

P♦L♦A♦N
PIPE LINE AWARENESS NETWORK
FOR THE **NORTH EAST, INC.**
www.plan-ne.org

March 26, 2020

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20216

**Re: Docket No. CP19-7-000, TGP 261 Upgrade Projects (the “Projects”)
Request for Halt to Construction**

Dear Secretary Bose:

The Pipe Line Awareness Network for the Northeast (“PLAN”) hereby requests a halt to construction of the above-captioned Projects. Yesterday, Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC (“Tennessee”) announced the commencement of the construction of one of these Projects, specifically the upgrade to its compressor station in Agawam.

The Governor of Massachusetts declared a state of emergency less than two weeks ago due to the COVID-19 pandemic, before there were any reported cases in Hampden County. The situation is devolving rapidly, and the pandemic is now escalating across our Commonwealth and the nation.

As of two days ago there were five cases confirmed in Agawam alone.¹ When asked about these Projects in the context of the immediate public health crisis, a spokesperson could only say that the company has a practice of “encouraging hygiene” at construction sites and “reducing group sizes for meetings and encouraging limited exposure to one another.”² That is not enough.

This is not a time for business as usual. Public health is paramount.

¹ “Agawam, East Longmeadow officials announce positive COVID-19 cases,” March 24, 2020 (available at www.westernmassnews.com/news/agawam-east-longmeadow-officials-announce-positive-covid-cases/article_d3a3e2e8-6de5-11ea-9f92-1710957751d0.html).

² “Pennsylvania's orders to stem coronavirus outbreak pause several gas pipeline projects,” S&P Global, March 24, 2020 (available at www.spglobal.com/platts/en/market-insights/latest-news/natural-gas/032520-pennsylvanias-orders-to-stem-coronavirus-outbreak-pause-several-gas-pipeline-projects).

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, PLAN respectfully requests that the Commission halt the construction of these Projects while the state of emergency remains in place and until the public health crisis subsides.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Eiseman', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Kathryn R. Eiseman, President & CEO
Pipe Line Awareness Network for the Northeast, Inc.
17 Packard Road
Cummington, MA 01026
eiseman@plan-ne.org
(413) 320-0747

CC: pandemicliaison@ferc.gov