

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20426

July 29, 2014

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Deval L. Patrick
Office of the Governor
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
State House
Boston, MA 02133



Dear Governor Patrick:

Thank you for your June 30, 2014, letter regarding Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company L.L.C.'s (Tennessee Gas) planned Northeast Energy Direct Project (NED Project). You expressed concern regarding the appropriate regulatory consideration of the NED Project and recommended a thorough review of the planned pipeline routes in Massachusetts once this project is filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission).

As indicated in your letter, Tennessee Gas' planned NED Project is not currently before the Commission. The information we currently have on the NED Project is available in the public domain on the Kinder Morgan Company (Tennessee Gas' parent company) website.¹ As I understand, this planned project would involve construction of about 350 miles of pipeline and aboveground facilities in Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Connecticut.

Should Tennessee Gas file an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for its planned project with the Commission, I can assure you that it will be fully vetted and thoroughly analyzed by Commission staff. Our environmental review process is open and transparent, and we welcome and encourage input from residents and all levels of government. As standard practice, FERC staff attends public meeting sponsored by the applicant, hosts public scoping/comment meetings and landowner site visits, and meets with federal, state, and local officials in the project areas. Our Environmental Impact Statement or Environmental Assessment for the planned NED Project would also address all substantive issues raised during the public scoping process.

Lastly, I can assure you that our environmental review for the NED Project will include early consultation with the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board, and all information considered in making a determination for this project will be documented in our eLibrary system for public review.

¹ http://www.kindermorgan.com/business/gas_pipelines/east/neenergydirect/

I hope the above information has been helpful. If I can be of any further assistance in this or any other Commission matter, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cheryl A. LaFleur". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cheryl" being the most prominent part.

Cheryl A. LaFleur
Acting Chairman