# Holland Township Environmental Commission Minutes

August 5, 2015 - 7 pm Meeting

Chairman Keady called the meeting to order. He read the notice satisfying the Open Public Meeting Act. All stood for the pledge of allegiance. All were reminded to turn off their cell phones or put them in silent mode.

Members Present: Jerry Bowers, Henry Gore, Ted Harwick, Chairman Michael Keady, Richard Schrack, Robert Thurgarland, and Secretary Maria Elena Jennette Kozak.

Absent: Dwight Pederson

Township Committee Alternate Liaison Present: Ray Krov

Guest: Christopher Fleischman (interested in helping us) and Laura Wilson

Let the record show we have a quorum.

Minutes: After reading the minutes, a motion was made by Jerry Bowers and seconded by Henry Gore to approve the minutes of July 1, 2015 with corrections. Motion carried.

Proposed Penn East Natural Gas Line through Holland Township – Update of the Pipeline Subcommittee (Dan Bush, Larry LaFevre, Mike Keady and Ken Vogel). There was a threatening letter sent to FERC that has the FBI investigating. A letter from the Holland Township Committee dated August 5, 2015 was sent to Senator Doherty, Assemblyman DiMaio, Assemblyman Peterson and the Freeholders expressing their concerns with the proposed Pipeline project and to solicit assistance ensuring that state agencies do their jobs. The same letter was sent to Alexandria Township, Delaware Township, Kingwood Township and West Amwell Township as an FYI in the hope that they would also respond in a similar fashion.

A letter from the DEP dated July 2, 2015 was distributed. Basically it was a letter offering comments for consideration regarding a total of 110 miles long, 36" diameter proposed interstate natural gas pipeline, with 35 miles located in New Jersey. Topics touched upon for discussion included Land Use, Land Use Mitigation, Natural Resources, Green Acres, Cultural Resources, Water Allocation, Stormwater Management, Air Permitting, Air Quality Planning, and Diesel Exhaust. Henry Gore believes that missing components in the DEP letter included arsenic, steep slopes, earthquake zones, and stream buffers and recommended that those issues should be addressed in another letter. Some discussion took place with additional investigation being needed.

Elizabethtown Gas Meeting – the replacement of a 10' pipe to NRG is needed. This will take place regardless of the proposed PennEast Pipeline. The proposal is to abandon the 10" pipe in the existing right of way and install a 12" pipe alongside the 10" in the same right of way. They are exploring additional options such as installing the proposed 12" pipe using Bellis to Mt. Joy to Route 627 (the roads within the existing right of way). They are a public utility. They are considering the most cost effective way to perform the upgrade. A meeting did take place between Al Turdo, Mayor Krov, Ken Vogel and Elizabethtown Gas representatives. The meeting was positive and educates those involved. The upgrade will also add diversity of supply. As an FYI, Elizabethtown Gas is owned by AGL which also owns PennEast.

Chairman Keady mentioned that the biweekly meetings between FERC, and other interested parties are still taking place. FERC Minutes for July 23 and August 5 are being inserted. Additional minutes can be found on the FERC website for each meeting,

# **MEETING MINUTES**

# PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast) (Applicant)

**Docket Number PF15-1-000** 

**PennEast Pipeline Project** 

**Bi-Weekly Conference Call** 

DATE July 23, 2015 10:30 AM (EDT)

