



NEW JERSEY LEGISLATURE
16TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
HUNTERDON • MERCER • MIDDLESEX • SOMERSET COUNTIES

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November 20, 2014

Ms. Cheryl LaFleur
Chairman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Chairman LaFleur:

As the delegation for New Jersey's 16th Legislative District, which includes Delaware Township and Borough of Stockton in Hunterdon County, we seek to apprise you and respectfully request your assistance in opposing a newly proposed natural gas pipeline that is of grave concern to our mutual constituents and us.

The pipeline is proposed by PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC and a consortium of partners, including AGL Resources; NJR PIPELINE COMPANY, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; South Jersey Industries; UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI CORPORATION; and PSEG Power LLC. Should the pipeline proposal succeed, UGIES is also the anticipated project manager and operator of the pipeline.

The proposed pipeline is approximately 100-miles and designed with a 30-inch diameter to deliver up to 1 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day. The pipeline, as proposed, will originate in Luzerne County in northeast Pennsylvania and terminate at Transco's Trenton-Woodbury interconnection near Trenton, New Jersey. See the attached map for more detail, including each New Jersey county and municipality impacted by this proposal.

As an update, preliminary engineering studies have begun, and a formal application will be filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in 2015. Pipeline ownership officially started the application process on October 7, 2014 with a pre-filing submitted to FERC. This pre-filing would seemingly put the pipeline company in line to complete and submit the official FERC filing in summer 2015. The project's REC application number is PF 15-1-000.

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Company officials have stated that, if approved as proposed, pipeline construction will commence in spring 2017 and take approximately 7 months to complete.

Sustainable energy independence is certainly a key element of our national security. And so, as elected representatives and policy makers, we welcome and celebrate this country's current and unprecedented era of natural resource exploration, made possible by numerous technological advances specific to oil and natural gas discovery and extraction.

If we welcome and celebrate the myriad benefits of this unprecedented era, it is incumbent upon us, as duly elected representatives and policy makers, to also welcome the corresponding challenges specific to the transport and delivery of oil and natural gas. In simpler terms, we must be vigilant in ensuring that human health and safety and environmental impacts are unequivocally first and foremost in considering any pipeline proposal. In addition, when it comes to balancing business interests with that of affected communities, we must also be vigilant in ensuring any pipeline proposal is unequivocally equitable in each and every respect, and that any and all alternative pipeline options have been similarly considered.

Regarding the proposed pipeline's impacts and interests, we offer the following:

- The proposed pipeline crosses at least 18 New Jersey C-1 streams:
 - Wickecheoke Creek and nine of its tributaries
 - Alexauken Creek and five of its tributaries
 - Lockatong Creek and its one tributary and headwater area
- The proposed pipeline crosses properties previously purchased and protected by:
 - New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres
 - New Jersey Department of Agriculture
 - Hunterdon County
 - Delaware Township
 - Federal Farm and Ranch Protection, and
 - New Jersey Water Supply Authority
- The proposed pipeline crosses or affects properties purchased by non-profit land conservation and protection organizations, including:
 - New Jersey Conservation Foundation
 - D&R Greenway
 - Hunterdon Land Trust
- The taxpayers of New Jersey, Hunterdon County, and Delaware Township, as well as foundations, individual donors, and farmers/landowners, have invested approximately \$7.4 million to permanently preserve properties along the pipeline's proposed route
- The proposed pipeline crosses more than 2,000 acres, 169 buildings, and historically significant view sheds, land use patterns, watersheds and landscapes of the Rosemont Ridge Agricultural District, which received New Jersey and Federal Historic Designation in 2010

To the very best of our knowledge, no pipeline has ever been developed in a more bucolic, previously preserved, and historically significant and designated area. In fact, the vast, vast majority of residents in this area are not natural gas customers – they happily accept the

inconveniences of alternative and often more expensive unregulated energy (e.g., propane and home heating oil) as the price paid for the most desirable of pastoral settings.

Also to be seriously considered is land values in this area are hypersensitive to development in any and all forms. In purely financial terms, citizens will, all things considered, experience significant and permanent lost land value as a result of any pipeline transpiercing the area, where, by the way, no other utility easements exists, other than electric/telephone. **Let us be clear, currently, there are no existing utility corridors in this area, nor has any such corridor previously been remotely contemplated or considered.** Said another way, no easement-related monetary reward or payment will ever truly compensate landowners for that which will forever altered by a pipeline.

As for the proposed route, it is quite curious that the pipeline seems to almost exclusively intersect previously preserved farmland. Let us suggest that developing a pipeline along this route is driven purely by company self-interest and akin, for example, to building solar arrays on previously preserved farmland, which has been overwhelmingly rejected by the populace and banned by New Jersey's State Agriculture Development Board.

The PennEast Pipeline will permanently scar an exceptionally pristine, rich agricultural heritage that truly defines and sustains residents of the area. Simply put, this untouched area is, in and of itself, a way of life for local residents, most of whom relocated there purposely to avoid development of any kind.

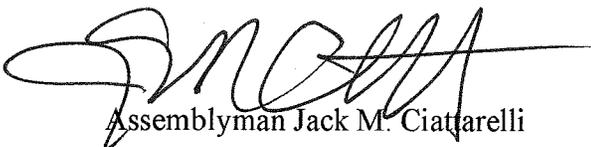
To address the substantive concerns detailed herein and effectively represent our mutual constituents, we ask that you leverage your authority to advocate for alternative options for the transport and delivery of natural gas to New Jersey and, in so doing, coordinate a plan-of-action that stops development of the PennEast Pipeline.

Thank you for taking the time to carefully consider the contents of this letter and for your continued engagement with the community and us on this issue. We look forward to following-up with your office.

Sincerely yours,



Senator Christopher
'Kip' Bateman



Assemblyman Jack M. Ciattarelli



Assemblywoman Donna M. Simon