
From: Michael J. McGillen <Michael.J.McGillen@dartmouth.edu>
Sent: Saturday, August 12, 2017 2:52 PM
To: PUC - Executive.Director
Subject: Lebanon/Hanover fracked gas pipeline (DG 16-852)

Dear Public Utilities Commission Director Howland,

My name is Michael McGillen and I am a resident of Hanover, NH. I am writing in regard to docket number DG 16-852, which will be discussed at the hearing on September 7, 2017.

I oppose the Lebanon/Hanover fracked gas pipeline proposed by Liberty Utilities on several grounds. First, our community needs a renewable energy future, not a new energy infrastructure that will commit us to burning more fossil fuels for the next 40-50 years. Beyond the environmental hazards involved in the process of extracting fracked gas, a pipeline running through the heart of my community would involve a risk of methane leaks that could cause explosions and would contribute to climate change. There is strong support in my community for a transition to 100% renewable energy use by 2050. Hanover residents voted to approve such a measure at our Town Meeting in May.

Second, Liberty Utilities has not demonstrated that the planned pipeline is financially viable. The company has not signed any anchor companies in the Upper Valley who will support the business. Dartmouth College made clear in its Sustainability Road Map, issued in April, that it will not use fracked gas as part of its transition to renewable energy. Residential customers alone cannot be relied upon to finance a fracked gas infrastructure.

I urge the Public Utilities Commission in the strongest terms to reject the Lebanon/Hanover fracked gas pipeline proposed by Liberty Utilities.

Sincerely,

Michael McGillen