

## **RESOLUTION TO BAN GAS PIPELINE EXPANSION IN SANDISFIELD**

*Whereas* a proposed High-Pressure Pipeline, also known as a “loop,” carrying natural gas including gas obtained by hydraulic fracturing, may come through Sandisfield transporting said fuel to Connecticut or to overseas destinations; and

*Whereas* said pipeline may undermine current Massachusetts commitments to renewable energies and combating global climate change; and

*Whereas* said pipeline expansion would at least double the width of the existing 4-mile route and obliterate for all time major tracts of precious forest, conservation and farm lands and would threaten wetlands as well as streams, rivers and ground water, and

*Whereas* said pipeline expansion would be ruinous to the scenic beauty and tranquility of this Town and the Berkshire Mountains including the Otis State Forest in Sandisfield; and

*Whereas* a high-pressure 36-inch gas pipeline loop designed to store and concentrate vast amounts of gas a mere 24 inches below ground in order to boost the velocity of gas through adjacent existing very old pipelines which by its nature carries the potential for leak, rupture, as has in fact already happened in this town, or potential devastating explosion causing untold damage to property and lives and the local economy; and

*Whereas* such pipelines are notorious for leaks and escape of the highly environmentally damaging methane gas at every point in the process including extraction, transmission and storage; and

*Whereas* the cost of said pipeline expansion would require Massachusetts citizens to pay a utility bill tariff as well as environmental costs not required by law for Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, (“TGP”, a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P.), forcing ratepayers to bear financial risk for the benefit of a wealthy private corporation; and

*Whereas*, we the citizens of Sandisfield, Massachusetts choose not to participate in such encumbrances to the life, vibrancy, economic stability wherever hydraulic fracturing is occurring and the pressurized pipeline is running; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the people of Sandisfield, Massachusetts:

1. Hereby call on our Select Board to stand in opposition to TGP’s pipeline expansion and not allow it within our Town borders;
2. Oppose said pipeline expansion, and any new pipeline carrying natural gas whether obtained by hydraulic fracturing or otherwise, within the borders of our Commonwealth or our Nation; and
3. Hereby instruct our state and federal legislators and executive branch officials to enact legislation and take such other actions as are necessary to disallow such projects that go against our commitments to life, the environment, our economic well-being and our bodily safety, and, instead, to promote more stringent energy efficiency and further exploration of renewable energy sources.