



Township Council
1 Municipal Plaza
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

Louise M. Palagano
Municipal Clerk

<http://www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com>

Meeting: 03/30/20 07:00 PM

2020 RESOLUTION APPROVAL

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SAFETY STUDY TO EVALUATE THE DANGERS OF AN EXPANDED ROSELAND COMPRESSOR STATION AND A 60-YEAR-OLD PIPELINE COMING FROM IT GOING THROUGH TOWNSHIP OF BLOOMFIELD

WHEREAS, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection approved the 2013 construction and the 2019 expansion of a natural gas compressor station in the Borough of Roseland on Eagle Rock Avenue that is owned and operated by Williams Partners Company and their subsidiary known as The Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company "Transco"; and

WHEREAS, natural gas compressor stations, as well as 60 year old gas pipelines, such as the one coming out of the compressor station and going through 16 New Jersey towns--West Caldwell, North Caldwell, Cedar Grove, Little Falls, Clifton, Montclair, Bloomfield, Nutley, Belleville, North Arlington, Lyndhurst, Rutherford, East Rutherford, Carlstadt, Ridgefield and North Bergen--before crossing the Hudson River into New York, pose many potential hazards to people, to property and to the environment; and

WHEREAS, there have been explosions, fires and accidental leakages of toxic pollutants at numerous Williams gas infrastructure facilities or infrastructure over many years, including an explosion on March 31, 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, it is the mission of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bloomfield to preserve the health, safety, and welfare of Bloomfield's citizens and the community at large from any potential harm that may affect people, property, and the environment due to the

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operation of the subject federally approved natural gas compressor station and expanded pressure inside the 60 year old pipeline; and,

WHEREAS, the gas compressor station has been constructed on land immediately adjacent to a PSE&G electrical switching station and the eastern terminal of the high-voltage, Susquehanna-Roseland electrical transmission lines which can transmit up to 730,000 volts of electricity; and,

WHEREAS, on the night of November 21, 2019, a fireball explosion took place very close to the gas compressor station, described in this way by PSE&G: “a very large piece of equipment malfunctioned at our Roseland Switching Station on Eisenhower Parkway, causing a fireball that extinguished itself. There were no injuries. We've heard reports of nearby homes shaking and that is possible given the size of the equipment. (It's about the size of a subcompact car.) There were no injuries and no outages. Up to 3,000 customers may have experienced flickering lights. (Customers are on our distribution system and this occurred in our transmission system.)”; and,

WHEREAS, neither the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission nor the NJ Department of Environmental Protection did any serious analysis of the safety risks attendant to locating what is now a 60,500 horsepower gas compressor station, one of the largest in the country, within a few hundred yards of both high-voltage electrical transmission lines and an electric switching station on a flood plain during a time when climate change is leading to more extreme weather events, as well as an increase in pressure within the 60 year old pipeline coming out of it, even though these risks were officially identified and called to their attention during their review processes prior to granting permits; and,

WHEREAS, it is the Mayor and Council’s belief that these concerns are serious and genuine and we are passionate about protecting our residents and all New Jersey residents from

potentially harmful and devastating consequences resulting from any event at the subject federally approved facility situated in our community.

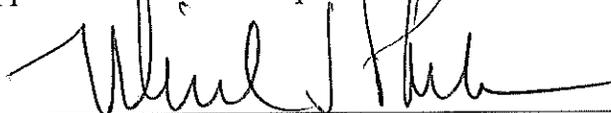
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bloomfield, County of Essex calls upon the Governor of New Jersey to immediately suspend any use of the 2019 expansion of the compressor station until there is a serious, independent safety study of the risks of operating a very large compressor station next to high-voltage transmission lines and a switching station on a flood plain, increasing pressure within a 60 year old pipeline.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon passage, a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the following recipients:

Governor Phil Murphy, NJDEP, Senator Robert Menendez, Senator Cory Booker, Senator Mikie Sherrill

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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 March 30, 2020.



Deputy Municipal Clerk of the Township of Bloomfield

Me Jun

 Mayor of the Township of Bloomfield

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