



April 24, 2017

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF REHOBOTH SELECTMEN
IN OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED SPECTRA ENERGY (ENBRIDGE INC.) ALGONQUIN
PIPELINE TRANSMISSION LLC'S ACCESS NORTHEAST PIPELINE COMPRESSOR STATION**

Whereas, Spectra Energy (Enbridge, Inc.) Algonquin Pipeline Transmission LLC's Access Northeast Pipeline project has proposed a gas compressor station in Rehoboth on a parcel of land bordering the towns of Attleboro and Seekonk, with abutting residents, which would compress and transmit significantly increased volumes of gas obtained through hydraulic fracturing ("fracking"), at high pressure through the existing Algonquin pipeline; and

Whereas, the total number of Rehoboth households, including the number of households from Attleboro, and Seekonk within close proximity to the proposed gas compressor station is significantly higher than the demographics of existing compressor stations; and

Whereas, there may be significant adverse effects of the daily operations of a gas compressor station on noise, smell and air quality in such a densely populated area; and

Whereas, high pressure pipelines inherently carry the potential for leaks, rupture or devastating explosion, causing untold damage to property and lives and present added risks and damage to the health and environment of those living near the evacuation corridor, adversely affecting property values, residents' livelihoods, and personal safety; and

Whereas, should an emergency arise at the compressor station, Rehoboth depends solely upon an on-call fire department and is a town without fire hydrants, and first responders are not allowed to enter the property until representatives from Spectra Energy (Enbridge Inc.) are present; and

Whereas, should an evacuation be ordered at the compressor station, Rehoboth and the abutting towns would be responsible for thousands of people (including school children) needing to vacate the area, which would put significant strain on emergency response units; and

Whereas, there are 20,000 documented gas leaks in Massachusetts, 115 unrepaired and missing leaks in Attleboro, and 32 unrepaired and missing leaks in Seekonk, and unreported leaks in the transmission lines in Rehoboth, which emit the greenhouse gas equivalent of 6 million cars annually and cost consumers an estimated \$1 Billion; and

Whereas, natural gas, in actuality contains methane as well as serious toxic and carcinogenic chemicals resulting from shale deposits and the gas fracturing process, and methane once considered a clean energy source and is now proven to trap 86 times more heat than carbon dioxide when vented directly into the air (unburned); and

Whereas, studies commissioned by the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, the Conservation Law Foundation, Synapse Energy and the University of New Hampshire have determined that not only is increased gas capacity is not needed to meet the region's electric reliability needs, but would be more costly and environmentally destructive than investment in energy conservation measures and renewable energy solutions; and

Whereas, Rehoboth is designated a “Right to Farm” community with numerous privately owned agricultural farming concerns (including certified organic farms) that toxic emissions from compressor stations could negatively impact; and

Whereas, the town of Rehoboth has numerous farms housing livestock for purposes of milk production and meat consumption that may well be impacted by compressor station noise and emissions; and

Whereas, Rehoboth has numerous private equestrian farms, and compressor station noise and low frequency vibration (LFN) is proven to be detrimental to animals; and

Whereas, Rehoboth is a well water only community, and as the fracking process uses 60 toxic chemicals, some of which remain in the gas during transmission, and compressor stations and pipeline ruptures have the potential to contaminate our local wetland and water supplies, and Rehoboth wetlands are an important watershed area for the Palmer River and Narragansett Bay.

Therefore, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Rehoboth hereby resolve and declare that they:

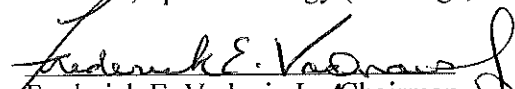
Oppose any effort to locate Spectra Energy’s (Enbridge, Inc) 10,320 hp gas compressor station within **Rehoboth's** borders and to disallow the construction of any and all similar projects that may later be proposed, and participate in and provide comments to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC); and

Will make an application to both FERC and the EFSB, that requires additional scoping hearings **after** the ANE Resource Reports are filed, and **before** Spectra Energy (Enbridge Inc.) formally files their project with FERC, and to require scoping hearings to be held in Rehoboth for residents to voice their concerns; and

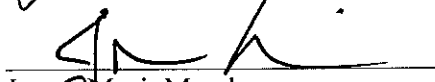
Apply for Intervenor Status during the three-week period after Spectra Energy (Enbridge, Inc.) files its application with FERC; and


Oppose the use of Rehoboth land as a conduit for the export of natural gas, likely causing higher gas prices from competition with international markets; and

Be it further resolved, that the Rehoboth Town Administrator send copies of this resolution to the Massachusetts Governor and Attorney General, Massachusetts State/ Federal representatives and Senators, Spectra Energy (Enbridge, Inc.) and FERC.


