



Township Council
1 Municipal Plaza
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

Louise M. Palagano
Municipal Clerk

<http://www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com>

Meeting: 04/12/21 07:00 PM

2021 RESOLUTION APPROVAL

RESOLUTION: OPPOSITION TO CONSTRUCTION OF COMPRESSION TURBINES ON THE TENNESSEE GAS PIPELINE RUNNING THROUGH NORTHERN NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. (“TGP”) has applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) for a “Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity” and to the NJ Department of Environmental Protection for a Highlands Act exemption, air pollution permits, freshwater wetlands permits, stormwater management permits, and other permits required for its proposed “East 300 Upgrade Project” ; and

WHEREAS, this project includes the construction of a 19,000 horsepower gas compression station (“Compressor 327”) at 960 Burnt Meadow Road, Township of West Milford, Passaic County, New Jersey and the construction of a new 20,000 hp compressor that will more than triple the size of the existing compression station, “CS 325,” at 164 Libertyville Road in Wantage Township, Sussex County, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Compressor 327 in West Milford is located in the Highlands Preservation Area, an exceptional natural resource which provides drinking water to more than half of the state of New Jersey and this project is less than 2,000 feet from the Monksville Reservoir which flows into the Wanaque Reservoir and together provides drinking water for 3.5 million NJ residents, and is located near protected wetlands, and a Category 1 Exceptional Value Stream, and construction and ongoing operation of these proposed industrial facilities can lead to groundwater pollution from chromium, benzene and hydrocarbons ; and

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WHEREAS, according to Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (“PHMSA”) failure reports, from 2006 to 2017 TGP had 111 significant incidents with their pipelines, resulting in \$89,815,380 in property damage and 19 federal enforcement actions and such incidents may escalate as pipelines age; and

WHEREAS, no gas will be used by New Jersey residents, yet they will be put at risk; these projects will significantly increase the amount and pressure of gas transported through the pipeline from Pennsylvania through New Jersey to Westchester County, New York ; much of this pipeline is 65 years old and beyond its useful life; sections of it run near homes, businesses, and critical infrastructure in dozens of Northern New Jersey communities; and these projects increase the risk of leaks and catastrophic explosions, which can result in property destruction and deaths when they occur; and

WHEREAS, in addition to normal operational emissions associated with gas-fired compressor stations, other sources of periodic emissions include planned and unplanned blowdowns, leaked gas (“fugitives”) and accidents, as well as leaks of volatile organic compounds (“VOCs”) removed from the gas stream and stored on site including hydrogen sulfide, mercury and other contaminants; and

WHEREAS, VOCs present at compressor stations include nitrogen dioxide, ethyl benzene, benzene, ethane, methanol, naphthalene and toluene; short term exposure to these chemicals can cause eye and respiratory tract irritation, headaches, dizziness, visual disorders, fatigue, loss of coordination, allergic skin reaction, nausea, and memory impairment; long-term effects include loss of coordination and damage to the liver, kidney, and central nervous system; and many VOCs are known carcinogens, and benzene specifically is associated with childhood leukemia ; and

WHEREAS, in addition to VOC pollution, Particulate Matter (PM) released from compressors also poses a significant health concern and can interact with airborne VOCs increasing their impact; PM of 2.5 mm may pose the greatest threat to the health of nearby residents, and inhalation affects both the respiratory and cardiovascular systems causing decreased lung function, aggravated asthma symptoms, and nonfatal heart attacks and high blood pressure ; and

WHEREAS, natural gas is primarily made up of methane, a significant contributor to climate change, and is released during planned and unplanned blowdowns; and

WHEREAS, a flash fire at the Williams Transco gas compressor in Branchburg, NJ in 2013 caused two workers to be hospitalized and injuries to 13 others; and

WHEREAS, TGP's 300-line project, completed in November, 2011 seriously damaged Lake Lookover in Hewitt, NJ and Bearfort Waters in West Milford including the siltation and destruction of waterways through mudslides, increased flooding and impacts to drinking water wells; and

WHEREAS, during construction at the Williams Transco compressor station in Roseland NJ in 2013, the company conducted a “blow-down” of the facility, and released large amounts of gas and other chemicals into the local community, forcing an emergency evacuation of a nearby Roseland Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, in 2013 a 12,000-horsepower compressor station came online across the New York border from Wantage in Minisink New York, and has reportedly caused serious health impacts to residents including nosebleeds, headaches, rashes, and respiratory, gastrointestinal, and neurological symptoms; and

WHEREAS, the proposed TGP projects are within one mile of important natural and recreational resources, including two state parks, a state park trail, and a Wildlife Management

Area, including High Point State Park, the Monksville Reservoir, Long Pond Ironworks State Park, Highlands Trail and Wanaque Wildlife Area ; and

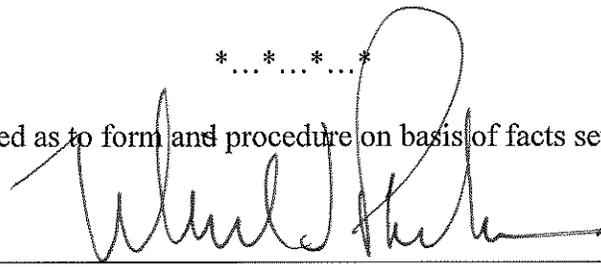
WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bloomfield has a principal responsibility to protect the health and safety of its residents, visitors, and businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bloomfield, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, in the interest of protecting its residents, the water supply, and businesses, opposes construction of Compressor 327 station, the addition of a gas-powered turbine at the existing compression station CS 325 and TGP’s attempt to exclude its activities from the Highlands Preservation Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk shall forward this Resolution to FERC, President Joe Biden, Senators Cory Booker and Robert Menendez, Congressman Josh Gottheimer, Governor Phil Murphy, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Catherine McCabe, Highlands Council Chairman Carl Richko, North Jersey Water Supply Commission Chairman Howard L. Burrell, State Senator Ronald Rice, Assemblyman Ralph Caputo Assemblywoman Cleopatra Tucker, and County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.

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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.



Ackey 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 12, 2021.

Louis M. Colapenna

 Municipal Clerk of the Township of Bloomfield

Me Vye

 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"/> |