

RESOLUTION

NO. 247-14

(TO ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH REGARDING
SPECTRA ENERGY ALGONQUIN INCREMENTAL MARKETS
(AIM) NATURAL GAS PIPELINE, COMPRESSOR AND
METERING STATIONS EXPANSION PROJECT)

WHEREAS, SPECTRA Energy proposed Algonquin Incremental Markets (AIM) natural gas pipeline would place an existing pipeline and related infrastructure on public and private lands over which they currently have easements and would create an additional crossing of the Hudson River from the Town of Cortlandt to Rockland County; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Cortlandt has previously engaged the services of Sive Paget and Reisel, a prominent environmental law firm to represent the interests of the Town before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Cortlandt has been granted intervenor status in the proceedings; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has previously expressed its concerns and raised issues concerning the development of this project; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has held community meetings to disseminate information to the public who will be effected by this project; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town Board to be vigilant in raising issues for the Regulatory Authorities to consider and analyze as well as to work with the community in addressing their concerns; and

WHEREAS, that the location of the AIM pipeline within close proximity to the Indian Point Nuclear facility and the dry cask spent rod storage facility, intersecting with two (2) high voltage power lines and in close proximity to a significant seismic zone, poses a risk of catastrophic damage with profound long term impacts on the region; and

WHEREAS, the de-vegetation and excavation within the existing right of ways which traverse through the Town's residential communities would create social, economic and environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, the proposed new part of the pipeline would traverse a parcel of property in the Hamlet of Verplanck within the Town of Cortlandt coming within feet of the oldest church in the Hudson Valley and disturb a beach area; and

WHEREAS, said project would cause clear cutting on property abutting the Hudson River; and

WHEREAS, the proposed additional route traverses through residential neighborhoods coming within feet of an elementary school and public parks; and

WHEREAS, the proposed new route comes near the Buchanan power sub-station which provides a substantial part of the electricity for New York City and any damage to said facility due to a problem in the gas line would have devastating impacts on the surrounding community and the City of New York; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is concerned about potential adverse environmental impacts during construction and the subsequent operation of this pipeline, as well as continuing impacts to the health, safety and property values in adjoining neighborhoods, the impacts to Town infrastructure and the impacts to local and county emergency services;

NOW, THEREFORE, **BE IT RESOLVED**, the Town Board does hereby raise its concerns with respect to the current proposed project and asks FERC to consider alternate routes and alternate construction methodologies in order to increase safety and limit the environmental impacts of this project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby request that FERC provide additional time and dates for public information and public comment on this project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board opposes any construction of maintenance facilities within the Town that would be located on environmentally sensitive land near schools, parks, houses of worship, business or residential districts, nuclear facility, transformer stations or power lines; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this project be held to the highest environmental review standard allowed by law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town's special counsel, Daniel Reisel, Esq. of Sive Paget and Riesel be and hereby is directed and authorized to enter these concerns into the record before FERC; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the New York State DEC and all involved agencies with the request that the health, safety and planning concerns addressed herein and previously raised in the record by the Town be reviewed and considered before any further action is taken.

**BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD OF
THE TOWN OF CORTLANDT JO-ANN
DYCKMAN, TOWN CLERK**

**Adopted August 12, 2014
At a Regular Meeting
Held at Town Hall**