

RESOLUTION NO. 194-2018

BOROUGH OF ROSELAND  
COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

OPPOSING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEALTH AND  
SAFETY STUDY OF THE PROPOSED WILLIAMS TRANSCO  
GATEWAY EXPANSION PROJECT

**WHEREAS**, if built, this second compressor would more than double the amount of gas which could come through Roseland. Some estimates indicate that there could be 10 times more gas; and

**WHEREAS**, if built, the gas, after leaving the compressor station site, would then be pushed under increased pressure through a 60-year old pipeline under Roseland and 16 other municipalities in Northern New Jersey, before going under the Hudson River; and

**WHEREAS**, the current compressor station is only operating at 10% capacity, raising questions about the need for this new compressor station; and

**WHEREAS**, the existing compressor station was upgraded in 2014, during which time the company, without providing advance notice to Borough officials, conducted a “blow-down of the facility on June 14, 2013, releasing large amounts of gas and other chemicals into the local community, forcing an emergency evacuation of the nearby Roseland Elementary School; and

**WHEREAS**, Municipalities like Roseland that will receive no benefit from the Gateway Expansion Project but will suffer the burden, perhaps for years to come, have legitimate concerns regarding the installation and maintenance of the compressor station, as well as the uprate of the existing Williams Transco pipeline, including: impact on emergency services and response times in case of an emergency; lack of viable detour and evacuation routes through the Borough; potential for explosions in the event the aging pipeline is damaged during construction; impact on local wetlands from construction activities; impact on local residents, businesses, schools and school bus routes, including increased noise pollution and future blowdown events, as well as future road improvement projects, and the expansion of local utilities; and

**WHEREAS,** There are no known examples of co-locating a brand new 30,000 horsepower compressor station next to an existing 30,000 horsepower compressor station, placing both directly underneath high tension interstate electric transmission lines, and immediately adjacent to an existing interstate electric transmission sub-station, all of which would be located near residences and businesses and within a flood plain, creating unknown public safety risks for the surrounding residences and businesses; and

**WHEREAS,** on January 24, 2018 and again in March 9, 2018, the Mayor and Council invited Williams Transco to address these and other concerns in an open public meeting in the Borough, with opportunities for local residents and business owners to ask questions and raise concerns about the project directly with company representatives; and

**WHEREAS** on March 26, 2018 Williams Transco refused an invitation from the Mayor and Council to present their proposal to local residents via an open public meeting, in a format where residents could ask questions and raise concerns directly with Williams Transco staff and representatives;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roseland that they call on Governor Murphy to direct the NJ Board of Public Utilities and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection to conduct a comprehensive study on the potential public health and safety impacts related to the Gateway Expansion Project. In particular, we call for a safety study of the proposal to construct and operate a new 30,000 horsepower compressor station on the same site as Williams' Transco's existing 30,000 horsepower compressor station, underneath high tension electric transmission lines, and immediately adjacent to the existing interstate electric transmission sub-station, all of which would be located near residences and businesses and within a flood plain. The public health and safety study should also the condition of the Transco's existing pipeline to see how the proposed pipeline uprate could create further risks, including gas leaks or explosions; and

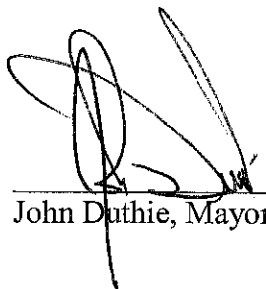
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roseland that they call on the NJ Department of Environmental Protection to hold a public hearing on the proposed Gateway Expansion project; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council call on the Williams/Transco pipeline company to agree to hold a public community meeting about their proposal to build a second gas compressor station on Eagle Rock Avenue next to the Essex County Environmental Center, with ample opportunity for the public to ask direct questions of Williams' Transco representatives; and

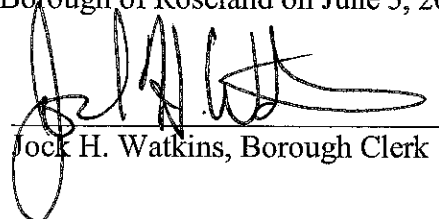
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded by the Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Roseland to: The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Phillip Murphy, Governor of New Jersey, Catherine McCabe, Acting Commissioner of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Robert Gordon, President of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, Senator Richard Codey and Assembly Representatives Mila Jasey and John McKeon, as well as the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders and Essex County Executive Joseph DeVincenzo.

COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	RECUSE	ABSENT
Councilman Bardi			X				
Councilman Jacobs			X				
Councilman Leonard			X				
Councilman Smith	X		X				
Council President Tolli							X
Councilman Tsilionis		X	X				
Mayor Duthie (In case of tie)							
		VOTE:	5	0			

I do hereby certify that the forgoing is a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Roseland on June 5, 2018.



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John Duthie, Mayor



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Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk