

BUCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP
Bucks County, Pennsylvania
RESOLUTION NO. 2335

A RESOLUTION OF THE BUCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OPPOSING THE PENNEAST PIPELINE.

WHEREAS, PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, has proposed the construction of a new pipeline for the transfer and delivery of approximately 1 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day generated by deep well “fracking” in areas of Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania crossing parts of Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton and Bucks Counties in Pennsylvania and Hunterdon and Mercer Counties in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, The PennEast Pipeline project will cut its right-of-way for a 36-inch diameter pipeline over 108 miles, approximately 87% of which will be within the boundaries of the Delaware River watershed, potentially affecting 33 wetland complexes, 60 waterbodies, special protection waters, and well over 1,200 acres of land; and among the waterways to be crossed are the Delaware, Lehigh and Susquehanna Rivers; and

WHEREAS, the pipeline will affect hundreds of landowners and crosses or abuts numerous farms and conservation land in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey that were preserved by the expenditure of public funds for the exclusive use of agriculture, wildlife, human enjoyment and permanent protection of open space; and

WHEREAS, the size and scope of the construction activity for the pipeline and stream crossings associated with this project will have a deleterious effect on the water resources of the Delaware River Basin. Large scale transmission lines such as the PennEast line can result in significant forest destruction and fragmentation, destruction of animal habitat, disturbance of natural ground cover that will invite and propagate the spread of invasive species, and degrade

the diversity and dispersion of native flora and fauna. Furthermore, pipeline projects also degrade the functions and values of wetlands, as the construction and operation of the pipeline permanently converts forested wetlands to uplands or emergent wetlands; and

WHEREAS, The proposed route and the construction of pump stations along the way will impact ground water that Buckingham Township residents depend on for domestic consumption, wetlands, springs, vernal ponds, and C-1 designated streams, all of which are highly valued by residents and visitors, are necessary for Buckingham Township's way of life, and are irreplaceable; and

WHEREAS, The proposed route of the pipeline may invade habitats of species protected by the Endangered Species Act, such as eagles, the wood turtle, the long tailed salamander, and various plants and other animals protected by federal and state law; and

WHEREAS, there are also significant concerns related to the cumulative impacts of the continuous water crossings and wetlands disturbance that pipeline construction activity has on the health and vitality of the Delaware River Basin.

WHEREAS, the proposed pipeline passes through historically significant areas;

WHEREAS, the project appears to be largely redundant, as it will run nearly parallel to an already existing large scale transmission lines existing and proposed; and

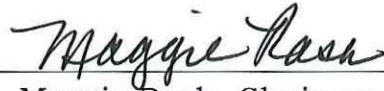
WHEREAS, the Buckingham Township Board of Supervisors is concerned that the Pipeline Project will have a negative effect on Buckingham Township's tax rates; property values; Buckingham Township's

environment; and the public health, safety and welfare of Buckingham Township residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Buckingham Township Board of Supervisors, that Buckingham Township opposes the proposed PennEast pipeline and that the Township administration is empowered to participate and intervene in the regulatory process as necessary to protect the interests of the Township and its residents.

ENACTED AND RESOLVED this 22nd day of March, 2017.

BUCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS




Maggie Rash, Chairperson

Paul Calderaio, Vice Chairman


Jon Forest

ATTEST:


Dana Cozza, Township Manager