# **Schedule/Reminders**

Next call: Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM

# **Attendees**

FERC	Tetra Tech	PennEast	Agencies
Medha Kochhar	Sean Sparks	Anthony Cox	Glenn Weitknecht (USACE)
<ul><li>Alisa Lykens</li></ul>	<ul><li>John Scott</li></ul>	Mike Mara	Thomas Uybarreta (EPA)
<ul><li>Jennifer Kerrigan</li></ul>	Nathalie Schils	Alisa Harris	<ul><li>Karen Gentile (PHMSA)</li></ul>
Nancy Fox-		Dante D'Alessandro	Alex Dankanich (PHMSA)
Fernandez		Brian Woodard	<ul><li>Kayla Easler (USFWS)</li></ul>
Eric Howard		Jeff England	Pamela Shellenberger (USFWS)
<ul><li>Kandilarya</li></ul>		Bernie Holcomb	Jeremy Markuson (USFWS)
Barakat		Jon West	Ruth Foster (NJDEP)
		Randy Bostick (Quanta	Jessie West-Rosenthal (NJ SHPO)
		Engineering)	Steven Bruder (NJ State Ag. Devt.
		Jay Seegers (Vinson &	Committee)
		Elkins)	JoDale Legg (NJDEP Land Use
		Mike Wilcox	Regulation)
		Steve Johnson	<ul><li>David Pepe (NJDEP)</li></ul>
		<ul><li>Jack Herbert</li></ul>	Mike Palmquist (NJDEP)
		<ul><li>Walter Judge (PS&amp;S)</li></ul>	<ul><li>Margaret Nordstrom (NJ Highlands)</li></ul>
		Jen Gorini (PS&S)	<ul><li>Keri Benscoter (NJ Highlands)</li></ul>
		<ul><li>Marilyn Lennon (PS&amp;S)</li></ul>	Chris Danis (NJ Highlands)
			Pam Bush (Delaware River Basin
			Commission)
			<ul><li>David Kovach (Delaware River Basin Commission)</li></ul>

# **Discussion Items**

# 1. PennEast Status Updates Project Updates - Customers and Interconnecting Parties - Final compressor station sites under evaluation in Carbon County - Updates to route change - Alternatives evaluated for the Appalachian Trail - Revised alignments sheets and maps

# **Topic** Land and Environmental Updates Survey access updates Survey progress updates **Engineering Updates** Re-Routes and/or deviations resulting from comments Update on agency and county meetings Revised mailing list Letters to no-mores and new landowners Resource Reports Revisions to draft Resource Reports with updated information due to route changes 2. **FERC Status Updates** Tracking and logging comments (approximately 105 comment letters received since June 24, Sourland Conservancy (20150630-5150) Request communication from PennEast - Fairfax Hutter (20150702-5098) Discrepancies in threatened and endangered species data - New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (20150713-0076) Discrepancies in draft Resource Reports 3 and 8 Other items 3.

## **FERC Updates**

- Review of comments received on the FERC eLibrary is ongoing.
  - Approximately 105 comment letters received since June 24, 2015.
    - PennEast will reach out to Sourland Conservancy.
    - PennEast appreciates the comments received and will address any discrepancies in revised draft Resource Reports.
- FERC will conduct a flyover of the proposed route next week.

#### PennEast Updates

- PennEast submitted updated maps to FERC on July 22, 2015 which included several re-routes. The website will be updated accordingly.
  - One of the two more significant re-routes is associated with quarry activities; the second is associated with the proposed crossing of Appalachian Trail which has been moved to a parcel that is not owned by federal agency, and to accommodate a new interconnection (Blue Mountain Interconnect).
- Letters to affected landowners will be mailed today or tomorrow and the updated mailing list will be submitted to FERC at the same time.
  - o Approximately 30 new landowners are affected.
  - Re-route is approximately 5 miles long; however, the majority of this length is on property owned by Blue Mountain Ski Resort or Pennsylvania Game Commission. PennEast is already working with both of these landowners.
- Surveys are ongoing.
  - Survey permission has been granted for approximately 73.4 percent of the route in Pennsylvania and approximately 31.8 percent of the route in New Jersey (61.9 percent overall).
  - o In Pennsylvania, for parcels where survey permission has been granted PennEast has completed 98 percent of wetland surveys and 99 percent of cultural surveys. Additionally, rare, threatened and endangered (RTE) frog, snake, and woodrat surveys are complete for these parcels. RTE plant

- surveys are 95 percent complete; RTE bat surveys are 67.3 percent complete; Phase 1 RTE turtle surveys are 96 percent complete; and, Phase 2 RTE turtle surveys are 87 percent complete.
- o In New Jersey, for parcels where survey permission has been granted PennEast has completed 80 percent of wetland surveys and 93.4 percent of cultural surveys. RTE plant surveys are 56 percent complete and RTE bat surveys are 19 percent complete.

