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From:
To:
FERGAS

Subject: FE Docket No. 14–179–LNG

Date: Monday, February 09, 2015 1:56:43 PM

Dear Department of Energy,

For the last several months I have been working with concerned citizen groups to raise awareness of the Kinder Morgan/TGP Northeast Energy Direct greenfield pipeline project and the Spectra Energy pipeline expansion projects and their potential to harm the local environment, increase the long term use of fossil fuels, assess ratepayers for the costs of pipeline construction, and send natural gas overseas instead of using it for domestic purposes. It is clear upon reading the Pieridae application (page 20 & Appendix E) that its export plans would likely depend on the completion of the Kinder Morgan Northeast Energy Direct ("NED") project and/or the alternative plan, the Access Northeast and Atlantic Bridge by Spectra Energy.

Pieridae's application must acknowledge the fact that pipeline capacity from the Marcellus shale to Goldboro sufficient for its plan does not currently exist. Under the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") the environmental impact of a new pipeline construction must be considered. In particular, NED is not the expansion of an existing pipeline on an existing right of way; it is a greenfield project with a proposed capacity of up to 2.2 billion cubic feet per day. The new route for this project announced on December 8, 2014 would create a brand new pipeline right of way that would impinge upon the rights of thousands of homeowners and landowners to enjoy their properties. It would cross conservation lands and forests, the water supplies of several towns in this area, and it would endanger the safety of residents due to the proximity of the route for this high-pressure pipeline to highly developed neighborhoods, other utility easements, active quarries, and sewer lines that often undergo maintenance and construction.

Approval of the Pieridae export plan would not only drive the development of large pipelines, but it could result in the depletion of natural gas winter storage and peak supply that are critical to all of New England. In 2014, natural gas "inventories fell 1,000 Bcf below the five-year average in mid-April," according to EIA

(http://www.eia.gov/forecasts/steo/report/natgas.cfm, accessed 2/8/15). That reduction in inventory was largely responsible for high spot prices for gas in January through October of 2014. Exporting 292 billion cubic feet of natural gas from this region would result in lower inventories of gas and thus, would contribute to higher New England gas prices than if these exports are not allowed.

I am writing to protest the Pieridae export plan because it creates increased demand for fracked gas and burdens the residents of New Hampshire with surrendering private property and conservation lands to eminent domain for corporate gain. Moreover it is deceptive since the construction of the NED pipeline is being promoted as being necessary to fulfill a regional need for Natural Gas in New England and even suggests that New England ratepayers should pay a tariff to construct the pipeline.

As a veteran of the US Air Force and NH Air National Guard, I am appalled that my own government would be a party to such duplicity and especially when it is designed to benefit a foreign corporation at the expense of the environment, our energy security and citizen's personal property.

Sincerely, Patricia A. Martin Rindge, NH 03461

Pat Martin

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