



Green Sergeant's Bridge

New Jersey's Only Remaining Covered Bridge

# Delaware Township

Hunterdon County, New Jersey

[www.DelawareTwpNJ.org](http://www.DelawareTwpNJ.org)

OFFICE OF TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

PO BOX 500  
TOWNSHIP HALL  
SERGEANTSVILLE, NJ 08557  
(609) 397-3240  
Direct FAX Number (609) 397-4893  
August 12, 2015

Bob Martin, Commissioner  
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection  
401 E. State Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 402  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0402

RE: Proposed PennEast Pipeline in Delaware Township

Dear Commissioner Martin:

As I am sure you are aware, the proposed PennEast Pipeline ("Project") includes approximately ten (10) miles of proposed pipeline that would affect Delaware Township ("Township") land. The majority of the land that would be affected by the Project has been preserved with taxpayer funds through open space, farmland preservation and includes land contained within a Federally-listed historic district or is otherwise environmentally sensitive.

Since learning about the Project, the Township has officially opposed the Project, formed a Pipeline Sub-Committee to address our concerns, committed \$15,000.00 toward expenses in defending against the Project and has continuously reviewed submitted comments, submitted comments and provided testimony at hearings held by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The Township is also working with a local citizen's group and neighboring townships that are similarly affected by and opposed to the Project.

Despite the many efforts of the Township, other municipalities and many concerned citizens, the Project route has remained virtually unchanged. The current proposed routes through the Township cross and/or run parallel to multiple C-1 streams and would destroy hundreds of acres of forest-land adjacent to those C-1 streams. The proposed routes would also traverse the Township's historic districts as if those districts and stream corridors did not exist.

It has been reported that PennEast has trespassed on objector's land<sup>1</sup> and the fact that PennEast has been able to obtain a DEP permit so easily is concerning to the Township. Because of the concerns and efforts that have been detailed above, and particularly in light of the fact that PennEast reports that it intends to apply for further DEP permits in September, the Township

---

<sup>1</sup> There has been at least one reported case within the Township as well as the public reporting of a trespass occurring at 82 Old River Road, Holland Township, Hunterdon County.

respectfully requests a meeting with you and representatives from the Township prior to any permit issuance so that it may better understand the pending DEP review process and what role the Township may play in providing the DEP with pertinent and critical information so that it may inform the process as well as to obtain an understanding as to what steps will be taken to protect the Township's historic district and how other valuable resources such as C-1 streams and preserved farmland and open space which the Township has worked so hard to protect will remain protected for our residents.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you and to participate in a process that will allow the Township to provide the DEP with critical information as well as to learn of how the DEP will be protecting the Township resources identified above. Please contact me directly at [jvocke@delawaretpnj.org](mailto:jvocke@delawaretpnj.org).

Sincerely,



Joseph Vocke  
Deputy Mayor, Delaware Township

cc: Cindy Randazzo, NJDEP Office of Local Government Assistance  
Congressman Leonard Lance  
Senator Cory Booker  
Senator Robert Menendez  
Senator Christopher "Kip" Bateman  
Assemblyman Jack M. Ciattarelli  
Assemblywoman Donna Simon  
Delaware Township Committee