

Resolution of the [Municipality] Concerning the Williams/Transcontinental Company Raritan Bay Pipeline

WHEREAS, the [Municipality] for many years in the state of New Jersey has been a leader in efforts to protect our environment, waterways, become more sustainable, encourage conservation and shift to renewable sources of energy; and,

WHEREAS, Williams/Transcontinental Company (Williams/Transco) is proposing to build a 23.4 mile natural gas pipeline through Raritan Bay from Old Bridge to Rockaway New York; and,

WHEREAS, the project would not in any way serve New Jersey residents, the demand for more gas being described by Williams as being in Brooklyn and Queens, NY, where residents are reportedly switching from oil heat to gas; and the proposed Williams/Transco pipeline will be transporting fracked gas.

WHEREAS, NY/NJ Baykeeper, Food and Water Watch, ReThink Energy, and other groups have expressed serious concerns, based on safety and health issues, for their residents as well as concern about potential harm to the environment, and local and county infrastructure; and,

WHEREAS, the Williams/Transco pipeline goes under Raritan Bay a gas leak, fire or explosion could contaminate this precious New Jersey Bayshore natural resource; 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 on March 31st in Washington state that injured five people and led to the evacuation of people within a two mile radius of the facility; (4) and,

WHEREAS, the pipeline will cause seafloor disturbance and as a result negatively impact recreational and commercial fishing industries; and

WHEREAS, environmental disturbance will lead to significant negative implications on native, keystone and endangered marine species that Keyport heavily relies upon for resources, tourism, and economic benefit; and

WHEREAS, limitation of global temperature increase due to the greenhouse effect depends on the replacement of CO₂- emitting energy sources by other sources as quickly as possible; and

WHEREAS, Williams/Transco has not shown the results of their pipeline test to the governing bodies in any of the towns through which this 54 year old pipeline runs; and,

WHEREAS, the gas compressor station has been constructed on land immediately adjacent to a PSE&G electrical station which, when the Susquehanna-Roseland project is completed in 2015, will have an electrical capacity of 500,000 or more volts (5); and,

WHEREAS, there are very few examples in the country, if any, of a gas compressor station being located right next to a major electrical station; and, now therefore let it be

Resolved, that the [Municipality] opposes the construction and installation of a 23.4 mile natural gas pipeline through Raritan Bay from Old Bridge to Rockaway New York. Construction of the pipeline would adversely impact the health of Raritan Bay, shellfish and other benthic habitat, and recreational activities for surrounding communities; and now let it be further

Resolved that the [Municipality] urges Williams Company to eliminate any further consideration for a pipeline; and now let it be further

Resolved that the [Municipality] urges the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to deny any application for a pipeline and urge its representatives of the United States Congress, United States Senate and New Jersey Legislature to oppose this pipeline application; and that it be

Finally resolved that this resolution be certified and forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; US Senators Cory Booker and Robert Menendez; Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman; Congressman Frank Pallone; [local state senator and assemblypersons].