



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MARGARET WOOD HASSAN
Governor

December 4, 2015

Norman C. Bay, Chairman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20426

RE: Docket No. CP 16-21, Northeast Energy Direct

Dear Chairman Bay:

Having recently met with representatives of a number of host communities for the proposed Northeast Energy Direct (NED) Project, I write to reiterate my requests that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) fully consider alternatives for the proposed NED and address the wide range of concerns expressed by those in the path of the project.

I share many of the concerns that communities and individuals have raised, including those reflected in the two attached letters. I ask again that FERC address these concerns and require that the company work to address the environmental, public health and safety issues raised by affected communities. It is my belief that if the company cannot do so, the project should not move forward as currently proposed.

We must strengthen our energy infrastructure to reduce costs for our families and businesses and create jobs, and I believe natural gas will be a part of a strategy to reach a more diverse, clean energy future. But the siting of needed energy transmission projects must always strike a balance between providing benefits, such as reduced energy costs and lower emissions, and potential negative impacts to host communities.

I again encourage FERC to carefully consider whether the potential negative impacts of the project would disproportionately outweigh the benefits, particularly for the New Hampshire residents and communities that would bear the burden of hosting the project.

Thank you for your consideration.

With every good wish,



Margaret Wood Hassan
Governor

cc: Allen Fore, Vice President, Public Affairs, Kinder Morgan
Tad Putney, New Hampshire Municipal Pipeline Coalition
Maryann Harper, New Hampshire PLAN
Robert Dillberger, Mason Conservation Commission
Board of Selectmen, Town of Mason
Board of Selectmen, Town of Londonderry
Board of Selectmen, Town of Sharon
Board of Selectmen, Town of Brookline
Board of Selectmen, Town of Fitzwilliam
Board of Selectmen, Town of Litchfield
Board of Selectmen, Town of Merrimack
Board of Selectmen, Town of Rindge
Board of Selectmen, Town of Temple
Board of Selectmen, Town of Troy
Board of Selectmen, Town of Pelham
Board of Selectmen, Town of Brookline
Board of Selectmen, Town of Richmond
Board of Selectmen, Town of Amherst
Board of Selectmen, Town of Winchester
Board of Selectmen, Town of New Ipswich
Board of Selectmen, Town of Greenville
Board of Selectmen, Town of Milford
Board of Selectmen, Town of Hollis
Board of Selectmen, Town of Hudson
Board of Selectmen, Town of Windham

Enclosures