RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby adopt the Sustainable Somers resolution which encourages and supports clean and renewable energy and to ensure public health and safety regarding Algonquin Incremental Market (AIM) Expansion Project;

WHEREAS, Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Spectra Energy Partners, submitted Resource Report #9 in Docket # CP14:-96-000 which does not reflect aggregate (existing and proposed) and cumulative emissions from compressor stations, metering stations, and pipelines in the entire Algonquin Incremental Market (AIM) project;

WHEREAS, the current emissions will be significantly increased by the expansion of the Southeast compressor stations, and the region including Putnam, Rockland and Westchester counties is already considered a non-attainment zone for air quality standards according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and exceeds the limits for air pollutants such as ground level ozone, the design and construction of this pipeline would cause additional release of chemicals into the air thus adding to the existing air which already exceed EPA standards;

WHEREAS, the proposal that the project expands the pipeline to run under the Hudson River and near the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant, where spent fuel rods and power lines are of grave concern and further study of the safety of this plan should be conducted;

WHEREAS, many community groups have identified the route of the project as crossing environmentally sensitive areas in Rockland, Westchester and Putnam counties, such as a number of major watersheds and public lands and that siting of the pipeline be away from homes and schools;

WHEREAS, significant concerns have been raised about the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion Project's impacts on the environment, due to the possibility of leaks, explosions and daily expulsions of gases from the compressors;
WHEREAS, the Algonquin Pipeline would modify existing compressor stations by increasing the capacity of the existing pipeline, in New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts, with one a few miles away from the Town of Somers in Southeast;

WHEREAS, municipalities may bear costs involved with emergency training, equipment including up-to-date foam to extinguish fires, and first response to a pipeline, compressor or metering station event;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Somers hereby calls on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to require further study of the pipeline’s impact on the health and safety of Somers residents; that an independent air emissions baseline assessment, Health Impact Assessment (HIA), be conducted in the areas directly impacted by the Southeast compression, station and nearby metering stations, by an independent expert acceptable to -local government officials, industry, advocates and the public, funded by Spectra Energy, and that continuous emissions monitoring be conducted with transparent recording keeping as stringent as possible, and reported to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC), the United States Department of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and made available to the public in a transparent manner;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Spectra Energy comply with New York State Law since it has one of the highest standards of environmental protection by undergoing a full Environmental Impact Statement to comply with the requirements of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and minimize and mitigate any negative environmental impacts to the residents of the Town of Somers, and that notification be sent to all involved state municipalities and federal Agencies.

I hereby certify that the foregoing copy of resolution was unanimously adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Somers at a combined Work Session Meeting held on August 14, 2014.

Dated: August 15, 2014

Deputy Town Clerk

Cc: Supervisor
Director of Finance
Somers Energy Environment Committee