

RESOLUTION #16-11-259 - OPPOSING THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF A COMPRESSOR STATION FOR THE CONNECTION TO THE TRANSCO PIPELINE BY WILLIAMS ON THE PROPOSED ROUTE 27 LOCATION OWNED BY TRAP ROCK

WHEREAS, Williams is an Energy Infrastructure Company that operates the Transco Natural Gas Pipeline which transports natural gas from South Texas to New York City; and

WHEREAS, Williams is proposing the Northeast Supply Enhancement Project for construction and installation of a compressor station (Facility #206) for connection to the Transco Pipeline on a portion of the Trap Rock Quarry property located near the intersection of Route 27 and Promenade Boulevard in South Brunswick Township to supply the Brooklyn and Rockaway areas of New York at the request of their customer "National Grid"; and

WHEREAS, Despite the concerns and opposition to this compressor station, Williams continues to evaluate two sites out of four that were considered at the Trap Rock Quarry location on Route 27 in Franklin Township. Both of the sites considered for this compressor station would dramatically affect the quality of life of many of the residents in the area if it were to be constructed, while providing no benefits to this area; and

WHEREAS, The project would require approval from the Federal Energy Regulation Commission, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Clean Water Act section 404), and US Fish and Wildlife Division, but no local land use permits; and

WHEREAS, The compressor would be subject to regular "blowdowns" releasing methane and methyl mercaptan into the surrounding atmosphere, as well as constant high temperature exhaust containing carbon monoxide and formaldehyde (oxides of nitrogen were stated to be controlled by injecting urea, but products were not specified); and

WHEREAS, The compressor station would be manned by two employees, during business hours only, otherwise depending on automated monitoring; and

WHEREAS, Williams compressor stations have had a number of fires and explosions in recent years, leading residents to expect such an event at the proposed compressor station, from which fire could spread through the forest to residences along and across Route 27; and

WHEREAS, Firefighting in this area is the responsibility of volunteer fire companies, and water pressure in the nearest water line is too weak to support firefighting; and

WHEREAS, The compressor station would be near active mining in the Trap Rock Quarry, which carries out explosive blasting to break loose rock, and Williams is not able to present evidence that the compressors would be stable to shocks created by the blasting; and

WHEREAS, There is proposed legislation for Safe and Accountable Federal Energy Review, which would require FERC to consider alternative energy locations and to review the necessity and impact of this project. The negative impacts and safety risks far outweigh the need to construct a compressor station at this location. This is a perfect example of the need for such legislation and Williams is urged to find an alternate location for this project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED On this 3rd day of November, 2016 by the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery opposes the construction and installation of a compressor station on all proposed locations in and around South Brunswick and Franklin Townships, as it would have severe detrimental impacts on the residential communities in those areas.
2. The Township Committee urges Williams to eliminate any further consideration for a compressor station and the Trap Rock locations and/or locations in South Brunswick and Franklin Townships and find an alternate location for the construction and installation of a compressor station.
3. The Township Committee urges the FERC to deny any application for these locations and requests our representatives to the United State Congress, United States Senate and New Jersey Legislature to oppose this compressor station application.
4. A copy of this resolution be forwarded to US Senator Cory Booker, US Senator Robert Menendez, Congressman Leonard Lance, Senator Christopher Bateman, Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli, and Assemblyman Andrew Zwicker.

CERTIFICATION
I HEREBY CERTIFY THE ABOVE TO BE A
TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
MONTGOMERY AT A MEETING HELD

November 3, 2016

Township Clerk