

Resolution Opposing the Construction of High-Pressure Gas Pipeline within the Town of Canton, August 6, 2017

WHEREAS, Algonquin Gas Transmission LLC, a subsidiary of Enbridge, Inc., proposed to construct new fracked gas infrastructure consisting of high-pressure pipeline, compressor stations, LNG liquefaction, storage and regasification facility, metering and regulating stations, mainline valves, pigging stations, and other related infrastructure in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts;

WHEREAS, Algonquin has twice proposed projects that include a 30" high pressure fracked gas pipeline called the Q1 loop to run through the Town of Canton;

WHEREAS, a high-pressure gas pipeline presents formidable risks, dangers and damage due to rupture, explosions, and impacts to sensitive areas along the pipeline route;

WHEREAS, gas pipelines threaten the health and environment of those living nearby and unnecessary hardship for businesses in the construction corridor;

WHEREAS, constructing new gas infrastructure disregards the 2017 Synapse Energy Economics Report and the Massachusetts Attorney General's exhaustive independent study which conclude that increased gas capacity would be an unnecessary, expensive and environmentally irresponsible way to meet the state's electric reliability needs;

WHEREAS, emissions from such new gas infrastructure would make it impossible for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to comply with the MA Supreme Judicial Court's latest ruling mandating a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in order to adhere to the Global Warming Solutions Act;

WHEREAS, pipeline proponents specify an intent to proceed with such a project only if they can devise a scheme that requires electric ratepayers to finance the project and assume a multi-billion dollar risk;

WHEREAS, the funding scheme proposed for Algonquin's Access Northeast pipeline project was found to violate Massachusetts' 1997 utility restructuring act forcing the company to withdraw the proposal from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;

WHEREAS, Canton is seeking Green Community status through the Massachusetts Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs, endorsement of this resolution is fully consistent with Green Community mission and goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Canton, through its Board of Selectmen, shall:

1. Deny survey authorization, and rescind any previously granted survey authorization granted after 2014, to survey Town-owned property for the purpose of installing a pipeline, and file notice as such denial or rescission with gas pipeline company who made the request, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Canton Police and Fire Departments;
2. Actively oppose Massachusetts schemes to require electric ratepayers to bear the financial burden and risk of a private corporation's endeavors to build gas pipeline infrastructure by registering its strong opposition to such a scheme with the Department of Public Utilities and the Governor;
3. File this resolution with the Chair, Secretary, and Commissioners of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission within 30 days of its adoption;
4. Move to timely intervene in the formal Federal Energy Regulatory Commission proceeding (with the prefix "CP") for any proposed interstate gas pipeline project impacting the Town, during the brief window of opportunity to intervene as specified by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;
5. Request that our state and federal legislators and executive branch officials oppose the taking of conservation land for pipeline construction, including those lands

protected by Article 97 of the Articles of Amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution, and to hold state permitting for this project to the highest standards;

6. Work in coalition with other municipalities affected by and opposing any resubmitted Access Northeast or similar renamed high-pressure gas pipeline proposed to impact the Town of Canton; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon passage, copies of this resolution shall be delivered to Governor Charlie Baker, Secretary Matthew Beaton, Senator Elizabeth Warren, Senator Edward Markey, Congressman Stephen Lynch, Congressman Joe Kennedy III, State Senator Walter Timilty and State Representative William Galvin.