

433 NH Route 119 East
Fitzwilliam NH 03447
dgoettle@gmail.com
h: 603.585.3311 c: 617.947.9027

July 10, 2015

New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord NH 03301-2429

WPUC 13 JUL 15 AM 10:45

Dear Commissioners:

I strongly urge you to oppose the Northeast Energy Direct (NED) Project and the extension of Kinder Morgan's Tennessee Gas Pipeline. My reasons are:

- 1) The monetary and environmental burdens on New Hampshire residents and towns could greatly exceed any direct benefits to consumers and net tax revenues;
- 2) The promise of lower gas and electricity prices is a pipe dream. Current contractual commitments account for less than 45% of a proposed 30" pipeline's capacity or 25% of a proposed 36" pipeline's capacity. Moreover only 21% of these commitments serve New Hampshire. Since under Federal law pipeline operators cannot discriminate among customers, the majority of this gas is most likely to be exported to Canada and overseas through new LNG facilities located in Nova Scotia. With the US ultimately becoming an exporter of shale oil and gas, world prices not US prices will govern the market;
- 3) Spectra Energy's Access Northeast, Algonquin Incremental Market and Atlantic Bridge projects offer much more environmentally and economically responsible ways for bringing natural gas to New England customers and power generators;
- 4) The Distrigas LNG facility located in Everett, MA, has significant excess capacity despite increases in LNG shipments. It could easily accommodate imports from new LNG export terminals proposed or being built elsewhere in the US;
- 5) The shale oil and gas industries are heavily debt-financed "gold rushes" dependent on clever geological and financial engineering. The viability of current practices is highly questionable under regulatory scrutiny as we learn more about their seismic and toxic consequences;
- 6) The NED Project is NOT a jobs-creator for New Hampshire residents. The surveyors currently observed in New Hampshire have out-of-state license plates. Pipeline construction is more than likely to be carried out by non-local expert contractors. Subsequent to construction, pipeline operations employ very few people;
- 7) The most sensible way for northern New England (Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine) to benefit from America's energy boom is to expand current coastal pipeline infrastructure and ship gas AND electricity from eastern population centers to the lower density west as market conditions warrant. The least sensible way is the west to east infrastructure of the NED Project.

Respectfully yours,



Richard J. Goettle IV, PhD
Environmental Economist and Citizen Voter