



BOROUGH OF ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

RESOLUTION 077-2019

Resolution Opposing the Williams/NESE Raritan Bay Pipeline and Urging the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to Conduct a Public Hearing on the Bayshore

WHEREAS, Williams is proposing the Northeast Supply Enhancement Project to build a 23.4-mile methane natural gas pipeline through Raritan Bay and Lower New York Bay, from Old Bridge to Rockaway, New York to transport 400 million cubic feet of methane natural gas, extracted through the environmentally destructive process of hydraulic fracturing, from the Marcellus Shale to New York markedly contributing to climate change; and,

WHEREAS, the project will in no way serve the interests of the State of New Jersey, or its residents, and will only supply methane natural gas to Brooklyn, Queens and Long Island New York; and,

WHEREAS, the Williams/NESE pipeline will have severe negative impacts to the Raritan and Lower New York Bays such as disturbing roughly, 14,165 acres of the seabed of the Raritan Bay, discharging 690,000 gallons of drilling fluid and chemicals into the bay, re-suspending over 1,090,000 tons of toxic much contaminated by PCBs, dioxin, lead, mercury, and arsenic, and destroying over 1,000 acres of benthic habitat that houses marine fish, shellfish, and larva; and,

WHEREAS, the project poses serious concerns related to environmental harm to marine and coastal ecosystems, as well as negative impacts to the safety, health and wellbeing of Bayshore coastal communities as it will endanger marine life and fisheries through decrease water quality from re-suspended toxins, sieving of over 3.5 Million gallons of seawater destroying any living thing caught in the process, loud sounds and powerful vibrations that accompany pipeline development which will impact migration patterns, communication systems and other important biological processes; and,

WHEREAS, the Williams/NESE pipeline will have significant upstream environmental impacts that will directly harm the Raritan Bay such as negatively affecting 41 acres of wetlands, including approximately 20 acres of forested wetland that will adversely impact industries important to the New Jersey, Bayshore communities, disturb commercial and recreational fishing and shell fishing activities, and potentially damage the tourism industry; and,

WHEREAS, despite being directly affected from the proposed Williams/NESE pipeline, there has been no public hearing within the Bayshore; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Atlantic Highlands hereby opposes the construction and instillation of a 23.4 mile methane natural gas pipeline through Raritan Bay from Old Bridge to Rockaway, New York. Construction of the pipeline will negatively impact the health of the Bayshore, coastal ecosystems, marine life, benthic habitats, and coastal communities.

Be It Further Resolved, that the Borough of Atlantic Highlands urges the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to hold public meetings(s) in Monmouth County and in particular the Bayshore Region to seek public input and comment before any further consideration to this project is advanced. The Borough also urges its representatives of the New Jersey Legislature, United States Congress and United States Senate as well as the Governor of New Jersey to oppose this pipeline application.

Motion: Approve Resolution 077-2019 **Moved by** Councilman Fligor; **Seconded by** Councilwoman Hohenleitner

Vote: Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

Yes: Councilman Boracchia, Councilman Crowley, Councilman Fligor, Councilwoman Hohenleitner, Councilman Murphy

No: None

Absent: Councilman Dellosso

I, Michelle Clark, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Atlantic Highlands, in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, hereby certify this to be a true copy of the action of the Governing Body, at its Regular Meeting, held April 22, 2019. WITNESS my hand this 23rd day of April 2019.



Michelle Clark
Municipal Clerk

