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PIPE LINE AWARENESS NETWORK
FOR THE **NORTH EAST, INC.**

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February 29, 2016

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20216

Re: Docket No. CP14-529, TGP Connecticut Expansion; Docket No. CP16-21, Northeast Energy Direct Pending Legal Challenge to Natural Gas Conversion and Expansion Plan, and Overstated Need

Dear Secretary Bose:

In evaluating the claims of urgency regarding the proposed TGP Connecticut Expansion Project (the “CEP”), please note that the Connecticut Supreme Court is currently reviewing a challenge to Connecticut's adoption of its Comprehensive Energy Strategy (“CES”), pursuant to which precedent agreements were approved by the Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (“PURA”) for the CEP, as well as precedent agreements for the Northeast Energy Direct project.

Specifically, the Connecticut Energy Marketers Association has sued PURA and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, claiming that the CES, which calls for the conversion of 300,000 homes and businesses to natural gas and the construction of some 900 miles of new natural gas pipelines in the state, was improperly adopted without an environmental impact evaluation.¹ Briefs from the state agencies are due at the state Supreme Court on March 17, 2016.

Moreover, as one commentator puts it: “The governor’s goal of increasing natural gas use in the state by converting, at ratepayer expense, hundreds of thousands of buildings to natural gas is falling short of its objectives. Since the cost of home heating oil is the same or less than gas, there is no economic reason for anyone to convert to gas.”²

There is reason to believe that the gas companies are contracting for capacity in excess of their actual needs, at ratepayers' expense.

Respectfully submitted,



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1 See <http://fueloilnews.com/2016/01/29/supreme-court-to-hear-cemas-natural-gas-case/> (last visited February 27, 2016).

2 See <http://www.westhartfordnews.com/articles/2016/02/26/opinion/doc56cdf25e1d6e2241288732.txt> (last visited February 27, 2016).