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October 27, 2014

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

> Re: PennEast Pipeline Proposal Hunterdon County, New Jersey Pre-Filing Docket No. PF-15-1-000

Dear Ms. LaFleur:

This firm represents the Township of Holland, Hunterdon County, New Jersey ("Holland"). PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, ("PennEast") has initiated a pre-filing application under the above docket seeking to construct a 108 mile pipeline through Eastern Pennsylvania and Western New Jersey. Approximately eight miles of the pipeline are scheduled to go through Holland. Holland believes that the pre-filing process made pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") is premature; that PennEast has not done adequate pre-filing preparation and has not sufficiently addressed the concerns of the public. Accordingly, Holland opposes the Pre-Filing process as premature and not justified

Specifically, the Township of Holland has significant concerns as it has detailed in the attached Resolution regarding the disruptions to the environment from this pipeline and the fact that it will cause the unnecessary exercise of eminent domain. Further, the Township believes that PennEast should be required to explore the use of existing utility rights-of-way or highway rights-of-way so as to transport its gas to eastern markets. The Township believes that PennEast should be required to do a complete evaluation of all existing pipelines transporting natural gas across Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey; a survey of all existing rights-of-way held by utility companies or government; a thorough analysis of all proposed plans for the additional pipelines crossing Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey; and then a complete analysis of development of a mechanism to consolidate pipelines into utility corridors so as to minimize the number of separate, discreet pipelines and to consolidate all proposed pipelines into utility corridors.

The Township of Holland opposes the pre-filing process because PennEast has not engaged in good faith efforts to inform the stakeholder and the relevant public entities of the details of the pipeline path or its potential environmental impacts. Representatives of PennEast made their case at a Holland Township public meeting at which time more questions were raised than were answered. Shortly thereafter they announced there would be no more meetings with stakeholders or public entities, apparently because of the belief that the strong public opposition to the project make it counterproductive to engage in additional meetings. In light of the fact that PennEast seeks a certificate of public convenience and necessity to condemn the property of numerous homeowners, this refusal to consult and inform is unfair and inappropriate. Moreover, in its Pre-filing request to FERC, it suggests a paltry number of public meetings, each of a two hour duration, even though over 500 people appeared in Hopewell Township; over 300 people in Delaware Township; and over 300 in Holland Township to express concerns about the pipeline. PennEast obviously seeks to avoid informing the public and is attempting to muzzle those stakeholders and public agencies that have numerous concerns about the process.

The Township of Holland requests that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission members give careful attention to the environmental and other concerns raised in the Resolution.

The Resolution has authorized the Township to intervene in the process which the Township is in the process of doing. The Township requests that the Commission accept this letter with the attached Resolution as if the Township had already filed for and been granted intervention status.

Respectfully submitted,

18/ Richard P. Cushing

RICHARD P. CUSHING

RPC:cb Enclosure

CC: Anthony C. Cox, PennEast Pipeline Co, LLC Holland Township, Mayor and Committee