August 18th, 2015

Honorable Norman C. Bay  
Chairman  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street NE, Room 1A  
Washington, DC 20426  

Re: Project Docket Number CP14-96-000  

Dear Chairman Bay,  

I am writing to you in support of a letter submitted by New York State Assembly Members Sandy Galef and David Buchwald, requesting that all work on the Spectra AIM pipeline near the Indian Point Energy Center in Buchanan, NY, be prevented from proceeding until a new independent and rigorous safety assessment, including a transient risk analysis, is conducted. I share the concerns of the Assembly Members, and several other of my colleagues in the New York State Legislature, that the previous review by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission was incomplete due to its reliance on a faulty assessment provided by Entergy.  

It is my understanding that experts in gas pipeline and nuclear safety have called into question the accuracy of the previous analysis on a number of key points, including the shutdown time for a gas explosion, the blast radius and detonation capacity of a rupture and explosion, and the risk of ignition of a vapor cloud. Additionally, Indian Point is currently undergoing a seismic study ordered by the NRC, with a detailed risk analysis not set to be complete until June, 2017. Indian Point was prioritized by the NRC as one of ten sites most in need of re-evaluation due to potential earthquake vulnerability. Without knowing the results of this seismic study, the results of any risk analysis of the proposed pipeline must be considered inconclusive.  

Given that the information used by NRC to determine risks was inaccurate and incomplete, and that FERC based its approval on this inaccurate information, the permits that were subsequently granted should be rescinded and a comprehensive, independent risk assessment should be conducted.
Several local grassroots groups, impacted residents and municipalities filed timely Request for Rehearing motions with FERC on April 2nd, 2015. However, FERC has issued a tolling order in relation to these requests, allowing an indefinite timeframe before responding to the concerns of experts and stakeholders. Given the serious safety issues that remain unaddressed, the tolling order should be lifted and the Requests for Rehearing given proper consideration.

My district, and the entire city of New York, lies within 50 miles of Indian Point. It is incumbent upon me, and all officials responsible for the wellbeing of residents in close proximity to the Indian Point nuclear power station, to ensure that every possible risk is considered before moving forward with this project.

Thank you for your consideration and action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Liz Krueger
State Senator

cc:
Governor Andrew M. Cuomo
Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman
Senator Charles E. Schumer
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
Congresswoman Nita Lowey
Douglas Pickett, NRC Senior Project Manager, Indian Point Nuclear Generating Units 2 & 3