



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

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AND REGULATORY OVERSIGHT

May 12, 2016

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Access North East Project (Docket PF16-1-000)
Atlantic Bridge Project (Docket PF15-12-000)

Dear Secretary Bose:

I write to express strong opposition to expansion projects proposed for the Algonquin natural gas pipeline, which include the establishment of a new compressor station on the Fore River watershed affecting Weymouth, Quincy and Braintree.

Quite simply, this project is not right for Massachusetts, and gives me several reasons for concern. I hope that your office, and those copied on this letter, will explore every avenue for halting this project, so that we can avoid a significant step in the wrong direction.

On a local level, this project would add further noise and industrial development to a densely populated area that is already becoming overburdened with industry. The project would occupy a waterfront space, and yet not serve a purpose in keeping with our goals for waterfront development. It seems clear that a natural gas compressor station does not require waterfront access, as so many other stations exist away from waterfront areas.

Furthermore, I understand that the applicant has filed one proposed expansion as the Atlantic Bridge Project, and is developing and filing another proposal for expansion as the Access

Northeast Project. I hope these projects will be considered for their combined impact, as they are intended to occur at the same location and near the same time. Assessing only the incremental impact of each project would not do justice to the true burden area residents would face.

More broadly, this project is not right for the Commonwealth's energy goals. Massachusetts is, in many respects, a national leader in innovative technology. As we look to meet tomorrow's energy demands, we should continue this record, and truly begin to diversify our energy portfolio. This State has, for many years, been working towards the expansion of solar, wind, and hydro energy, and there has been a commitment among many of my fellow legislators to pursue aggressive emissions reduction goals.

As we look to the future, the further expansion of natural gas pipeline would represent a step backwards, continuing an attitude of reliance on traditional fuels. I feel this is misguided not only for our natural environment, but for our communities and our economy.

For these reasons I stand with the residents and officials of Quincy and Braintree in opposition to this project, and hope you will give appropriate consideration to these concerns. Thank you, and please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



John F. Keenan

Norfolk and Plymouth District

Cc: Stephen Lynch, Congressman, MA08
Martin Suuberg, Commissioner, MA Department of Environmental Protection
Thomas Koch, Mayor, City of Quincy
Joseph Sullivan, Mayor, Town of Braintree
Robert Hedlund, Mayor, Town of Weymouth