

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

April 17, 2013

Vermont Gas Systems  
Addison "Natural" Gas Project Docket #7970

Nathan B Palmer, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, requests the Petitioner to answer all following requests, and reserves the right to make additional information requests to Petitioner:

1) The original filing for this project sited the pipeline along Davis Road, then it veered west to join the VELCO corridor and then headed south on the VELCO corridor and it did not cross our land. Please provide all information and details as to why the proposed pipeline route now deviates from the VELCO corridor and crosses ours and the Latreille's properties. Please include documentation from VELCO, ANR or any other agency or individual who is responsible for this deviation.

2) Please explain in detail why it is acceptable to site this transmission line closer to a significant wetland than to keep it at the higher elevation?

SAFETY

3) What is the potential impact radius for a gas pipe this size operating at maximum pressure? Could you please provide a map of the proposed pipeline route with the Potential Impact Radius calculated and drawn in for all properties on the route?

4) Please provide the number of incidents and circumstances in this country during the last 20 years involving a gas or other type of pipeline that have been caused by human accidental damage?

5) Please provide the number of incidents involving Enbridge or Gaz Metro in the past 20 years. What was the extent of the damages?

6) What is the extent of the company's liability for lives lost, property destroyed and wells polluted along the pipelines?

7) How long does it take for injured parties or people with damaged properties to recover damages? Please document these responses.

8) Please provide a plausible emergency evacuation plan for a pipeline rupture event, for a town with

no professional fire department, no police and no hydrants.

## AESTHETICS

9) In Mr Buscher's testimony, figure 9 VP 267, page 23, a photo shows a view of our property. Please verify where you were standing when you took the photo. Please either take a photo of where the pipeline will actually be going through, or do an artist's rendering of what it will look like once the pipeline is installed. On what basis was the "no adverse impact" determined?

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL

10) There are numerous archaeologically sensitive areas all around our property. Please tell us why it is assumed that our land will not also contain archaeologically sensitive areas?

## CONSTRUCTION

11) Please provide a map showing all locations where blasting will be used (which can be derived from geological maps) the types of blasting chemicals and quantities, the MSDS on those chemicals, and the methodology? Could you also show on that map where blasting will intersect groundwater sources.?

12) How will construction crews prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species on our land from construction equipment? How will you document the absence of such species and how will you monitor after construction to make sure nothing new was introduced, and how you will mitigate if there is a problem without using herbicides so we can preserve our potential organic status?

13) Please provide details as to how you will ensure our potential for organic farming status will not be compromised by the construction of this pipeline? (for instance, leaking hydraulic products from construction equipment, spills, etc)

14) Please provide details on coatings (MSDS) on pipes and any fluids or other substances used during the construction of the pipeline. Please provide details on welding procedures and products used (MSDS).

15) Please provide details and diagrams of methods that will be used to prevent compaction of our soils during construction.

16) Please provide detailed drawings and descriptions of construction procedures that will be used on our property and the adjoining properties. (for instance, how will the stream be crossed? Will this be trenched or horizontally drilled?)

## MAINTAINANCE

17) Please explain methods of policing the pipeline and how these methods will affect our farming crops and livestock. What access will maintenance crews need and what entities will provide it?

18) Please document that no pesticides, herbicides, or other chemicals will be used on our property to maintain the pipeline right of way.

## CLIMATE CHANGE/ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE

19) What evidence is there that this pipeline infrastructure build out would be better than renewable energy to lower our carbon emissions as soon as possible?

20) Please provide a map of all private groundwater sources potentially impacted (within 600 feet) as you have only mapped public ones in the petition.

21) Please quantify and recalculate the GHG equivalent effect of “natural” gas for the entire production cycle, including extraction and delivery.

21) According to reports you have provided to the Public Service Department, there is a documented amount of unaccounted for gas each year. When asked about this figure, Eileen Simollardes replied that this was due to “meter error”. Please prove that this is, indeed, a meter error. If this cannot be proved, please calculate the additional “lost gas” that will come from the new infrastructure.

23) Please provide a detailed map of where you intend to site this pipeline on our property showing all wetlands, archaeologically sensitive areas, water sources, streams, improved garden areas, ponds and trees.

## FINANCIAL ADVANTAGE

24) Mr Carr cited savings for Addison County residents and businesses projected into the future. How much did he figure the cost of “natural” gas would rise in the next decade?

25) “Natural” Gas prices are regulated but increases in costs are possible. Has Mr Carr done any analysis on what will happen if the price of “natural” gas doubles, triples, or even quadruples as other fossil fuel prices have done during the course of a few years?

26) Can Mr Gilbert guarantee that “natural” gas will always have a significant competitive cost advantage over using other fuels?

27) A pie chart offered by Mr Gilbert estimates the percentage of households that heat with “other or none” is more than is currently heating with propane or “natural” gas. Which households do not heat their homes in VT?

Dated at Monkton, VT, on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2013

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