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Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

**ASSOCIATED
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April 3, 2015

APR 6 2015
OFFICE OF
ENERGY AFFAIRS
APR 6
2015 10:06 AM A 9:01

Chairman LaFleur
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Chairman LaFleur,

We write to request your attention to a matter of significant importance to residents of Putnam, Rockland, and Westchester Counties in New York. Despite considerable public comment from affected communities and elected officials, on March 3rd, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approved Spectra Energy's proposal on the Algonquin Incremental Market pipeline (AIM) expansion project. In light of the significant health, safety, and environmental concerns voiced by our constituents, we are requesting that FERC rehear the decision to approve Spectra Energy's proposal and increase its due diligence efforts.

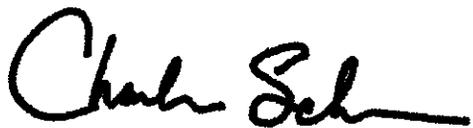
The AIM project is a significant expansion of the current natural gas transmission line on a route which travels through densely-populated communities in Putnam, Rockland, and Westchester Counties. The project would replace the current 26-inch pipeline with a new 42-inch diameter pipeline, nearly doubling its current size. Since the decision to approve this project, our offices have continued to receive comments from impacted communities and from local elected officials who have serious concerns about the safety and potentially negative environmental impacts of the proposed pipeline expansion.

In addition, the Environmental Impact Statement issued by FERC on January 23rd did not sufficiently address many of the concerns raised by the local community, including the potential impacts of the pipeline's proximity to Indian Point. We ask that in addition to rehearing the project, FERC commission an independent review of the safety, environmental, and health concerns raised prior to, throughout, and after the approval process.

We hope that FERC will reconsider the decision to approve this project, and in doing so, provide more opportunities for an independent review and additional public meetings. Ensuring the safety of the residents and environment this pipeline will affect is paramount, and we hope that FERC provides adequate opportunity to ensure the safety of this pipeline before issuing a final determination.

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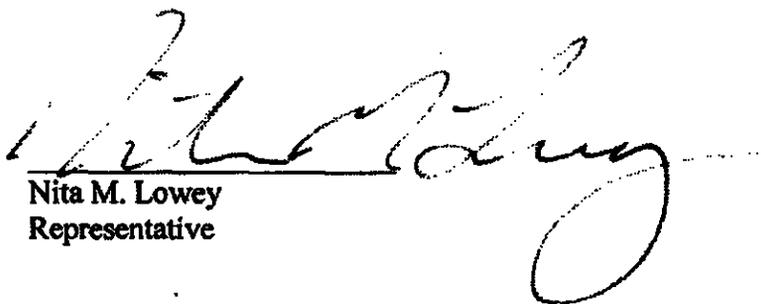
Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Nita M. Lowey
Representative

Document Content(s)

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