



TOWN OF MERRIMACK, NH

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April 10, 2015

The Honorable Margaret Wood Hassan
Governor of New Hampshire
State House
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

Re: Northeast Energy Direct (NED) Pipeline

Dear Governor Hassan,

On March 26, 2015, after a long awaited public meeting attended by over 400 concerned citizens, the Merrimack Town Council unanimously voted to stand in strong opposition to the Northeast Energy Direct (NED) pipeline.

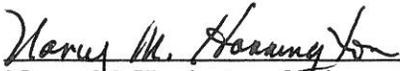
The proposed NED project route through the Town of Merrimack crosses extensive municipally owned conservation lands which have been specifically acquired to protect: identified endangered species and their habitats; numerous wetlands and wildlife habitats; permanent open space; recreation trails and lands; and an aquifer that supplies over fifty percent of the water used by Merrimack residents, businesses and industries. The proposed project route also impacts residential properties, crosses two major protected rivers, one of the town's major sewer interceptor lines, and may have impacts on mitigation land related to a US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Superfund Site.

The Town Council of Merrimack, after careful and diligent research into the proposed NED Project, has come to the conclusion that, not only is this proposed pipeline of serious concern because of the damage it will likely cause to fragile environments in Merrimack, and the 16 other towns in the southern part of the state. The NED Project, as currently proposed, promises no measurable value to the state or the town in terms of reduced energy costs and very likely is merely a conduit for producers and distributors that intend to use the bulk of the natural gas as primarily an export opportunity.

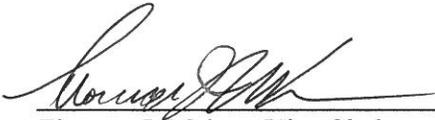
The Council is all too aware of the high costs of energy throughout the Northeast. However, we are convinced that this NED pipeline proposal will do little to fill that need. The Council firmly believes that this project should be combined with other approved or proposed lines along already established pipeline corridors in New England. The Council respectfully requests that you, as Governor of the state of New Hampshire, publicly stand with us to oppose this proposed pipeline project.

Assessing P: 603-424-5136 F: 603-424-0461	Community Development P: 603-424-3531 F: 603-424-1408	Finance P: 603-424-7075 F: 603-424-0516	Human Resources P: 603-424-2331 F: 603-424-0461	Media Services P: 603-423-8561 F: 603-424-0461
Public Assistance P: 603-423-8535 F: 603-424-0516	Public Works Administration P: 603-424-5137 F: 603-424-1408	Town Council P: 603-424-2331 F: 603-424-0461	Town Manager P: 603-424-2331 F: 603-424-0461	

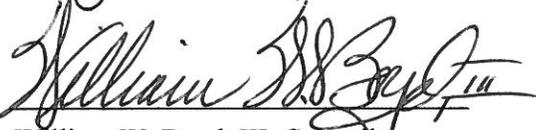
Sincerely,



Nancy M. Harrington, Chairman



Thomas J. Mahon, Vice Chair



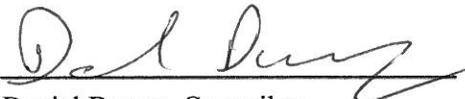
William W. Boyd, III, Councilor



Finlay C. Rothhaus, Councilor



Lon S. Woods, Councilor



Daniel Dwyer, Councilor

Thomas P. Koenig, Councilor