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November 7, 2011

Kimberly D. Bose
Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First St., NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Reference Docket No. PF11-9-000

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing you concerning Reference Docket No. PF11-9-000, Allegheny Storage Project. In particular, I am writing in reference to FERC's preparation of an environmental assessment to determine if a proposed natural gas pipeline compressor station near Myersville, Maryland is in the public convenience and necessity. I am entrusted to represent residents affected by this proposal in Frederick County in the U.S. House of Representatives. As you carry out your responsibility, I would urge you to ensure that all of the following questions are answered about the proposed compressor station. I appreciate the FERC's careful consideration of other questions and issues raised by residents who will attend a November 7, 2011 Public Scoping Meeting at the Myersville Volunteer Fire Company and other inputs filed in writing with the Commission. I would appreciate a response from the Chairman.

- Does the identified 22-acre parcel for the site near Myersville meet required buffer areas for a compressor station? The property is zoned Commercial with a Highway Employment Overlay, not Industrial. There is no highway-related function for the proposed compressor station. Is approval for a zoning change by local officials required by the FERC to meet the standard of public convenience and necessity?
- The 22-acre parcel is surrounded by other properties, including Myers' Farm, a 100-year old family farm and The LUCY school, a certified green school. Will the acquisition of additional acreage be necessary to meet required buffer areas? Would the FERC approve the proposal as meeting the standard of public convenience and necessity if the acquisition of additional acreage involves the assertion of Eminent Domain?
- There are four schools within one mile of the proposed site, including two day care centers, raising significant safety and noise concerns.. Existing housing developments are less than a half mile from the site. More than 1,800 people in

residences and businesses, including dozens of working farms are within four miles of the site.

- The proposed site in Myersville is near I-70, a major highway and two major roadways, Rt. 340 and Rt. 180. I-70 carries 65,000 motorists each day.
- Will preservation of the viewscape around the proposed site for the Myersville Compressor station be required under the standard of public convenience and necessity? On and adjoining or visible from the proposed Myersville site are significant historic sites and four state parks: Gambrill State Park, Greenbriar State Park, South Mountain State Park, Washington Monument State Park and the Appalachian Trail which winds through Gathland State Park. Gathland State Park <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/gathland.html> also has important portions of the site of the first Civil War battle in Maryland, the Battle of South Mountain <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/southmtbattle.html>. The battle which began on September 14, 1862, involved two future Presidents Rutherford B. Hayes and William McKinley, and led directly to the Battle of Antietam. Nearly \$4 million has been spent to protect approximately 1,313 acres of the historic battlefield at South Mountain -- through Program Open Space. Much of this acreage has been preserved through easements.
- The proposed site of the compressor station is an area whose topography and geography naturally traps and concentrates air pollutants. Will calculations be required to determine anticipated levels of additional emissions when the compressor is in operation? Is compliance with regulations limiting pollutants under the Clean Air Act and other relevant laws required to meet the standard of public convenience and necessity?
- A fault that runs along the South Mountain Ridge and a history of sinkholes in Frederick County raise questions about the stability of the geologic area to safely support installation and operation of the proposed compressor station.
- Will FERC require measures to protect the safety and integrity of groundwater supplies as well as nearby waterways including Grindstone Run, a tributary of Catoctin Creek in the Chesapeake Bay watershed?
- Will the FERC require sound cancellation or other technologies when the 16,000 hp compressor turbines are operating to maintain the existing low-decibel ambience of the area to meet the standard of public convenience and necessity?
- Will the FERC require an analysis of other potential alternative sites to satisfy the affected residents in Frederick County that the economic costs and environmental disruption from construction and operation of a new compressor station along the pipeline will be minimized under the standard of meeting public convenience and necessity? If other alternative sites are considered, will the FERC inform the public why the Myersville site is considered the optimum location under the public convenience and necessity standard?
- How will FERC assess the safety record of the applicant which had an incident on January 24, 2011 in Fairport, Ohio that caused a fire in which seven homes were destroyed? The applicant has also been cited at least four violations by the Department of Transportation and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

On behalf of my constituents, thank you for your due diligence in the preparation of the environmental assessment for the proposed compressor station near Myersville, Maryland as part of the Allegheny Storage Project. Please keep me apprised of developments concerning Reference Docket No. PF11-9-000. Please call me at 202-225-2721 or contact my Chief of Staff, Bud Otis, or Energy Legislative Assistant, Lisa Wright, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Roscoe G. Bartlett,
Member of Congress

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