#### Outreach:

- o PennEast had a meeting with NJDEP on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and discussed regulatory process, co-location efforts, and survey access. PennEast has a follow-up meeting scheduled with NJDEP for next week.
- PennEast had a pre-application with USACE at Beltsville Lake facility on July 16<sup>th</sup>.
- PennEast had a pre-application meeting Pennsylvania DEP and DRBC, USACE and four county conservation districts on July 13<sup>th</sup> and to discuss regulatory process, requirements for public participation, and coordination with conservation districts. PADEP had no concerns on the compressor station location and/or permits.
- PennEast met with PennDOT on July 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss survey permissions and permitting process for road crossings.
- PennEast met with Pennsylvania Game Commission on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- o PennEast met with a number of officials from Holland, Kingwood, and Delaware townships and Mercer County to provide a Project update in late June and mid-July.
- A meeting is scheduled with Trout Unlimited on August 4<sup>th</sup>.
- PennEast is planning to submit revised drafts of Resource Reports 1, 8, 9 and 10 to the FERC elibrary for review and comment.

## **Agency Input**

- NJDEP: Has PennEast missed any survey windows because of the re-routes, specifically in New Jersey?
  - PennEast: Phase I bog turtle surveys have been completed; however, the window for Phase 2 bog turtle surveys is closed so additional surveys, if needed, would be conducted next year. The survey windows for rare, threatened, and endangered bats and rare, threatened, and endangered plants are still open.
- NJDEP: What is PennEast's response to Mercer County rescinding survey permission?
  - PennEast is continuing to work with Mercer County and New Jersey state agencies to determine next steps.
- NJDEP: Requests notification of permit applications as well as ongoing updates of survey activities.
  - o PennEast will include NJDEP in future notifications.
- NJ Highlands: When will PennEast meet with NJ Highlands? Interested in percent of survey completion in the NJ Highlands region.

#### **Questions/Additional Comments from FERC**

FERC: Will PennEast schedule additional open houses to address re-routes?

# **MEETING MINUTES**

PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast) (Applicant)

**Docket Number PF15-1-000** 

**PennEast Pipeline Project** 

**Bi-Weekly Conference Call** 

DATE August 5, 2015 11:00 AM (EDT)

# **Schedule/Reminders**

Next call: Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM

# **Attendees**

FERC	Tetra Tech	PennEast	Agencies
Medha Kochhar	Sean Sparks	Anthony Cox	Glenn Weitknecht (USACE)
<ul><li>Alisa Lykens</li></ul>	<ul><li>John Scott</li></ul>	<ul><li>Mike Mara</li></ul>	<ul><li>Thomas Uybarreta (EPA)</li></ul>
<ul><li>Jennifer Kerrigan</li></ul>	<ul><li>Nathalie Schils</li></ul>	<ul><li>Alisa Harris</li></ul>	<ul><li>Karen Gentile (PHMSA)</li></ul>
Nancy Fox-		<ul><li>Dante D'Alessandro</li></ul>	<ul><li>Alex Dankanich (PHMSA)</li></ul>
Fernandez		<ul><li>Brian Woodard</li></ul>	<ul><li>Pamela Shellenberger (USFWS)</li></ul>
<ul><li>Eric Howard</li></ul>		<ul><li>Jeff England</li></ul>	<ul><li>Jeremy Markuson (USFWS)</li></ul>
<ul><li>Kandilarya</li></ul>		Bernie Holcomb	Ruth Foster (NJDEP)
Barakat		Jon West	Jessie West-Rosenthal (NJ SHPO)
		<ul><li>Randy Bostick (Quanta Engineering)</li></ul>	Steven Bruder (NJ State Ag. Devt. Committee)
		Jay Seegers (Vinson &	JoDale Legg (NJDEP Land Use
		Elkins)	Regulation)
		Mike Wilcox	<ul><li>David Pepe (NJDEP)</li></ul>
		Steve Johnson	<ul><li>Patrick Sheppard (NJDEP)</li></ul>
		<ul><li>Jack Herbert</li></ul>	Mike Palmquist (NJDEP)
		<ul><li>Walter Judge (PS&amp;S)</li></ul>	Cari Wild (NJ Lands Trust)
		Jen Gorini (PS&S)	<ul><li>Margaret Nordstrom (NJ Highlands)</li></ul>
		<ul><li>Marilyn Lennon (PS&amp;S)</li></ul>	<ul><li>Keri Benscoter (NJ Highlands)</li></ul>
			Chris Danis (NJ Highlands)
			Pam Bush (Delaware River Basin Commission)
			<ul><li>David Kovach (Delaware River Basin Commission)</li></ul>

