From: gbernet
To: comments, EMP
Subject: [EXTERNAL] N.J. Renewable Energy Goal
Date: Thursday, September 27, 2018 5:43:24 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

Reaching NJ's goal of 50% renewable energy by 2030 will be held back by allowing the development of new natural gas pipelines. This is particularly true of pipelines like PennEast that the NJ Division of Rate Council says are not needed and that use the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to get eminent domain rights to take private property away from New Jersey citizens. The Rate Council has made the case that existing pipelines provide enough to more than meet the state’s needs. New pipelines are being proposed to take advantage of the FERC guarantee of a 14% profit to the pipeline developers. This 14% guaranteed profit comes directly out of the ratepayers’ pockets, while the pipeline companies take the land and ruin housing prices of home owners along the pipeline route.

The development of new natural gas pipelines in NJ will inhibit the ability of the state to meet its renewable goals by 2030, take land from homeowners with no benefit, and at a real cost, to NJ ratepayers, and potentially add to the cost for New Jersey of a boom and bust cycle that is predicted for the companies engaged in fracking, which in and of itself is destructive to the environment, particularly to our most precious resource: water.

I urge the policy makers looking at achieving the goal of 50% renewable energy by 2030 to keep these considerations in mind when developing their new policy.

Sincerely,
Greg Bernet