

Conservation Commission



**Richmond
New Hampshire**

October 6, 2015

ORIGINAL

Jeffrey Taylor, Chairman
Richmond Conservation Commission
105 Old Homestead Highway
Richmond, NH 03470

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E., Room 1A
Washington, D.C. 20426

**FILED
SECRETARY OF THE
COMMISSION
2015 OCT 13 A 9 54
FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Re: Comments relative to the proposed Northeast Energy Direct Project, Tennessee Gas Pipeline, LLC, Docket No. PF14-22-000.

Dear Secretary Bose,

Richmond, a small, rural town located in the hilly region of southwest NH is unique as we do not have the usual expected modern conveniences such as a post office, stores, gas stations, or restaurants.

Many people are attracted to and live here for Richmond's primary assets which include our undeveloped landscape of rolling forested hillsides, pristine streams, ponds, and abundant wildlife. This magnificent landscape offers us peace, security, and a "sense of place" an escape from the pressure of urbanization.

The majority of the residents of Richmond have expressed their sincere concerns and fear that the Northeast Energy Direct Project, Tennessee Gas Pipeline, LLC, Docket No. PF14-22-000, poses an unreasonable threat their quality of life and the natural resources and rural character of Richmond. The people of Richmond feel they have to sacrifice their comfort, security, and sense of place without any benefit from the proposed project.

The Richmond Conservation Commission has been extremely frustrated with the lack of detail provided for the exact location of the proposed pipeline and other alternative routes in Richmond that have been mentioned at public meetings. This lack of transparency by Kinder Morgan has made it difficult for this commission to assess the potential impacts on the towns' natural resources.

The Richmond Conservation Commission clearly understands the concerns and opposition to this proposed project expressed by the majority of our residents and wishes to present the additional following comments to FERC.

The commission is very concerned about the potential negative impacts to the following important resource areas within the alleged pipeline route:

- **Headwater streams and tributaries of Tilsey, Brickyard, Sprague, Roaring, Rice, and Tully Brooks which support naturally reproducing Eastern Brook Trout.**
- **Sandy Pond and its unnamed tributary**
- **Stratified drift aquifer between Old Homestead Highway and Fish Hatchery Road**

- **The possible taking of land protected by conservation easements such as the Quint Preserve, and Little Monadnock Family Trust.**

- **Invasive Plants – strong potential to introduce and spread from construction vehicles and moving of soil infested with seed.**

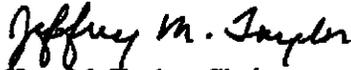
- **Stabilization of rocky, steep slopes during and after construction regarding soil erosion and possible stream sedimentation.**

- **Concerns for wetland impacts, remediation, and mitigation.**

Please give serious consideration to the aforementioned potential impacts and concerns to Richmond's natural resources. Should this project be approved the Richmond Conservation Commission respectfully requests, that a third party, State of New Hampshire qualified environmental professional, be present on site during construction activities to monitor compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local permits.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,



**Jeffrey M. Taylor, Chairman
Richmond Conservation Commission**

Cc: Carol Jameson, Chair, Board of Selectmen