

July 16, 2015

Debra Howland, Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street - Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

Re: DG-14-380 Liberty Precedent Agreement

Dear Ms. Howland:

As a New Hampshire State Representative I have been closely following Kinder Morgan's efforts to gain approval of its Northeast Energy Direct Pipeline.

Throughout the process, I have been amazed at the willingness in some quarters to overlook the fact that New Hampshire not only wouldn't benefit from this project, but that the scale of natural gas that could ultimately be transported for export threatens to increase the cost of the natural gas the region has come to rely on for electricity production.

Fearing just such a result, the Industrial Energy Consumers of America has sought at the Department of Energy to prevent export permits from being issued.

The original application between Kinder Morgan's Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company and Liberty Utilities called for 115,000 dth/d, which has since been reduced to 100,000 dth/d in a proposed settlement. The new proposed Liberty Utilities contract remains the only contract that Kinder Morgan has available to try to justify approval to New Hampshire regulators.

The proposed reduction seems sufficiently modest to presume the Office of Consumer Advocate and outside consultants would, as they did at the May hearings, continue to oppose the project as not cost-effective and well in excess of realistic demand. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission raised the same issue in its May 15th comments on Tennessee Gas Transmission's Draft Resource Reports.

It appears that approval of this project will increase the price of natural gas, threaten sensitive wetlands and aquifers and do nothing to alleviate the energy shortfall in Southern New England.

This project is wrong for New Hampshire and, based on its lack of merit and the risks to New Hampshire residents and Liberty ratepayers, the proposed settlement agreement should be rejected.

Sincerely,
James W McConnell
New Hampshire State Representative – Cheshire 12