



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Kinder Morgan has proposed a new 36" high pressure gas pipeline through Massachusetts and New Hampshire, as part of a Northeast Energy Direct Project hereinafter called the "Project"; and

WHEREAS, the "Project" also proposes a new 12" high pressure (1460 psi) natural gas pipeline, which it calls the "Fitchburg Lateral, to be installed, not in Fitchburg, but in Lunenburg, Townsend and Mason, NH; and

WHEREAS Lunenburg is already crossed by a Kinder Morgan pipeline hereinafter called the "South Lunenburg Lateral," which runs from Lancaster to the proposed southern terminus of the Fitchburg Lateral; and

WHEREAS, the South Lunenburg Lateral has already caused financial damage to Lunenburg citizens; and

WHEREAS, the completion of the Project appears to create a connection between the proposed Fitchburg Lateral and the South Lunenburg Lateral; and

WHEREAS, said connection could provide Kinder Morgan the opportunity to provide gas service to Worcester through Lunenburg including a possible future addition of a compressor station in Lunenburg, or other re-adaptation and re-use of the South Lunenburg Lateral; and

WHEREAS, Kinder Morgan has been silent about its plans to create such a connection, despite its proposing a metering station in Lunenburg at the Southern terminus of the proposed Fitchburg Lateral in its Resource Report 1 files with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and

WHEREAS, the currently proposed pipeline route was chosen in a private, closed process so that there has been no chance for open, public discussion or debate of alternate routing possibilities and tradeoffs; and

WHEREAS, Kinder Morgan identified properties in Lunenburg that it intends the Fitchburg Lateral to cross but declined to provide the town of Lunenburg with detailed and current information on the exact route it is proposing; and

WHEREAS, landowners are being asked to permit surveying on their property or to sign agreements to forfeit some of their property rights; and

WHEREAS, federal eminent domain powers may be used to forcibly take pipeline easements from unwilling landowners; and

WHEREAS, a high-pressure gas pipeline, by its nature, carries the potential for leak, rupture or devastating explosion causing untold damage to property and lives; and

WHEREAS, said pipeline goes against current Massachusetts commitments to renewable energies and combating global climate change; and

WHEREAS, our energy challenges are better addressed through investment in energy conservation measures as well as green and renewable energy solutions; and

WHEREAS, a high-pressure gas pipeline, by its nature, carries the potential for leak, rupture or devastating explosion causing untold damage to property and lives; and,

WHEREAS, Lunenburg and our neighboring communities have adopted comprehensive master plans, zoning bylaws, wetlands bylaws and other land use controls to provide for the orderly development of our communities and the conservation and protection of our communities for future generations to come, as good stewards of the land should; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of environmental threats to our forests and streams from improvident development is the fundamental purpose for the adoption of our land use controls and master plans; and

WHEREAS, Lunenburg and our neighboring communities have publicly and privately set aside large tracts of land and restricted their development for conservation and open space purposes as part of their master plans;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Lunenburg, do hereby declare that it”

STANDS IN OPPOSITION to Kinder Morgan’s proposed Energy Direct Project and to the Fitchburg Lateral, and

STANDS IN OPPOSITION to any effort to locate the proposed Fitchburg Lateral within Lunenburg’s borders, and

FURTHER COMMITS to participate in and provide comments to any meetings held under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) review process with regard to the proposed Fitchburg Lateral to oppose Kinder Morgan’s application, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Lunenburg do hereby call upon our State and Federal Legislators and Executive Branch Officers to enact Legislation and take any such other actions as are necessary to oppose such energy projects that go against our commitment to public safety, our environment, our economic well-being and our sense of community.

SIGNED THIS 10th day of February 2015.

Tom Alonzo, Chair

Paula J. Bertram, Vice Chair

Jamie Toale, Clerk

Robert Ebersole, Member

Phyllis M. Luck, Member