**ISSUE: SAFETY –**

**PROXIMITY OF TRAP ROCK QUARRY BLASTING AND THE PROPOSED COMPRESSOR STATION 206**

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Dear FERC Leadership:

I am an intervenor in the Northeast Supply Enhancement Project (CP17-101) and I am not convinced that FERC completed a thorough and independent analysis of the potential impacts, for the next few decades, from blasting at Trap Rock Quarry on the proposed Compressor Station 206. The Commission staff did not provide details to support their conclusion that “Transco would design, construct, operate, and maintain Compressor Station 206, including the inlet and outlet pipelines, in accordance with modern engineering practices that meet or exceed the DOT Minimum Federal Safety Standards which are protective of public safety, and added measures would be put in place to further ensure that the facility would not be affected by periodic blasting at the Trap Rock quarry.” (DEIS, page ES-5)

The reader of the DEIS was referred to the document, *Geotechnical and Vibration Analysis Report for Compressor Station 206,* available separately on the FERC docket. The FERC staff wrote, “Transco also committed to incorporate safety factors in the final foundation designs to prevent displacement if future blast intensity increases. We conclude that Compressor Station 206 would be adequately protected from blasting activities at the Trap Rock quarry and, in section 4.11.4, we recommend that Transco file its final foundation designs prior to construction.” (DEIS, pages ES-4,5)

I appreciate your foresight in “recommending” that Williams/Transco file its final foundation designs prior to construction” (DEIS, pages ES-4,5; Section 4.11.4,), but this does not address the pointed comments from the public which asked for an analysis of the potential CUMLATIVE impacts of blasting on the foundation since the Quarry will be blasting until at least 2040. In other words – What would the impact of continual blasting be on the foundation of the compressor station when blasting over the next 30 to 40 years is considered? Since year after year cumulative impacts from blasting are a possibility, what safety measures would be put into place now and/or in the future?

Without a) a long-term analysis of impacts of dynamite blasting on the proposed foundation for the compressor station, b) detailing the “added measures” to “ensure that the facility would not be affected by periodic blasting at the Trap Rock quarry,” and c) reviewing Williams/Transco’s final foundation design, the conclusion in this DEIS (page 2-52) that the construction of the compressor station building would follow applicable building codes and manufacturer’s instructions and be in compliance with applicable state and local building codes and subject to inspection for permitting authorities does not account for the missing analyses or an independent review by FERC of Williams/Transco’s final foundation design. Thus, all potential impacts were not considered in this DEIS.

Therefore, I request that the Commission obtain the final foundation design ASAP from Williams/Transco and complete a thorough, independent analysis of it. Additionally, I request that the Commission require Williams/Transco to complete an analysis of the projected cumulative impacts from decades of future blasting at Trap Rock Quarry on the proposed Compressor Station 206’s foundation and buildings, and also require Williams/Transco to specify and commit to measures to ensure that the compressor station would be safe during these decades of blasting that would be 0.25 miles from the building. I request that FERC gather, review and independently analyze this missing critical information to then issue a revised or supplemental DEIS, and then also allow at least another 45 days for public review.