin track --  
6           transactions only accounted for one-tenth of one  
7           percent of the global electricity consumption. New  
8           York has one of the cleanest power complexes and the  
9           highest standards in the world and should be using as  
10          a head of advantage to be a leader in this industry.

11                      Bitcoin and cryptocurrencies are used  
12          extensively by citizens from some of the lowest  
13          income countries in the world where inflation runs  
14          rampant. And all the way to the wealthiest countries  
15          like the United States where over fifty million  
16          people are investors in the technology. More than  
17          two hundred million people around the globe are  
18          utilizing Bitcoin to store their savings, accept  
19          remittance from relatives abroad and transact for  
20          daily goods and services.

21                      New York has the opportunity to be one  
22          of the -- to be on the leading edge of this rapidly  
23          growing global industry that is still in its infancy.  
24          It's sort of like the internet back in 1996. The  
25          reason I'm here today is because like Foundry, I've

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           seen Greenidge put Yates County on the global map of  
3           today's rapidly changing world. And the way  
4           Greenidge chose to do this is a unique way. It was a  
5           first power plant, not only in New York, but also in  
6           the world to start mining Bitcoin.

7                   A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Mr. Colyer, I'm  
8           going to have to ask you to summarize.

9                   MR. COLYER: Yeah. I'm going to just  
10          finish up here within a couple --

11                  A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay.

12                  MR. COLYER: -- I've been sitting for  
13          three hours listening to everybody else talk about  
14          it, I'd like to --.

15                  A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Understand.

16                  MR. COLYER: Having in -- so Greenidge  
17          is -- was one of the first power plants in the world  
18          to do this, and having an intermittent baseload  
19          actually makes it a more reliable source to sell  
20          power to the grid, which it does daily. Greenidge is  
21          also unique and it's focused on the environment and  
22          its community, which originated even before they  
23          started mining Bitcoin. I witnessed this firsthand  
24          each time I visit the Greenidge site. The company  
25          draws the bulk of its workforce of fifty plus people

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           from the surrounding areas, including many second  
3           generation employees motivated by the family's pride  
4           in Greenidge. It is also applied for and operated  
5           within all applicable permits of New York State,  
6           which are among the most stringent in the United  
7           States.

8                         In fact, Greenidges has gone above and  
9           beyond for its care for its people and the  
10          environment. For example, it became one of the first  
11          hundred percent carbon neutral mining operations in  
12          North America and is committed to developing a solar  
13          array on its property. I believe that the claims  
14          made by Greenidge critics are based on a lack of  
15          information or real understanding of all the work  
16          that Greenidge has done and has been doing for our  
17          state's economy and the environment.

18                        I believe that Greenidge is doing an  
19          even greater good of securing a decentralized network  
20          that is empowering millions of underserved people  
21          around the world. Plus, I -- I believe that  
22          Greenidge deserves the support of the state and its  
23          people and it should be granted this renewables and  
24          existing permit where grant is not seeking to do  
25          anything beyond what it has been doing.

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2                           Generating power for the state grid  
3           and use as permitted behind the meter power to  
4           generate even more value for the region and its  
5           economy. Thank you very much for giving me the  
6           chance to talk. Thank you.

7                           A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay. Thank you.  
8           The next speaker is Richard Maher. Is Richard Maher  
9           on the line?

10                          MR. MAHER: Hello.

11                          A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Richard Maher --  
12           Richard Maher, are you on the line? Okay. The --

13                          MS. KATCHMAR: Hi --

14                          A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Go ahead.

15                          MS. KATCHMAR: Richard -- Richard  
16           should be unmuted.

17                          MR. MAHER: How about now?

18                          MS. KATCHMAR: Yes.

19                          MR. MAHER: Okay.

20                          A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Yeah.

21                          MR. MAHER: So thank you for the  
22           opportunity to speak on behalf of O'Connell Electric.  
23           I'm the manager superintendent with O'Connell  
24           Electric. And we are proud to be working with the  
25           Greenidge putting local men and women to work, and

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2           when I say local, I mean local resident in Kenya, in  
3           Geneva, Waterloo, Seneca Falls, all the work for  
4           O'Connell's at the Greenidge plant.

5                       These are skilled labor jobs, putting  
6           money back into the local economy and giving local  
7           families the opportunity to make a good living and  
8           support the Finger Lakes area. Thanks for -- thank  
9           you.

10                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Thank you. The next  
11           speaker is James Hufnagel. James Hufnagel, if you're  
12           on the line, please let us know, press star three on  
13           your telephone, if you are on the telephone.

14                      MS. KATCHMAR: We do have -- did we  
15           hear from Jamie Cooney, their hand is raised and they  
16           had a bad audio. Do you want me to unmute them now?