# **Discussion Items**

# Topic

## 4. PennEast Status Updates

#### **Project Updates**

- Customers and Interconnecting Parties
- Updates to route change
  - Discussion of route in WPA at MP 87 and discussions with landowner

## **Land and Environmental Updates**

- Survey access updates
- Survey progress updates

# **Engineering Updates**

- Re-Routes and/or deviations resulting from comments
- Site specific crossing plans for major waterbody crossings and significant/sensitive areas (quarry, AT, etc.)

## Outreach

- Update on agency and county meetings
- Discussions with Blue Mountain Ski Area and quarry in Luzerne County, provide documentation

#### Resource Reports

- Revisions to draft Resource Reports with updated information due to route changes

Topic				
5.	FERC Status Updates			
	<ul> <li>Tracking and logging comments (approximately 27 comment letters received since July 23, 2015)</li> </ul>			
	- Received and reviewing second drafts of Resource Reports 1, 8, 9 and 10 and Appendices A, F, L and P			
	- Completed flyover on Tuesday, July 28, 2015			
6.	Other items			

## **FERC Updates**

- Review of comments received on the FERC elibrary is ongoing.
  - o Approximately 27 comment letters received since July 23, 2015.
- FERC conducted a site visit Monday-Wednesday of last week and a flyover of the proposed route on July 28, 2015.
  - o Review of Wellhead Protection Area at MP 87
    - PennEast is reviewing area surrounding wellhead protection area to attempt to avoid the 2year protection zone. PennEast will distribute a brief write-up to describe constraints in the area including landowner discussions.
- FERC received and is reviewing second drafts of Resource Reports 1, 8, 9 and 10 and Appendices A, F, L and P.

# PennEast Updates

- No updates on customers and interconnecting parties.
- Three route changes one is associated with quarry activities in Luzerne County; one is associated with crossing of Appalachian Trail and provides an additional interconnection (Blue Mountain Interconnect); and one is associated with Lockatong Creek crossings.
- Surveys are ongoing.
  - o Survey permission has been granted for approximately 73.4 percent of the route in Pennsylvania and approximately 31.2 percent of the route in New Jersey (60 percent overall).
  - PennEast continues to conduct rare, threatened and endangered (RTE) species surveys in areas where survey permission has been granted and expects to complete these surveys fully (for all survey granted-parcels) before the end of August.
- Outreach:
  - o PennEast had meetings with NJ Highlands and with NJDEP last week.
  - PennEast had a meeting with Trout Unlimited yesterday to discuss best management practices for stream crossings.

#### **Agency Input**

- NJDEP: Request that PennEast reach out to New Jersey non-governmental environmental organizations, including the New Jersey Conservation Federation and the Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Association. Additionally, request that PennEast scheduled a meeting with D&R Canal Commission.
- What is the timeline for application filing?
  - PennEast: Mid-September
- Concerned about New Jersey survey access.

