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Contacts: Maya K. van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper, 215-369-1188 x102
Alex Lotorto, Shale Gas Program Coordinator, Energy Justice Network, 570-269-9589

Delaware Riverkeeper Network Intervenes In New Gas Pipeline Proposal – Concerned Community Groups Announce Meeting for Landowners and Public for Tuesday, Nov 17th at 6:30pm

Lackawaxen, PA. Last week, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network intervened in the latest gas pipeline segment proposed for the Upper Delaware River Basin. Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company L.L.C., a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan Inc., submitted an application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on October 9, 2015 for its proposed Orion Pipeline project (Docket Number CP 16-4-000). According to TGP’s filings, the proposed high pressure gas pipeline would cut across 13 miles of Pike and Wayne Counties in Pennsylvania, paralleling sections of the 127 mile long TGP 300 Line that was constructed and placed into service November 1, 2011. In 2012, TGP’s Northeast Upgrade Project (NEUP) cut across an additional 40 miles of land and was placed into service November 1, 2013. The proposed Orion 13 mile pipeline would run adjacent sections of the TGP 300 Line in Pike and Wayne Counties and connect to TGP’s NEUP pipeline installed and in service in 2013 that is located to the east.

“Pipeline cuts fueled by gas drilling in the Marcellus shale continue to threaten our communities, our forests, our back yards and some of the cleanest streams of the Delaware River Watershed. In 2011, these same communities suffered from the construction and cuts of TGP’s 300 Line and now less than 5 years later, TGP is back with another 36-inch pipeline proposal that would disturb this quiet rural area once again for TGP to expand their pipeline system.” – Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper.

According to TGP’s Resource Report’s submitted to FERC, the pipeline would cut across 26 streams, including the Lackawaxen River, Tinkwig Creek, Indian Orchard Brook, and West Falls Creek. The proposed Loops 322 and Loop 323 would cut across an additional 47 wetlands, of which at least 19 of these wetlands are forested. The pipeline company asserts there are at least 10 private water wells located within 150 feet of the pipeline route and 2,126 feet of steep slopes to be traversed by the pipeline.

A public meeting for landowners and concerned community members will be held on Tuesday, November 17th at 6:30pm at the Lackawaxen Township Volunteer Fire Department – Station 31 (Rte 590, Lackawaxen, PA 18435)
The meeting is being organized by The Lackawaxen River Conservancy, Energy Justice Network, Delaware Riverkeeper Network and other concerned groups.

“This is an important meeting for any landowner along the right of way who wants to explore their rights when faced with eminent domain, pipeline impacts, and easement offers.” – Alex Lotorto, Energy Justice Network

“Residents and community members can intervene now on the FERC Docket for this pipeline project to preserve their right to bring a legal challenge should they wish to do so down the road or to show their concern and opposition for the pipeline project. The deadline to intervene in time is November 16th.”
Aaron Stemplewicz, Staff Attorney, Delaware Riverkeeper Network

To see the Delaware Riverkeeper Network’s filing: http://www.delawareriverkeeper.org/Documents/Delaware%20Riverkeeper%20MOTION%20INTERVENE%20Oriion.pdf

To see step by step instructions on how to intervene on the FERC docket for this project: http://bit.ly/DRN-OrionPipeline

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