

Submission Description: (doc-less) Motion to Intervene of Moore Township and the Moore Township Board of Supervisors under CP15-558-000.

Submission Date: 10/28/2015 2:13:50 PM

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Dockets

CP15-558-000 Application of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations

Filing Party/Contacts:

Filing Party Signer (Representative)
Other Contact (Principal)

Moore Township and the Moore Township Board of Supervisors dmbesq@ptd.net

Basis for Intervening:

The Board of Supervisors of Moore Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania wish to intervene as a party at Docket No. CP15-558-000. The Moore Township Board of Supervisors strongly oppose the construction of a pipeline through Moore Township. Moore Township has standing to intervene because the Township is directly affected by the construction of the proposed pipeline.

The Moore Township Board of Supervisors, along with the residents of Moore Township, established the Land Preservation Board and the EAC in order to help protect the vast amount of open space and sensitive areas located in Moore Township. The Board has implemented many restrictions through its Zoning Ordinance, SALDO and building codes to help protect the streams, woodlands and the habitat of the Township. The Township has a network of bog turtles in the Township, just to name one, and have restrictions on building which would disturb them. The proposed pipeline will run through many of the Township streams and sensitive areas which the Township is trying to protect. Pursuant to a referendum, the residents of Moore Township self imposed a 0.25 mill tax rate in order to fund the land preservation efforts. The Township has preserved many farms and sensitive areas since 2005 when the EIT referendum was approved by the voters of Moore Township.

The pipeline, as proposed, will carve through Moore Township and, in all likelihood, cause damage to the environment, including the Township's streams, woodlands and the Township's environmentally sensitive areas. Widespread clear cutting of the timber will cause erosion, which the Township believes will damage the water table. By bifurcating the fields of the farmers, who rely on their land to support their families, the crop yield will be damaged for years to come. This would cause undue hardship for the Township's local taxpaying farmers. The long term loss to the Township will also be seen in land values, which in turn will

affect the Township's taxes (which are already the lowest in Northampton County of any community with a full-time Police Department).