17                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Sure. Thank you.

18                      MS. KATCHMAR: Okay. Let me try that.  
19           Hi, your line is unmuted for Jamie Cooney. Are you  
20           there? No. Okay.

21                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: All right. Okay.  
22           At this time, I will ask if there's anyone in  
23           attendance who believes they were scheduled to speak  
24           and that we've not called your name, or your name was  
25           called and you had technical difficulties, we would

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2           ask that you please raise your hand at this time.

3                       If you're on the telephone again, the  
4           way that you raise your hand is to press star three.  
5           If you joined us by the internet, click on the  
6           participants' panel button -- I'm sorry,  
7           participants' button to open the participants panel.  
8           And you will see at the bottom of your screen a small  
9           hand icon. If you click on that, that will raise  
10          your hand. At this time, I'll call on Cyrus Umrigar.

11                      MS. KATCHMAR: Oh, he has spoke. I  
12          believe he has already --

13                      A.L.J. OLIVIERA: Yes.

14                      MS. KATCHMAR: -- spoke.

15                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Is there anyone else  
16          that believes they were scheduled to speak and we  
17          have not called you, please raise your hand at this  
18          time.

19                      MS. KATCHMAR: I'm seeing a hand  
20          raised. Did John Elder speak before? I have a hand  
21          raised there. Yeah, no, he had technical -- let me  
22          unmute John Elder. I'm unmuting him now.

23                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay. Thank you.

24                      MR. ELDER: Thank you. Can you hear  
25          me now?



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2                           A.L.J. OLIVIERI:   Yes.

3                           MR. ELDER:   My name is John Elder.   My  
4   wife's family brought -- bought property on the east  
5   shore of Seneca Lake in the early 1940s, and our  
6   families have enjoyed this property for seven decades  
7   now.   During this period, the quality of the lake  
8   water has declined.   This is easy to see because of  
9   the drastic decline in the fish population.

10                          During the time when the salt works  
11   and addressed in power station burned coal, the air  
12   pollution was also easy to see, the particulates in  
13   black smoke could not be missed.   The shift from coal  
14   to natural gas produces equally dangerous pollution.  
15   But we can't see it.   The massive burning of fossil  
16   fuel by the Greenidge operation contributes to the  
17   climate change that is now making Seneca Lake culture  
18   ever more challenging.

19                          As former owners of an organic  
20   vineyard near our lake property, we know how vital  
21   the winery industry and the tourism associated with  
22   it is to the economy of our area.   We believe that  
23   the economic value of these businesses of our  
24   uniquely beautiful Finger Lakes district far  
25   outweighs whatever economic benefit Greenidge claims

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           to make.

3                       The Greenidge generating plant was  
4           permitted to provide electricity during excessive  
5           load periods, not for a twenty-four/seven, three  
6           sixty-five operation. Although Greenidge proponents  
7           have been claiming that some of its electricity is  
8           going into the grid or public use, they provide no  
9           data to substantiate these claims.

10                      We suspect that all of its power is  
11           actually just being used for Bitcoin mining. Unless  
12           and until a thorough ongoing study is completed of  
13           the air pollution produced by the present Greenidge  
14           operation, the permit request by Greenidge should not  
15           be granted. Please exercise your responsibility and  
16           determine how much pollution Greenidge's burning of  
17           natural gas is contributing before deciding how to  
18           permit and do not be distracted by Greenidge's claim  
19           that it intends to offset this pollution by the  
20           purchase of carbon credits. Thank you for your  
21           attention.

22                      A.L.J. OLIVIERI: Okay. At this time,  
23           I want to thank everyone for joining us here today.  
24           I appreciate you all staying in attendance, listening  
25           to the comments of the community. We thank everyone

1           10-13-2021 - Greenidge Generation LLC - WebEx  
2           who has taken the time to participate in the hearing.  
3           It is very helpful to the D.E.C. in their review of  
4           this project.

5                       If anyone wants further information on  
6           the remaining session this evening, you can click on  
7           the D.E.C. homepage on your calendar and you will see  
8           the details under today's date. Thank you again.  
9           This meeting is now concluded.

10                      THE REPORTER: We are off the record.

11                      (Off the record, 4:29 p.m.)

12                      (The proceeding concluded.)

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2    STATE OF NEW YORK

3    I, JANET WALLRAVIN, do hereby certify that the foregoing  
4    was reported by me, in the cause, at the time and place,  
5    as stated in the caption hereto, at Page 1 hereof; that  
6    the foregoing typewritten transcription consisting of  
7    pages 1 through 155, is a true record of all proceedings  
8    had at the hearing.

9                   IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto  
10   subscribed my name, this the 10th day of November, 2021.

11

12   JANET WALLRAVIN, Reporter

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