## **Questions/Additional Comments from FERC**

- FERC: Provide additional details on communication and explanation of any route changes, including discussions with Blue Mountain Ski Area and quarry in Luzerne County.
- FERC: Request that site specific crossing plans be provided for major waterbody crossings and significant/sensitive areas (quarry, Appalachian Trail, etc.).

Chairman Keady discussed the drilling problem that occurred on Old River Road. Penn East acclaimed that no permit was needed for the 50' bore in order to locate the best place to dig at which time the DEP would issue the permit instantly for the 100' drilling. Concerned citizens became involved and there are pictures and videos showing the existing issues. Ken Vogel demanded reports and the County Board of Health report has been received. Ted Harwick asked if the drillers had permission and was told yes. Henry Gore asked how to prepare for the next crisis and was told to keep taking pictures. The situation on Old River Road showed that the DEP cannot police the situation of one drill on one truck. A local resident Robert Rader wrote a to FERC. The letter is on the FERC Website and reads as follows:

Robert C. Rader

75 Old River Road

Milford, New Jersey 08848

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

888 First Street, NE

Washington, DC 20426

Subject: FERC Docket No. PF15-1-000

The residents of Holland Township should be very alarmed. A limited Liability Corporation, PennEast, a front for UGI, Elizabethtown Gas, AGL Resources, NJR Energy Services and South Jersey Industries, is about to file an application to construct a 36" high pressure fracking gas line through Holland Township. On Monday July 20 PennEast directed the drilling of a 100 foot test bore on Township right of way and private property that was undertaken without any permits in the floodway of the Delaware River. The drilling utilized spring water from a pristine pond, returning polluted waste water to that pond.

A call to the NJDEP Hotline resulted in a series of denials and runarounds until the Hunterdon County Department of Health came on scene and took action to investigate. Despite a Holland Township Committee resolution opposing the PennEast pipeline construction, several Committeemen have been compromised by PennEast as demonstrated in Public Meetings and illegal private sessions with PennEast. Thankfully the Delaware RiverKeeper was also alerted to the activity on the floodplain and showed up on site for all of Tuesday, July 21. While The Delaware River Keeper can't correct the fouled water or destroyed environment, she can gain the attention of the NJDEP Commissioner and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. All of this destruction from an LLC, PennEast, which has not yet filed a formal application to FERC.

Dr Robert C. Rader

Raderbr@aol.com

908 995 9219

Roselle, Crown, Keeper

The Transco Pipeline project is underway and all were encouraged to go to Kingwood by the Buffalo farm to look at the installation and the effect on the community.

## **Sub-Committees:**

Stormwater Education – Mike Keady, Robert Thurgarland and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as Secretary Kozak.

Secretary Kozak – September 12, 2015 Community Day. Dwight Pederson will work on the fishing project that has been done the last few years. He is going to work on making it more educational. Rick Schrack offered to bring the poles. Mr. Pederson is working on this project. All are encouraged to be there to help.

After some discussion, it was decided that the Environmental Commission will also include PennEast pipeline information. Educational concepts were discussed. Maps will be generated and displayed. Rick Schrack will

work on the map project and will forward to Secretary Kozak. A power point presentation was discussed. Audience member Laura Wilson suggested showing the blast zone impact as this is being used at other fairs. She will get the information and forward to Chairman Keady. This would also show the evacuation route.

Trails – Ted Harwick (chair), Robert Thurgarland and Richard Schrack. ANJEC Grant deadline was April 1, 2015. ANJEC Grant and DEP NJ Recreational Trials Program grant have been filed. The ANJEC grant was approved. We are awarded \$1480.00. We are still waiting for word about the DEP NJ Recreational Trails Program grant. AJEC grant consultant Brittany Wieder is moving forward and has come in and reviewed files with Secretary Kozak and is following up with the Contact information which includes: Hunterdon Land Trust, Farmers Sportsman, Holland Park non-profit, and the Chairman for the Parks & Recreation Committee. Ted Harwick handed out the trail brochure for the Musconetcong Gorge. Secretary Kozak will work with Melissa Tigar on getting this information on the web. Jerry Bowers is to meet with Brittany Wieder to take some field pictures. Christopher Fletcher was asked to help out when possible.

