Public Comment

Algonquin Pipeline Relocation-25012-Bourne

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via online form

Comment

The Algonquin Pipeline Relocation Project is a misnomer – it is an expansion project using $302M of state and federal bridge replacement funds. These are taxpayer's funds. Replacing two 10-inch gas pipelines each with a cross-section area of 78.54 sq inches (157.08 total) with an 18-inch pipeline with a cross-section area of 254.47 sq inches is a 62% EXPANSION in area. A 14-inch pipe with a cross-section area of 153.94 sq inches is much closer to a replacement.

As the Cape Cod Commission conducts its review of this project via a process called Development of Regional Impact, the Commission must make sure the project maintains the same gas capacity being replaced (and no more) to align with Cape Cod's Regional Policy Plan (RPP) and Climate Action Plan (CAP).

RPP:

• Increase the region's resiliency to climate change impacts and mitigate climate change by supporting and contributing as a region to the Commonwealth's greenhouse gas reduction goals and initiatives, including a statewide net zero carbon target by 2050.

• Increase resiliency of energy generation and delivery

• Promote electrification and low or no carbon technologies for building energy use

• Ensure capital facilities and infrastructure promote efficiency, sustainability and resiliency

CAP:

• Individuals, local organizations, and regional entities must all work together to reduce green house gas emissions and increase the region's resiliency to current and future hazards through both planning and regulatory initiatives.

As part of the DRI process to meet the RPP and CAP goals, please make sure that the Cape Cod Commission:

1. Considers the public health impacts of increasing gas use on Cape Cod through this expansion

2. Explores opportunities to phase out gas with the Bourne Bridge replacement funding not yet secured

3. Requires AGT to quantify and mitigate expansion potential including proposed off Cape infrastructure upgrades

4. Requests AGT provide calculations of carbon emission impacts including but not limited to fuel sourcing, methane leakage, gas combustion and other emissions flowing from the project

5. Requires AGT ensure that the new pipeline does not impede the region's and the state's greenhouse gas emission reduction goals

6. Requires AGT to agree to not exploit additional capacity as a condition of approval.

Thank you for your consideration.

PDF File submitted: No