

Attn: Catherine R. McCabe, Commissioner  
NJ Department of Environmental Protection  
401 East State Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, East Wing, PO Box 402, Trenton, NJ 08625-0402

Ref: Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC  
Northeast Supply Enhancement Project (NESE) FERC Docket No. CP17-101-000

RE: Outrage that FERC did not perform an environmental impact analysis nor detail any mitigation of substantial impacts to NJ and health of residents.

- Urge NJDEP to deny all permit applications from Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Corporation to NJDEP and restart the clock.
- Urge NJDEP to not cede authority to federal agencies that have demonstrated no integrity to fairly adjudicate long-term deadly impacts of projects against welfare of NJ residents.

CC: Governor Murphy

Dear Commissioner McCabe:

I am urging the NJDEP to promptly deny the permit applications of Williams/Transco for the Northeast Supply Enhancement (NESE) Project. These applications are for Freshwater Wetlands, Flood Hazard Area, Coastal Wetlands, and Waterfront Development.

**FERC could overrule NJDEP's right and responsibility to protect the waters of New Jersey** if NJDEP does not issue its denial of permit applications quickly. Then, NJDEP would have forfeited its decision-making authority. This has occurred to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) when they did not render a decision within one year of receiving permit applications for the Valley Lateral component of the Millennium Pipeline Project. Please do not let this occur with NJDEP.

**Flawed Draft Environmental Impact Statement issued by FERC on March 23, 2018:** From ignoring toxic airborne chemical emissions that have direct impact on human health; to not acknowledging recent studies directly correlating natural gas-fired compressors with human health impacts; to not examining or assessing the increased risks of leaks and explosions associated with the increase of velocity in pipelines A and C installed 1950 and 1969 respectively; to not acknowledging the long history of violations and incidents that Transco has had with its pipelines; to ignoring the environmental impact of high heat high flow exhaust from proposed Compressor Station 206; to a disproportionately small sampling of Raritan Bay toxic sediment while Williams increased the acreage impact to beyond 15,000 acres; to the lack of analysis of environmental impact that the Raritan Bay disturbance will have on the greater community and bay habitat; to not assessing the actual natural gas leakage in Staten Island identified by Google and EDF in terms of how much of this added capacity will be leaked by National Grid's infrastructure; and to the inability to assess the benefits of a waste heat recovery system will have on the environment.

***FERC's DEIS fails the public trust for assessing the Northeast Supply Enhancement project's immediate impact on New Jersey and New York, and also fails to assess the long-term risks and cumulative impact. This DEIS cannot be considered a valid draft environmental impact statement.***

**Recent increase in extreme weather patterns in New Jersey:** Four nor'easters were experienced in March 2018, increasing occurrences of rapid rainfall storms along with increased flooding that previously was a rare occurrence and an upward trend in summer mean temperatures as well an expanding range between minimum and maximum temperatures since 1970 (njweather.org Rutgers Research). NESE pollution, heat and Bay disruption will only increase extreme weather impacts on wetlands and flood-prone areas.

**FERC has disregarded public comments** and New Jersey Legislator comments requesting completion of a health impact assessment and mitigation for 12 significant impacts of the NESE project to ensure safety and mitigation of significant environmental and health impacts. Additionally, considering Williams extensive data dump on May 11, 2018 consisting of 52 documents 1 business day before the FERC DEIS comment period end date, it is critical that **NJDEP resets the clock** to allow for NJDEP and the public to fully assess the extensive risks and real impacts associated with this project.

Finally, the General Conformity Determination to ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act for the NESE Project has not been submitted or posted for public review. Given the missing information about final plans for mitigation of excessive NOx emissions, along with the caustic emissions from the proposed compressor station, I have grave concerns about the NESE's impact on our air quality.

On April 20, 2018, New York's Department of Environmental Conservation rejected the application for a Water Quality Certificate for this NESE Project, and I am counting on you to **deny the NESE permits quickly that are being reviewed by NJDEP.**

I stand with the Governor in support of increases in energy efficiency and renewable energy sources to protect our water and air. Unless you can determine that the permit applications for Freshwater Wetlands, Flood Hazard Area, Coastal Wetlands, and Waterfront Development are complete and truly protective of the environment, according to all that NJDEP is required to comply with, please reject these applications promptly.

Sincerely,

Name:

Complete Address:

Email:

**NESE NJDEP Permit Applications:**

**FLOOD HAZARD AREA PERMITS: Application received by NJDEP on June 23, 2017**

**PI Number, Activity Number:** 0000-01-1001.3-FHA170001 (verification of construction)  
**PI Number, Activity Number:** 0000-01-1001.3-FHA170002 (individual permit - construction)

**FRESHWATER WETLANDS PERMIT: Application received by NJDEP on June 23, 2017**

**PI Number, Activity Number:** 0000-01-1001.3-FWW170001 (individual permit - construction)

**COASTAL WETLANDS PERMIT: Application received by NJDEP on July 10, 2017**

**PI Number, Activity Number:** 1200-17-0006.1-CSW170001 (permit – construction)

**WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT PERMITS: Application received by NJDEP on July 10, 2017**

**PI Number, Activity Number:** 1200-17-0006.1-WFD170001 (individual permit – in-water construction)  
**PI Number, Activity Number:** 1200-17-0006.1-WFD170002 (individual permit – upland construction)