



Green Sergeant's Bridge
New Jersey's Only Remaining Covered Bridge

Delaware Township

Hunterdon County, New Jersey

OFFICE OF TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

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February 2, 2015

The Honorable Cheryl A. LaFleur, Chairman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Docket No. PF15-1-000 Proposed PennEast Pipeline Project
PennEast Pipeline Company LLC
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County, NJ

Dear Chairwoman LaFleur:

On January 16, 2015, The Delaware Township Committee was notified by FERC that PennEast Pipeline Company LLC has identified a "preferred alternate route" that was designed to follow the utility corridor (currently JCP&L) in Delaware Township. The utility corridor in Delaware Township is only 75ft wide and any location of this proposed pipeline would necessitate a parallel siting and not be located within the pre-existing easement. This would result in a widening of the easement in order to accommodate this pipeline. The expansion of the utility easement will create detrimental and perpetual impacts for our community.

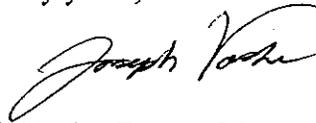
The "preferred alternate route" continues to cross many C-1 streams, namely the Wickecheoke Creek and its tributaries, and this route impacts pristine woods and forests causing damage to the wildlife and plant life. Moreover, the removal of trees and vegetation along creeks, streams and waterways will result in the loss of sediment filtration, thereby causing sediment buildup in these waterways and the waterways that flow into the Delaware and Raritan canal, a source of drinking water for millions of New Jersey residents.

Furthermore, the "preferred alternate route" continues to cross properties that were purchased with New Jersey State Open Space Funds, Hunterdon County Open Space Funds, Delaware Township Open Space Funds, Federal Farm and Ranch Protection Program Funds, as well as other properties that are subject to conservation easements and/or deed restricted against development.

In addition, the "preferred alternate route" continues to cross the Rosemont Rural Agricultural District (ID# 4591) which is listed on both the New Jersey Register of Historic Places and the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places.

For these reasons, the Delaware Township Committee continues to hereby object to the design and construction of a 36 inch pipeline (either sited within the original route or the "preferred alternate route") passing through and under Delaware Township, Hunterdon County. The construction either within a greenfield siting or the widening of the JCP&L easement will significantly damage C-1 protected streams, wildlife habitat, existing farm operations, and the quality of life in Delaware Township. We urge the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to deny the PennEast application due to its lasting and negative impacts in this environmentally sensitive watershed region.

Very truly yours,



Joseph Vocke, Deputy Mayor

cc: Congressman Leonard Lance
Senator Cory Booker
Senator Robert Menendez
Assemblyman Jack M. Ciattarelli
Assemblywoman Donna Simon
Senator Christopher "Kip" Bateman