



Vincent DeVito*
MA: +1 617-757-6518
DC: +1 202-329-4070
NY: +1 646-580-0120
Fax: +1 508-929-3019
vdevito@bowditch.com

February 27, 2015

VIA E-MAIL

(constitution@dec.ny.gov)

Joseph Martens, Commissioner
New York State Department of Environmental
Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12233-1010

***Re: Comments of Northeast Energy Solutions, Inc. ("NEES") Regarding the
Constitution Pipeline Project***[♦]

Dear Commissioner Martens:

NEES is a nonprofit corporation comprised of energy, land, environmental, end-user, and related economic interests. NEES is an active educational resource and advocacy group (before state and federal government officials) with a purpose of ensuring that energy projects account for its membership's collective and respective interests. NEES is currently a formal intervener in several matters before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the U.S. Department of Energy, and the Maine PUC with regards to capacity and infrastructure proposals in the Northeast.

NEES understands that natural gas will continue to play a central role in providing a reliable source of energy. As such, we examine projects from a perspective of economic and environmental viability. NEES' examination includes an analysis of end-user pricing and direct domestic benefits of

[♦] The views expressed in this correspondence are those of NEES, Inc. alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of NEES' individual members who, likewise, are not responsible for the content of this letter.

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proposed projects versus those targeting non-domestic markets. NEES' team of experts includes a former U.S. Department of Energy senior manager and other professionals who hold expertise in the energy industry and market, as well as those familiar with municipal concerns and public outreach.

Upon its review, NEES finds the Constitution Pipeline a suitable, conventional solution to assist meeting our region's current energy needs.

As a privately financed project, the proposed Constitution Pipeline will not be reliant upon an imprudent and artificial financing scheme that would unreasonably burden ratepayers. Constitution Pipeline also has a record of being forthright with the community during the federal proceeding. Nonetheless, NEES does recognize concerns about the project's potential environmental impacts; but, NEES has also been made aware of Constitution Pipeline's readiness to set forth a comprehensive, environmentally sensitive mitigation plan. In this context, NEES submits that the continued exploration of potential impact avoidance and mitigation strategies, while noting the project as a suitable solution to meet the natural gas needs of the northeast, is necessary.

Therefore, on behalf of NEES, I respectfully request the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation approve the permits necessary for the construction of the Constitution Pipeline with the advancement of the recommendation herein.

If you require additional information, you or your staff may contact me as indicated in this correspondence's letterhead.

My very best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. DeVito". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Vincent DeVito

VD:crpl