Frederick E. Vadnais Jr., Chairman


Gerald V. Schwall, Vice Chairman


James Muri, Member


Susan M. Pimental, Clerk


David A. Perry, Jr., Member

Sources:

Whereas, there may be significant adverse effects of the daily operations of a gas compressor station on noise, smell and air quality in such a densely populated area; and

- 2016 Southern Pennsylvania Environmental Health Summary
<https://www.docdroid.net/RAYtJ8Z/summary-of-minisink-results.pdf.html>
- 2/20/13 report "Air Permitting issues surrounding natural Gas Compressor Stations" EPA's Office of Inspector General available at <http://marcellus-wv.com/presentations/marcellus-academy-iii/air-permitting-issues-surrounding-natural-gas-compressor-stations/>
- JISEA Joint Institute for Strategic Energy Analysis report available at <http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy15osti/63416.pdf>

Whereas, there are 20,000 documented gas leaks in Massachusetts, 115 unrepaired and missing leaks in Attleboro, and 32 unrepaired and missing leaks in Seekonk, and unreported leaks in the transmission lines in Rehoboth, which emit the Greenhouse Gas equivalent of 6 million cars annually and cost consumers an estimated \$1 Billion; and

- 2017 (Current)- Based on data provided by utility companies. Home Energy Efficiency Team (HEET), Cambridge, MA available at: <http://www.Heetma.org/squeaky-leak/natural-gas-leaks-maps>
- 2017 (Current)-Conservation Law Foundation, "Into Thin Air: How Leaking Natural Gas Infrastructure is Harming our Environment and Wasting a Valuable Resource," and available at: gasleakscf.org and http://www.clf.org/static/natural-gasleaks/WhitePaper_Final_lowres.pdf.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, "Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990- 2011," April 12, 2013, available at [http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/Downloads/ghgemissions/US-GHGInventory-2013-Main- 6](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/Downloads/ghgemissions/US-GHGInventory-2013-Main-6)
- <http://Lostleaks.csail.mit.edu>
- 8/1/13 "America Pays for Gas Leaks" Senator Markey report prepared by The House Natural Resources Committee Democratic staff available at https://www.markey.senate.gov/documents/markey_lost_gas_report.pdf
- "Unreported leaks"- Spectra (Enbridge, Inc.) is self-reporting and not required to divulge information concerning leaks unless wetlands are directly impacted.

Whereas, natural gas, in actuality contains Methane as well as serious toxic and carcinogenic chemicals resulting from shale deposits and the gas fracturing process, and Methane once considered a clean energy source and is now proven to trap 86 times more heat than carbon dioxide when vented directly into the air (unburned); and

- 10/2015 data from Spectra Energy Partners Atlantic Bridge project, Resource Report 9. Algonquin Transmission LLC Weymouth Compressor Station Permit Application pg 3-13 (pdf pg 602) and Spectra Energy Partners, IBIU, PDF pg 744.

- 2017 Mass health Care Providers Against Fracked Gas
<https://mhcpafg.wordpress.com/home/filings-to-the-federal-energy-regulatory-commission/>, also available Sept 2016 Rehoboth Compressor station presentation: – [PDF of slides](#) including “Clues From New Bedford” Dr Curt Nordgaard MD
- 2016
http://www.nmcog.org/Websites/nmcog/images/Gas_Pipeline/Joint_Coalition_Press_Release_-_Compressor_Stations.pdf
- 7/2014 study “Potential Public Health Impacts of Gas Development and Production in the Marcellus Shale and Western Maryland” by the Maryland Institute for Implied Environmental Health
<http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/OEHFP/EH/Shared%20Documents/Marcellus%20Shale/MDMarcellusShalePublicHealthFinalReport08.15.2014.pdf?Mobile=1&Source=%2FOEHFP%2FEH%2>
- http://www.eeb.cornell.edu/howarth/publications/Howarth_2014_ESE_methane_emissions.pdf
- And <https://thinkprogress.org/how-the-epa-and-new-york-times-are-getting-methane-all-wrong-eba3397ce9e5>, also available at <https://phys.org/news/2016-08-sources-methane-hot-gas-facilities.html>

Whereas, studies commissioned by the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office, the Conservation Law Foundation, Synapse Energy and the University of New Hampshire have determined that not only is increased gas capacity is not needed to meet the region’s electric reliability needs, but would be more costly and environmentally destructive than investment in energy conservation measures and renewable energy solutions; and

- <http://www.mass.gov/ago/news-and-updates/press-releases/2015/2015-11-18-electric-reliability-study.html>
- <https://www.clf.org/blog/evidence-big-gas-bad-deal-for-new-england/>
- <http://www.synapse-energy.com/sites/default/files/New-Englands-Shrinking-Need-for-Natural-Gas-16-109.pdf>
- <https://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/news/release/2017/03/07/unh-research-finds-increased-energy-use-not-needed-grow-economy>

Whereas, Rehoboth is a well water only community, and as the fracking process uses 60 toxic chemicals, and compressor stations and pipeline ruptures have the potential to contaminate our local wetland and water supplies, and Rehoboth wetlands are an important watershed area for the Palmer River and Narragansett Bay.

- <http://fracfocus.org/chemical-use/what-chemicals-are-used>