



County of Cheshire

12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431
www.co.cheshire.nh.us

February 18, 2015

Lori Ferry, AECOM Project Manager
10 Orms Street, Suite 405
Providence, Rhode Island 02904

Re: Information Request: Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co., LLC
Northeast Energy Direct project, FERC Doc. PF14-22
County of Cheshire, New Hampshire

*Received
2/23/15*

Dear Ms. Ferry:

The Cheshire County, New Hampshire, Board of County Commissioners has received your letter of January 26, 2015 and offer you the following response to your inquiries.

According to the information contained in your letter, the proposed gas pipeline will pass through five (5) towns within the boundaries of Cheshire County, those towns being Winchester, Richmond, Troy, Fitzwilliam and Rindge.

Your letter poses a number of questions and requests information relative to aquifers, protected aquifer zones, surface waters used for drinking water supply, open space issues, locally significant roads, scenic areas or rivers, locations of schools, parks, ball fields and trails. It also inquires about planned residential, industrial and commercial developments.

The requested information is not the type of information that is normally acquired by Cheshire County government although there are undoubtedly other agencies within the County that have all, or part of the requested information.

Although we do not have records of that information, we are aware that your proposed pipeline does cross a major aquifer that underlies the affected area of the county. A brief review of the maps that accompanied your letter also reveals that the proposed path crosses many streams, both perpetual and vernal, and shows it crossing major ponds, wet lands, and other water ways in all five (5) towns.

The areas through which the pipeline will pass is a major habitat for wildlife and is used for hiking, walking and for hunting. It is substantially a wilderness area. Although an electric power line right of way occupies some of the space through which your pipeline passes, that power line is not disruptive of wildlife habitat in that zone. We understand that your pipeline will entail considerable widening of the existing right-of-way and substantial excavation that will require blasting of underlying granite formations. This anticipated work could have major effect upon the aquifer underlying this work zone and adversely affect our citizens that live there and the wildlife that relies upon that environment. We are also concerned for the long term safety of those that will be living in its proximity and of the cost to those communities for fire and safety protection.

Area Code 603

♦ County Commissioners 352-8215/Fax 355-3026 ♦ Registry of Deeds 352-0403/Fax 352-7678 ♦ Finance Department 355-0154/Fax 355-3000 - 33 West Street, Keene, NH 03431 ♦ County Sheriff 352-4238/Fax 355-3020 ♦ County Attorney 352-0056/Fax 355-3012 - 12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431 ♦ Alternative Sentencing/Mental Health Court 355-0160/Fax 355-0159 - 265 Washington St. Keene N.H. ♦ Department of Corrections 825 Marlboro Street, Keene, 03431 - 903-1600/Fax 352-4044 ♦ Maplewood Nursing Home & Assisted Living 399-4912/Fax 399-7005 - TTY Access 1-800-735-2964 ♦ Facilities 399-7300/Fax 399-7357 ♦ Human Resources 399-7317/399-7378/Fax 399-4429 - 201 River Rd, Westmoreland, NH 03467



County of Cheshire

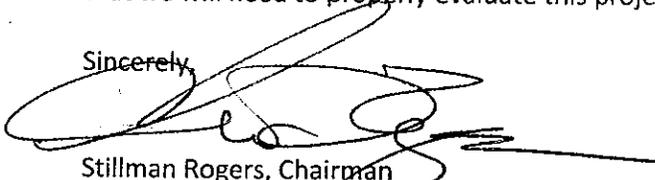
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We also understand that similar requests for information have been, or will be, made directly to the affected towns. The scope of this project will require significant effort to develop the information that you have requested and that we will need to properly evaluate this project and its short and long term effect upon this county and its people.

We anticipate that the cost of developing the requested information will be very high and feel that it should not be done at the expense of the property tax payers of this County. We would appreciate it if you would let us know what arrangements AECOM and its associated companies plan to make to allow us to engage the experts that will be required to develop the information that you have requested and that we will need to properly evaluate this project and its effect upon the people of Cheshire County.

Sincerely,



Stillman Rogers, Chairman
Cheshire County Commissioners

Cc: Southwest Regional Planning Commission
County of Cheshire Conservation District
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

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