

[blog.timesunion.com](http://blog.timesunion.com)

# Bethlehem lawmakers oppose natural gas pipeline

By Brian Nearing on February 11, 2016 at 3:23 PM

On Wednesday, the Bethlehem Town Board voted to oppose the planned Northeast Energy Direct (NED) natural gas pipeline that would pass through southern portions of Albany and Rensselaer counties to bring natural gas from Pennsylvania to metropolitan Boston.

Lawmakers urged a comprehensive health study of the pipeline's potential health effects and urged that the state take no action on required state permits until after the study was finished, according to the [resolution](#) adopted Wednesday. The measure also urged the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to deny the project.

Houston-based energy company Kinder Morgan is seeking federal approval to build the \$5 billion NED pipeline to bring natural gas more than 400 miles from the hydrofrack fields of Pennsylvania to northern Massachusetts and Boston. The proposed expansion also would connect into the company's existing Iroquois pipeline in the Schoharie County town of Wright.

The 30-inch pipeline's northward route would take it through Schoharie County and southern Albany County towns of Knox, Berne, New Scotland and Bethlehem before crossing beneath the Hudson River at Schodack.

It would then continue through Schodack, Nassau and Stephentown. It would head northeast, continue to south of Burden Lake and on to the intersection of routes 43 and 66 at the hamlet of Alps. From there, it would run along Route 43 in Nassau and Stephentown for 14 miles before crossing into Massachusetts at Hancock for the rest of its eastward route.