

Township of Holland

IN HUNTERDON COUNTY

61 Church Road Milford, New Jersey 08848 Phone (908) 995-4847 Fax (908) 995-7112 www.hollandtownship.org

February 2, 2016

Secretary Kimberly D. Bose Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street NE, Room 1A Washington, DC 20426

Re:

PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC

PennEast Pipeline Project Docket No. CP15-558-000

Dear Ms. Bose:

The governing body of the Township of Holland joins our Federal and State legislators in urging FERC to suspend work on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). PennEast has not provided the information requested by FERC in its November 24, 2015 letter.

We thank and support Rep. Leonard Lance, Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman, State Senator Kip Bateman, and Assemblywoman Elizabeth Maher Muoio in their insistence that the review of PennEast's application should not proceed because PennEast's December 14, 2015 response regarding the information identified as missing from their Resource Reports was entirely inadequate, with information promised for delivery months from now.

PennEast has set an extremely aggressive schedule for gaining approval of this project and beginning construction. Their wishes, which seem entirely unrealistic, should not drive FERC's schedule. We expect the business needs of this private corporation to take a back seat to protecting the environmental resources of our community. The consequences of your decision are too important to tolerate incomplete and slipshod evaluation of the project. A private company could be given the power of eminent domain to seize land in our township. Land preserved with our taxpayers' dollars could become a construction site. We implore you to do this right, not fast.

We believe that our own New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has offered an example of prudent behavior. They have refused to let PennEast apply for permits because so much information is lacking. For example, PennEast has not submitted any plans for surveying Threatened & Endangered species for NJ DEP to review, and they have failed to submit the credentials of the experts performing these

studies, despite the NJ DEP's insistence. This situation illustrates how far behind PennEast is on their aggressive schedule because these surveys must be done this spring for bird species, and PennEast has submitted neither plans nor experts for DEP approval.

Under these circumstances, FERC must preserve its own credibility by suspending work on the EIS until PennEast's responses are complete and enable FERC to meet the NEPA requirements.

Please contact me at r.krov@hollandtownship.org if you have any questions.

Thank you.

On behalf of the entire Holland Township Committee,

Ray Krov, Mayor

CC: Rep. Leonard Lance

Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman

State Senator Kip Bateman

State Senator Michael Doherty

Assemblywoman Elizabeth Maher Muoio

Assemblyman Eric Peterson

Assemblyman John DiMaio

Ruth Foster, NJ DEP

John Gray, NJ DEP