Web Page – Jerry Bowers, Dwight Pederson, and Rick Schrack –The new web design company is working on creating the new website. The Ridge is being worked on first. More information to follow. Mike Keady did mention that the Phillips Farm Stand has a nice website and all were encouraged to look it over.

Highlands Conformance – Jerry Bowers (chair), Mike Keady and Henry Gore. Another topic discussed was updating to the Zoning Maps. Maser Consulting is working on the zoning maps project. An update will follow.

Shade Tree and Community Forestry Plan Sub-Committee – Henry Gore, Robert Thurgarland, Dwight Pederson and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as secretary. Secretary Kozak has the revised plan that has been signed by Mayor Krov and will submit to the state for processing. An update will follow when received.

Awards applications: ANJEC Environmental Achievement Award (deadline September 8, 2015), Governor's Environmental Excellence Award (Deadline September 30, 2015), and ECO Challenge Award (held October 15 – 29 and is aimed at individuals). All are positive awards programs but at this time no one wanted to pursue them.

Hughesville and Warren Glen Mills – Henry Gore reported that he is trying to obtain information from the DEP on any contamination of the mills. He attended a meeting and was very impressed with the community communication in Milford. Henry Gore asked about Holland Township and established communication with Gwen Zervas who works in the Site Remediation Program overseeing cleanups of Superfund sites. He offered questions (in black) and the responses from Gwen Zervas (are in blue). She did disclose that much of the information being asked was outside her area of expertise

Thank you for responding to my inquiry. Questions we have heard about these Hughsville and Warren Glen properties include the following:

- 1. Has the effluent sprayed over the nearby disposal fields, especially the colored dyes, resulted in toxic pollution? The only way to determine that is by sampling. Property owner can tell you if sampling has been conducted.
- 2. Has drainage ditches cut in these fields resulted in pollution of the Musconetgong River? The only way to determine that is by sampling. Property owner can tell you if sampling has been conducted.
- 3. What continuing pollution monitoring is required by the DEP for these sites? Is it in compliance? I am not aware of any requirements for monitoring from the Site Remediation Program perspective. The property owner should have information on monitoring requirements, if any.

- 4. Has the mill sites been tested for materials such as phenol formaldehyde? The property owner can provide that information.
- 5. An EC member has suggested that the fields surrounding the Hughsville mill site might be a Bog Turtle habitat. Is this possible? Attached is a list of known bog turtle habitat from the DEP website. Please contact the land use regulation program for more information. Here is a link to the webpage http://www.nj.gov/dep/landuse/guidance.html
- 6. Is asbestos on steam piping present in the mills? Could it become a problem if not addressed? The property owner can provide that information regarding whether asbestos exists on the pipes.
- 7. Does the adjacent dump site off rte 519 require continued monitoring? This information can be provided by the property owner.
- 8. What state help is available to return these brown field sites to productive and safe use? Here is a link to the DEP website that provides information on financial assistance for brownfields http://www.nj.gov/dep/srp/brownfields/

NRI/ERI update-Henry Gore has expressed concerns about the arsenic levels in Holland Township. The NRI was prepared by Consultant Kratcher many years ago. The ERI was prepared thru the Highlands Grant. Henry Gore proposes making an addendum to show the Hot Spot. Secretary Kozak expressed concern about altering the NRI document as it was prepared by a consultant thru an ANJEC grant many years ago. Jerry Bowers will work with Henry Gore on this project.

Public Comments. No comments.

At 8:30 pm Ted Harwick made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

Maria Elena Jennette Kozak

Maria Elena Jennette Kozak

**Environmental Commission Secretary**