

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MARGARET WOOD HASSAN  
Governor

September 21, 2015

Dwight Brew  
Chairman, Board of Selectmen  
Town of Amherst

John D'Angelo  
Vice Chairman, Board of Selectmen  
Town of Amherst

Nate Jensen  
Clerk, Board of Selectmen  
Town of Amherst

Tom Grella  
Selectmen, Board of Selectmen  
Town of Amherst

Reed Panasiti  
Selectmen, Board of Selectmen  
Town of Amherst  
Town Hall  
PO BOX 960  
Amherst, New Hampshire 03031

Dear Members of the Amherst Board of Selectmen:

Thank you for your most recent letter on the proposed Northeast Energy Direct Project (NED Project). I understand and appreciate the concerns you outlined in this and other letters, and I have raised many of these concerns with both Kinder Morgan and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

The current proposed route for the NED Project includes approximately 180 miles of new pipeline in Pennsylvania and New York, about 65 miles of new pipeline in Massachusetts, and about 70 miles of new pipeline in New Hampshire – as well as additional proposed lateral lines in New Hampshire and other New England states. In a recent letter to the FERC, I asked the Commission to carefully review this proposed route and the potential negative impacts – and also to closely evaluate alternative routes and other proposed energy projects that could meet our energy needs. In addition, my letter


asked the Commission and the company to address a number of concerns related to water supplies, exportation of natural gas, among other concerns that have been raised by you and others.

The siting of any energy transmission project must strike a balance between potential benefits, such as reduced costs to rate payers, and potential negative impacts, such as the concerns you have raised. I will not support energy projects that do not appropriately strike this balance; the potential negative impacts of any proposed energy project should not disproportionately outweigh the benefits, particularly for the residents and communities that would bear the burden of hosting the project.

Kinder Morgan must do more to show that the NED Project will have clear energy benefits for New Hampshire and particularly for the residents and communities where the proposed project would be hosted. The company must continue to work with impacted communities to understand and address local concerns related to the environment, air quality, water quality, historic and cultural resources, conservation lands, public safety, and more. The company must also ensure that any final proposal addresses local concerns and impacts and provides clear benefits to our people.

Thank you again for your letter. I will continue to work with communities like yours along the proposed route to better understand your concerns and to work to ensure that those concerns are expressed to the FERC and Kinder Morgan. By working together, I know that we can find energy solutions that lead to a stronger, more diverse and more affordable energy future.

With every good wish,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maggi / L" followed by a long horizontal line.

Margaret Wood Hassan