

HOLLIS, NH PIPELINE IMPACT STUDY TEAM

Taskforce Tool Kit

Taskforce Tool Kit

- Circle the wagons
- Establish your defense
- Define your scope of influence
- Create an inventory of assets and resources
- Define current and future pipeline impact
- Demonstrate history of protection and conservation
- Appendix of resources

Circle the wagons

- Ensure you abide by NH RSA 91-A (“Right to Know” law) for task-force meetings
- Seek Legal Counsel
 - This is uncharted territory for most towns; understand what you're dealing with and how to effectively meet your town's goals
- Identify Political and Community Leaders
 - Align Selectmen, Town Committees, Task-force, local state reps. to ensure everyone is on board and working in the same director (this doesn't mean everyone agrees on everything - but define the work needed), hold public meetings and put info in the paper
- Identify Community Volunteers
 - Existing Town Committees are a good place to start (Planning, Zoning, Conservation, Historic...) and residents who are interested in working on the pipeline project

Skill sets that are useful to any Task-force: local historians, geologists, environmentalists, conservationists, people who understand Concord, public safety or transportation experts, assessors and appraisers, writers and editors

Circle the wagons continued

- Recruit allies
 - Regional Planning Commissions will have input to the NH Site Evaluation Committee via RSA 162:H-1
 - Regional non-profits and NH agencies (e.g. NH DES, Forestry), land trusts, other cities and towns, NH Pipeline Awareness.org google group
- Request letters of support from influencing bodies
- Identify researchers and areas of study (e.g. understanding of the FERC process, the State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Committee process, the intervener process...)
- Learn more about the Northeast Energy Direct (NED) project and local and regional drivers (ISO/NE, NESCO, NH PUC, Liberty Utilities...)
- Define how everyone in your Town universe will get information, so the left hand knows what the right is doing.

Establish your defense

- NH RSA 162-H:16 states:
 - (b) The site and facility will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region with due consideration having been given to the views of municipal and regional planning commissions and municipal governing bodies.
 - (c) The site and facility will not have an unreasonable adverse effect on aesthetics, historic sites, air and water quality, the natural environment, and public health and safety.
- Though the RSA language is clear, some of the terms are vague as to how you meet the burden of 'unreasonable adverse' or 'unduly interfere with the orderly development'. But from a legal standpoint, these are the items the State of NH can help towns defend when an energy project is proposed .

Define your scope of influence

- Your available resources will form your scope of influence. For instance:
 - Former long-serving US Senator on the team? Petition FERC directly.
 - Hardly any resources at all? Team up with a neighboring town.
- Know your audience:
 - Who are you petitioning for a change? (FERC, SEC, Gov. Hassan, the NH SEC, Kinder Morgan directly?)
 - Establish a defensible argument in line with the criteria your audience is able to take into consideration (i.e. what does your audience care about?)
- What do you want from them?
 - Make peace with your scope of influence... While many believe stopping the pipeline is not an option, the case for need is currently gaining momentum in the NH press. So figure out the battle you want to wage.
 - Establish a common goal for the team (e.g. provide evidence to justify adjustments to the route, avoid critical areas, etc.)

Create inventory of assets and resources

- Create inventory of potentially impacted assets on the pipeline route
 - Town/city-protected lands
 - Conservation properties
 - Surface and Groundwater Resources (bedrock and stratified drift aquifers)
 - Wildlife habitat
 - Environmental resources
 - Historic sites
 - Your regional planning commission (NRPC or SWPC) can help
- Focus on assets impacted by the pipeline route
 - Otherwise, you will dilute your message
 - Yes, if Kinder submits a route change, you may have to start over
- *Don't forget to cite your sources!*
 - You must allow readers to access sources for validation

Define land protection and conservation efforts

- Research project timeline - when is your report due?
- How has your town protected the resources identified?
 - Formation of planning boards, conservation commissions
 - Zoning ordinances
 - Creation and maintenance of a master plan
 - Resource management and protection plans
 - Water/resource studies
 - Creation of protection and conservation overlay zones and buffers
 - Recognition or awards received
- How will this project take your town away from its orderly development?

Document current & future pipeline impact

- How will those resources be affected by:
 - Blasting
 - Construction
 - Ongoing presence and maintenance
- Consider the pipeline's necessary easements (construction and permanent) and its impact to resources and wildlife
- Current and future resources restricted by the pipeline permanent easement (water, sewer, utilities, access. etc.)
- Economic impact of permanent easement (property values, taxes, etc.)
- Historical buildings, artifacts, areas

Appendix of resources

- FERC Pre-Filing detail - http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/File_list.asp?document_id=14251558
- Beaver Brook Association www.beaverbrook.org/ 465-7787
- NH Office of Energy Planning strategy report: <http://www.nh.gov/oep/energy/programs/documents/energy-strategy.pdf>
- Society for the Protection of NH Forests <https://www.forestssociety.org> 224-9945
- Nashua Watershed Association www.nashuariverwatershed.org/ 448-0299
- Nashua Regional Planning Commission www.nashuarpc.org/ 424-2240 Sara Sascavich, GIS Manager (new hydro/habitat maps as of August 2014)
- Southwest Regional Planning Commission, Keene, NH <http://www.swrpc.org> (603) 357-0557 admin@swrpc.org
- UNH Coop Extension: Dr. Thomas Ballestero, Civil Engineer, Hydrology and Water source impacts on acquirers and water systems tom.ballestero@unh.edu 862-1405
- UNH Coop Extension: Hillsborough County field specialist, Agriculture, George W. Hamilton, 641-6060 george.hamilton@unh.edu
- Freedoms Way: Cultural/Heritage overlays - Maud Ayson maud.ayson@gmail.com 673-1072 Amherst, NH
- New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee <http://www.nhsec.nh.gov> 271-3503
- Conservation Law Foundation, www.clf.org/ NH Division: 225-3060
- US Dept of Transportation (Pipeline Safety Data) <http://www.dot.gov/pipelines-hazmat> 202-366-4000
- NH Fish and Game, <http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us> 271-3421
- NH Dept of Environmental Services www.des.nh.gov 271-3503
- NH Timberland Owners Association www.nhtoa.org 224-9699
- NH Pipeline Awareness (NH Citizens Action Group) www.nhpipelineawareness.org
- FRIENDS OF THE EARTH: <http://www.foe.org/about-us>
- Environmental Defense Fund: <http://www.edf.org/>
- The Wilderness Society: <http://wilderness.org/>