

Bamboo Brook
170 Longview Road
Far Hills, NJ 07931
908-234-1225
908-234-1189 (Fax)
info@njconservation.org
www.njconservation.org



August 18, 2015

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Docket No. PF15-1-000

PennEast Pipeline Project: Comment to FERC on August 11th letter from PennEast to landowners

Dear Ms. Bose:

We received the attached letter as an affected landowner that has not granted survey access to PennEast. We want to formally register our complaint with respect to the misleading and confusing language in the subject line entitled “**Notice of Intent to Enter Land To Survey**”. This line suggests that PennEast intends to, and has the right to, survey property for its proposed pipeline when they have not been granted permission by a landowner to do so. This heading is inconsistent with the body of the letter, and with our understanding of the FERC process and PennEast’s application status. It is threatening in its tone, particularly for landowners who are not familiar with the FERC approval process. We respectfully request that FERC review the appropriateness of this letter and provide feedback to the PennEast consortium on its landowner communications to ensure that PennEast and its agents do not mislead or intimidate landowners through future communications such as this.

Please contact me at 908-234-1225 ext. 108 with any questions or concerns. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alison Mitchell, Policy Director
New Jersey Conservation Foundation



August 11, 2015

AUG 14 2015

NJ Conservation Foundation & Hunterdon Land Trust Alliance
170 Longview Rd.
Far Hills, NJ 07931

Re: **NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER LAND TO SURVEY**
Proposed PennEast Pipeline Project
Tax Parcel #: 1007-32-4; 1016-12-31.01
Property located in: Hunterdon County, NJ

Dear NJ Conservation Foundation & Hunterdon Land Trust Alliance:

For several months, representatives of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC ("PennEast") have been attempting to obtain permission to enter your property to conduct surveys needed before PennEast formally files its application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"). As shared over the last several months, our efforts to obtain permission to enter your property are part of the project development and regulatory process.

By design, the FERC pre-filing phase encourages a collaborative approach in order to gain your specific insights and to minimize impacts to your land, when and where possible, in order to better define the route. To date, we have not received the requested permission to survey your property. While we will continue to work with you as the Project progresses, survey activities in your area are underway and preferably need to begin on your property before we file our formal application with the current proposed route.

The current proposed route can be found on the Project website, www.penneastpipeline.com. We intend to submit our certificate application, with some minor adjustments next month. Shortly afterward, PennEast will begin discussing compensation for easements with individual landowners.

We ask again that you engage with us about impacts to your property and provide permission to PennEast to enter your property to perform the necessary survey activities. Enclosed is another survey authorization form, a document titled "Description of Survey Activities" and a self-addressed, stamped envelope. We ask that you take this opportunity to provide your consent, request reasonable conditions, or provide any other important information about your property for the necessary survey activities. If FERC approves the proposed route, the opportunity to adjust the route on your property will be very limited.

Please remember that granting survey permission to allow PennEast's entry onto your property does not represent a right-of-way agreement, nor does it constitute your support of the project. We understand that the process for locating interstate pipeline projects can be confusing and you are receiving competing information from people not directly impacted by our project. For objective information about your rights as a landowner during the regulatory process, please visit FERC's website at www.ferc.gov.

PennEast will certainly keep you informed of the progress of the Project. If you have questions about this letter, please call the landowner toll-free number, (855) 303-4830; send an email to answers@penneastpipeline.com or visit our website at www.penneastpipeline.com.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your anticipated cooperation.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey D. England
PennEast Project Manager

Enclosures:

Survey Authorization Form
Description of Survey Activities
Self-addressed stamped envelope

Is there a water well located on this property? Yes No

Is there a septic system located on this property? Yes No

Are there any abandoned gas wells located on this property? Yes No

Notes/Conditions:

Are there any other notable features we should be aware of? Yes No

Notes/Conditions:

Are there any other special conditions? Yes No

Notes/Conditions:

This instrument prepared by:
Western Land Services
55 West Street
Tunkhannock, PA 18657

Description of Survey Activities

Depending on the size of an individual parcel, all survey activities described below should only take a minimal amount of time and should not result in any inconvenience to the property owner. All survey work will be performed during reasonable daylight hours only. All work will be performed by authorized professional surveyors and their crews. The surveys that PennEast Pipeline Company ("PennEast") will request for each property are:

(a) **Civil Survey.** This activity involves approximately four to five representatives, intermittently placing wooden stakes along a portion of each property to delineate the area described as the "study corridor." Depending upon the length of the proposed study corridor on the property to be surveyed, this activity should take no longer than two days for each property that will be surveyed.

(b) **Environmental Survey.** This activity involves approximately two to three representatives walking within the study corridor, which will be clearly staked, to identify and delineate any vegetative and geological indicators of wetland areas that may be present on the property. The wetlands boundaries will be marked with small colored flags. PennEast representatives will also look for the presence of any threatened or endangered species, if a suspected habitat is within the staked area. Depending on the length of the proposed route of the pipeline on the property being surveyed, this activity should take no longer than three days for each property that will be surveyed.

(c) **Cultural Resources Survey.** This activity involves two to four representatives walking within the staked study corridor to identify any indicators of potential archaeological resources. If such a site is suspected, then the Archeologists would return to that location with spade shovels and perform a limited excavation of the test hole that would measure approximately 2x2 feet square and approximately 2-3 feet deep. Any area that is excavated for this type of survey will be restored by PennEast to a condition consistent with its condition prior to the excavation. Depending on the length of the proposed route of the pipeline on the property being surveyed, the archaeological walkover will take less than one day. If a limited archaeological excavation is necessary, it should take no longer than two days, weather permitting.

During any survey work, no trees over 2 inches in diameter or timber will be cut down or removed from any property. Small brush, however, may be cut in order for the civil surveyors to obtain a line-of-sight. If any such brush is cut in residential areas, it will be removed from the property by PennEast representatives.