

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION #14-309

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING AND AUTHORIZING INTERVENTION AGAINST THE
PROPOSED PENNEAST PIPELINE PROJECT IN THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL,
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

WHEREAS, PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC plans to construct a 108 mile, 36-inch diameter pipeline from Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania to Hopewell Township, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Pipeline is planned to transport approximately one billion cubic feet of natural gas per day; and

WHEREAS, the Pipeline is planned to be operational on or about November 1, 2017; and

WHEREAS, PennEast is in the process of finalizing negotiations with potential customers, and therefore the final capacity and resulting pipe size and compression is subject to change; and

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2014, PennEast requested that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") initiate an environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") pre-filing process; and

WHEREAS, on October 10, 2014, the Director of the Office of Energy Projects for FERC approved the company's use of the pre-filing review process; and

WHEREAS, FERC has selected Tectra Tech as the third-party contractor to prepare the National Environmental Policy Act documentation; and

WHEREAS, PennEast intends to file a formal application with FERC on or before July, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the pre-filing process and the formal application process both provide opportunities for public input and intervention; and

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2014, PennEast representatives made a public presentation to the Hopewell Township Committee and approximately 400 residents to explain the nature of the project and its potential impact on the Hopewell Valley; and

WHEREAS, the Hopewell Township Committee is concerned that the Pipeline Project will have a negative effect on Hopewell Township's tax ratables; Hopewell Township's environment; and the public health, safety and welfare of Hopewell Township residents; and

WHEREAS, the Pipeline Project is planned to cross lands in Hopewell Township that are environmentally sensitive; lands that are preserved by the expenditure of public funds for the exclusive use of agriculture; and lands that are preserved by the expenditure of public funds for the use, enjoyment and permanent protection of open space; and

WHEREAS, the Pipeline Project will cause irreparable damage to these properties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, Mercer County, New Jersey that the governing body opposes the pipeline project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Committee authorizes the administration to participate and intervene in the regulatory process as necessary to protect the interests of the Township and its residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Chris Christie, U.S. Senator Robert Menendez, U.S. Senator Cory Booker, Congressman Rush Holt, Senator Shirley K. Turner, Assemblywoman Bonnie Watson Coleman, Assemblyman Reed Gusciora, affected municipalities in Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton and Bucks Counties in Pennsylvania and Hunterdon and Mercer Counties in New Jersey and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

Date Adopted: October 14, 2014

CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE
A TRUE COPY OF A *Resolution* ADOPTED
BY THE HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
AT A MEETING HELD

October 14, 2014

DATE

Laurie E. Gompf

LAURIE E. GOMPF, MUNICIPAL CLERK