

**RESOLUTION – OPPOSITION BY FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP’S ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
TO THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF A COMPRESSOR STATION IN FRANKLIN
TOWNSHIP AS PART OF WILLIAMS-TRANSCO’S PROPOSED
NORTHEAST SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**

WHEREAS, Williams-Transco has proposed to construct a 32,000hp compressor station and additional facilities on property at the active blasting site of Trap Rock Quarry in Franklin Township, Somerset County, NJ; and

WHEREAS, Williams-Transco will be by clearing 15 acres of forest and needing to construct a new right-of-way access to the site; and

WHEREAS, Williams-Transco provided their Draft Resource Reports on November 22, 2016 before actually choosing their preferred site for the compressor station facility, which Williams-Transco subsequently announced on December 14, 2016 as their site choice; and

WHEREAS, the Draft Resource Reports are severely lacking in technical details and specifics that impairs the public’s attempt to comprehensively assess the impacts of all aspects of the project’s plans for the construction, mitigation and operation of the proposed compressor station; and

WHEREAS, Williams-Transco often wrote in the Draft Resource Reports that they would provide missing information, listed as “TBD”, in their Application which is proposed to be published on March 27, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the construction and operation of the proposed compressor station will release toxins to the air, ground water and nearby streams, as well as noise above and beyond accepted regulatory levels, all of which will impact the quality of life of local residents, children attending schools, businesses, places of worship, farmers and their farms which produce crops for local and regional consumption, and area and migratory wildlife for many years; and

WHEREAS, Franklin Township is in a nonattainment zone for ozone and an attainment zone for other pollutants; and

WHEREAS, Williams-Transco briefly noted their consideration and rejection of an electric-powered compressor instead of a gas-powered compressor in their Resource Reports, but they did not provided details about their conclusion that construction of an electric-powered compressor station would have a greater environmental impact that the proposed project in the near-term and long-term, and this is relevant because emissions are greater from gas-powered compressors than from electric-powered ones; and

WHEREAS, many residents are opposed to the compressor station and have submitted verbal and written comments to FERC about their concern for the well-being, health and safety for themselves, their families, wildlife, our natural resources and the environment that in part drew them to establish residence in Franklin Township or nearby communities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed site includes wetlands and a stream which empties into the Millstone River; and

WHEREAS, the proposed site is near the Delaware and Raritan Canal and other areas of outdoor recreation and enjoyment by residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Franklin Township is located in one of the most densely populated regions of the country, it claims over 9,000 acres of preserved land (greater than 34% of the Township's land mass), which provides key habitat for unique species of plants and animals; and

WHEREAS, Franklin Township prides itself on maintaining open space for the benefit of its residents and visitors, and the Township recently attained Silver level certification from Sustainable New Jersey for "green" initiatives that are economically and environmentally sound; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 6th day of March, 2017 by the Franklin Township Environmental Commission in the Township of Franklin, county of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The Environmental Commission of the Township of Franklin opposes the construction and operation of a compressor station on the preferred site or on any other site in and around Franklin Township as it would have severe detrimental impacts on the residents, visitors, wildlife, recreation, businesses and landscape of the area.
2. The Environmental Commission urges FERC to require that Williams-Transco provide it with copies of studies and consultations which would address the lack of information in the Resource Reports prior to the publication of the Application.
3. The Environmental Commission urges FERC to require that Williams-Transco provide it with supporting technical or professional documents which quantifies the impact of the project and mitigation measures to the air, water, health and safety as they impact residents, visitors, wildlife and the natural environment, as well as provide substantive evidence on the performance, reliability and feasibility of mitigation measures of the project. Furthermore, the Environmental Commission urges NJDEP and FERC to require Williams to provide a Health Impact Assessment in Conjunction with the Environmental Impact Statement.
4. The Environmental Commission urges FERC to require that Williams-Transco provide it with detailed studies of human and industrial activities, Trap Rock Quarry explosions and other events such as extreme rainfall, earthquakes, hurricanes and terrorist attacks that may have an impact on the residents, wildlife, **businesses** and environment of Franklin Township.
5. The Environmental Commission urges Williams-Transco to consult with it on matters pertaining to the environment; blast impact vibration study; anticipated mitigation measures; prior and planned future inspections and status of the integrity of the pipeline that is already in Franklin Township; anticipated source of water for construction, dust control, operations and potential fires; anticipated effects on nearby wetlands, waterbodies and groundwater; mitigation measures to be taken to ensure that there is no impact from or on the nearby Higgins Farm NPL site; ensuring and monitoring that attainment status is maintained and ozone levels do not increase.
6. The Environmental Commission urges FERC to require Williams-Transco to provide data about anticipated emissions and noise during construction and operations (daily as well as anticipated and unanticipated blowdowns) based on modeling as well as from historical data of other currently operating Williams-Transco compressor stations of equal or comparable size as well as mitigation and monitoring measures for the life of the project in their Application.
 - a. Specifically, provide project related construction and post construction operations greenhouse emissions of CH₄, N₂O, CO₂ and CO₂ Equivalents in tons per year specific to the proposed STA 206.
 - b. Provide comprehensive exhaust output detail for proposed STA206 at peak power including total exhaust output; exhaust temperature at turbine exit; comprehensive

peak and average noise output across the audio frequency spectrum including low frequency: 1 – 100 hertz, audible frequency: 100 – 14,000 hertz, and high frequency: 14,000 to 32,000 hertz; chemical exhaust output including NO_x, CO, VOC, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, HAPs, CO₂, and formaldehyde. Williams-Transco has installed several MARS 100 16,000hp compressors including STA515 (docket CP 12-30), and this data is available.

- c. Provide types of blowdown scenarios and the projected output of CH₃ emissions for each type of blowdown.

7. The Environmental Commission urges NJDEP and FERC to require Williams to begin air quality real time monitoring at the proposed site 3 starting at **least** one (1) month prior to Williams' formal certification Application for the following chemicals: CH₄, NO_x, CO, VOC, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, HAPs, CO₂, and Formaldehyde. This data must be captured by an independent organization that is not subcontracted by Williams, preferably Rutgers University. Additionally, this real time monitoring needs to be publicly available via a public website for the extent of the lifetime of the compressor station and beyond to monitor ongoing impacts especially on the ground water.

8. The Environmental Commission urges NJDEP and FERC to require Williams-Transco to provide a heat reclamation plan to recapture heat from proposed STA206 exhaust output as has been completed by other pipeline MARS 100 installations to reduce overall heat output from the MARS 100 turbines.

9. A copy of this resolution be forwarded to US Senators Cory Booker and Robert Menendez, Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman, NJ Senators Christopher Bateman and Bob Smith, Assemblymen Jack Citterelli, Andrew Zwicker, Joseph Egan and Joseph Danielsen, and Ruth W. Foster, PhD., P.G., NJDEP Acting Director of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection - Office of Permit Coordination & Environmental Review and Rutgers University.

The below listed members voted in favor of this resolution, with David Triggs abstaining (he may not vote on any matter which involves DEP permits):

Walter Andrews, Chair
Paul Walitsky
Arnold W. Schmidt
John Clyde
Arnold Vernick, PE
Dianne Pydeski
Ceil MacIvor

CERTIFICATION

I, Ann Marie McCarthy, Clerk of the Township of Franklin, in the County of Somerset, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Environmental Commission at a Township Council Work Session/Regular Meeting held on March 6, 2017.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Township this March 10, 2017.



Ann Marie McCarthy
Township Clerk

Document Content(s)

EC Resolution Opposing Proposed Gas Compressor Station.PDF.....1-3