## **BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN**

12TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515—3012

February 9, 2017

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

## Dear Chairman LaFleur,

We write to express our serious concerns regarding Williams Transco's Northeast Supply Enhancement project and the proposed compressor station to be located between stations 205 and 207. This proposed gas compressor substation raises significant health and safety concerns for our constituents in Somerset and Middlesex Counties, specifically, the residents of Franklin and South Brunswick Township.

The proposed "Site 3," identified by Williams Transco, is located on Trap Rock Quarry, a quarry with active blasting, and is located on New Jersey's second largest aquifer. This quarry has been historically problematic to the health and safety of the residents in the surrounding area because of the noise, pollution and debris. Building a gas compressor station on the active quarry site will not only add to and compound these valid concerns, it will also increase the risk to local OEM responders who have limited access to the area and limited fire safety resources, if a problem or accident at the substation were to arise. It should also be noted that Route 27, on which the quarry is located, has a limited water line with insufficient hydrants. Additionally, the proximity of the aquifer, a source of fresh drinking water for residents in my district, creates another source of concern regarding the potential contamination of relied upon drinking water.

This proposed site raises a question as to why, out of the alternative sites identified in Research Report 10 submitted by Williams Transco, the site on a quarry was selected. Local elected representatives have expressed concern for this site and the negative impacts Williams Transco's proposal will have on the future of their communities.

Moreover, it is unclear why Williams Transco chose to propose a gas powered compressor, when an electric powered compressor is a viable alternative and standard among the already existing

substations. The construction of a gas facility increases pollution and emissions into the already densely populated area.

The concerns from our constituents are significant. We ask for your full review of this project, with particular attention to the health and safety concerns of the residents in the surrounding area. We ask that you review the choice made by Williams Transco to pursue this gas compressor station 206 in its proposed location.

We appreciate your time and consideration in advance, and eagerly await your response regarding the specific matters laid out in this letter.

Sincerely,

BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

Member of Congress

New Jersey Twelfth District

Senator Christopher "Kip" Bateman Legislative District 16

Assemblyman Jack Citarelli Legislative District 16

Assemblyman Andrew Zwicker Legislative District 16

Senator Bob Smith Legislative District 17

Assemblyman Joseph Danielsen Legislative District 17

Assemblyman Joseph V. Egan Legislative District 17

Mayor Frank Gambatese Town of South Brunswick Mayor Phil Kramer Township of Franklin

Deputy Mayor Carl R.A. Wright Township of Franklin

Shanel Robinson, Council-At-Large Township of Franklin

Rajiv Prasad, Council-At-Large Township of Franklin

Kimberly Francois, Council At-Large Township of Franklin

Theodore Chase, Council Ward 1 Township of Franklin

Rozalyn Sherman, Council Ward 2 Township of Franklin Deputy Mayor Chris Killmurray Town of South Brunswick

Councilman Charlie Carley Town of South Brunswick Councilwoman Josephine Hochman Town of South Brunswick

Jerry Laurizio South Brunswick Task Force

Robert G. Vornlocker, Township Manager Township of Franklin

Bernard Hvozdovic, Jr., Township Manager Town of South Brunswick Councilman Charles Onyejiaka -Council Ward 3 Township of Franklin

James Vassanella, Council Ward 5 Township of Franklin Louis N. Rainone, Township Attorney Township of Franklin

Ann Marie McCarthy, Township Clerk Township of Franklin

Councilman Joseph Camarota Town of South Brunswick