



Township Council
1 Municipal Plaza
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

Louise M. Palagano
Municipal Clerk

<http://www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com>

Meeting: 04/29/19 07:00 PM

2019 RESOLUTION APPROVAL

RESOLUTION TO GOVERNOR MURPHY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CONCERNING THE WILLIAMS/TRANSCO COMPANY PLANS TO MORE THAN DOUBLE THE SIZE OF THE ROSELAND GAS COMPRESSOR STATION AND INCREASE PRESSURE IN THE 60 YEAR OLD PIPELINE COMING OUT OF IT WHICH GOES THROUGH 16 NJ TOWNS AND MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY

WHEREAS, the Township of Bloomfield in the state of New Jersey has been supportive of efforts to clean up our environment, become more sustainable, encourage conservation and shift to renewable sources of energy; and

WHEREAS, Williams/Transcontinental Company (Williams/Transco) could begin construction any day, if the Governor and DEP allow it, to more than double the horsepower, from 27,500 to 60,500 hp, of the natural gas compressor station in the town of Roseland built in 2013, as part of the Gateway Expansion Project; and

WHEREAS, this much more powerful gas compressor station would be able to push much more gas produced from the process of shale gas drilling/hydraulic fracturing (fracking) through a 60 year old pipeline, increasing the pressure by at least 13% psi; and

WHEREAS, the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders unanimously passed in February, 2014 a resolution entitled "Expression of Concern Over Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company Project;" and

WHEREAS that resolution said, in part, "the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders is concerned that Compressor Station 303 in Roseland, capable of operating at 30,000 horsepower, will be utilized to increase pressure in a pipeline that is over 54 years old, passes beneath at least 16 towns-Roseland, West Caldwell, North Caldwell, Cedar Grove, Little Falls,

Clifton, Montclair State U., Bloomfield, Nutley, Belleville, North Arlington, Lyndhurst, Rutherford, East Rutherford, Carlstadt, Ridgefield, North Bergen--and passes within 100 feet of some homes along its route;" and

WHEREAS, there have been explosions and/or fires at or within at least nine Williams Partners or Williams/Transco facilities or infrastructure, including one in 2014 in Washington state that injured five people and led to the evacuation of people within a two mile radius of the facility; and

WHEREAS, compressor stations and pipelines emit dangerous toxins into the air including formaldehyde, benzene, carbon monoxide, radon and others that are carcinogenic or neurotoxic and are prone to causing major adverse health effects in humans and animals; and

WHEREAS, the borough of Roseland, County Executive Joe Divencenzo, individual county freeholders and other municipal leaders near Roseland, State Assemblymembers John McKeon and Mila Jasey, Roseland Against the Compressor Station, the NJ Sierra Club, Food and Water Watch, 350NJ and other organizations have all expressed their opposition to the proposal to expand the size of the Roseland compressor and have stated concerns, based on safety and health issues, for NJ residents as well as potential harm to local wetlands in the immediate area; and

WHEREAS, the gas compressor station has been constructed on land immediately adjacent to PSE&G electrical power lines and a terminal which have an electrical capacity of 500,000 or more volts; and

WHEREAS, there are very few examples in the country, if any, of a large gas compressor station being located right next to major electrical power lines on a wetlands and flood plain area; and

WHEREAS, despite being informed and alerted to all of the serious problems with the Williams/Transco plan for expansion at an August 7, 2018 public hearing in North Caldwell and hundreds of emails and communications from NJ residents and public officials, the NJ Department of Environmental Protection decided the day after Christmas, 2018, though no town or county officials were ever officially notified of it for weeks, to issue two necessary Freshwater Wetlands Permits to Williams/Transco; and

WHEREAS, Williams/Transco told the Roseland Mayor James Spango in late January, 2019 that they are planning to start construction in the month of March; and,

WHEREAS, the borough of Roseland and four environmental and community groups officially appealed the NJDEP decision to approve the permits; and, **WHEREAS**, the NJDEP Office of Legal Affairs responded by letter saying that they have “received your request for an adjudicatory hearing. Your request is under review.”,

THEREFORE, the Mayor and the Council of Township of Bloomfield states:

RESOLVED, that the Township of Bloomfield calls upon Governor Phil Murphy and NJDEP Commissioner Catherine McCabe to take action to reverse the decision granting two freshwater wetlands permits for the Roseland compressor/Gateway Expansion Project and to prohibit Williams/Transco from undertaking any tree clearing or construction activities accordingly; and,

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution to be forward to Governor Murphy and Commissioner McCabe immediately, as well as to US Senators Corey Booker and Robert Menendez, Congresswoman Mike Sherrill, all members of the Essex County legislative delegation, Essex County municipalities and the NJ Board of Public Utilities.

* ... * ... * ... *

Approved as to form and procedure on basis of facts set forth.



Director of Law-Township Attorney

I do hereby certify that the funding will be legally appropriated per the above information for the purpose specified in the attached contract. Furthermore, it has been represented to me that the contracts have been processed in accordance with the applicable provisions of New Jersey Local Public Contract Law and the Code of the Township of Bloomfield.

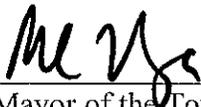


Chief Financial Officer

I hereby certify that the above resolution was duly adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bloomfield at a meeting of said Township Council held on April 29, 2019.



Municipal Clerk of the Township of Bloomfield



Mayor of the Township of Bloomfield

✓ Vote Record – Resolution						
		Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopt	Jenny Mundell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Deny	Nicholas Joanow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn	Sarah Cruz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Table	Wartyna Davis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Discussed	Ted Gamble	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> First Reading	Richard Rockwell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Table with no Vote	Michael J. Venezia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve						
<input type="checkbox"/> Veto by Mayor						
<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion						
<input type="checkbox"/> Defeated						
<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion No Vote						