



October 28, 2015

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E., Room 1-A
Washington, D.C. 20426

**Re: PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC – Docket No. CP15-558-000
Motion to Intervene and Comments in Support**

Dear Ms. Bose:

Enclosed for filing is a Motion to Intervene and Comments in Support on behalf of New Jersey Natural Gas Company in the above-captioned proceeding.

Please acknowledge receipt of this submission via electronic medium.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ William P. Scharfenberg

WILLIAM P. SCHARFENBERG
Assistant General Counsel

Enclosures

Cc: Applicant

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC

Docket No. CP15-558-000

**MOTION TO INTERVENE AND COMMENTS IN SUPPORT OF
NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY**

Pursuant to Rules 212 and 214 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s (“FERC” or the “Commission”) Rules of Practice and Procedure,¹ New Jersey Natural Gas Company (“NJNG”) hereby moves to intervene and comment in the above-captioned proceeding concerning the Application² for the PennEast Project filed by PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (“PennEast” or the “Applicant”) on September 24, 2015 to provide up to 1,107,000 dekatherms per day (“Dth/day”) of new natural gas transportation capacity to consumers in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. As a Foundation Shipper under the PennEast Project, NJNG will receive 180,000 Dth/day of the new capacity to be constructed by PennEast, and NJNG urges the Commission to expeditiously approve PennEast’s Application by August 1, 2016, as requested by PennEast. In support thereof, NJNG respectfully states the following:

INTERVENTION

1. All communications with respect to this pleading should be served on the following persons:

Douglas C. Rudd
New Jersey Natural Gas Company
1415 Wyckoff Road
P.O. Box 1464
Wall, New Jersey 07719
Email: dcrudd@njresources.com

William P. Scharfenberg
NJR Service Corporation
1415 Wyckoff Road
P.O. Box 1468
Wall, New Jersey 07719
Email: wscharfenberg@njresources.com

¹ 18 C.F.R. §§ 385.212 and § 385.214 (2015).

² All capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meaning given to them in PennEast’s Application.

2. NJNG, the principal subsidiary of New Jersey Resources Corporation, is a local natural gas distribution utility regulated under the laws of the State of New Jersey. NJNG distributes natural gas and provides transportation services to more than 512,000 retail residential, commercial, industrial and electric generation customers in the State of New Jersey. NJNG is a PennEast Project Foundation Shipper having entered into a precedent agreement with PennEast for 180,000 Dth/day of firm transportation service for a term of 15 years.

3. On September 24, 2015, PennEast filed an Application to construct, own and operate a new natural gas pipeline system comprising of 114 miles of 36-inch diameter mainline transmission pipeline extending from Luzerne County, Pennsylvania to Mercer County, New Jersey, along with associated facilities, with the capacity to transport up to 1,107,000 Dth/day of new natural gas supplies to energy consumers in New Jersey and Pennsylvania markets.

4. As a Foundation Shipper that PennEast will serve with 180,000 Dth/day of firm transportation under the PennEast Project, NJNG is interested in and will be directly affected by the outcome of the instant proceeding.³ NJNG's interests cannot be adequately represented and protected by any other party. Hence, the Commission should grant NJNG permission to intervene in the instant proceeding.

COMMENTS IN SUPPORT

As described in PennEast's Application, through construction, ownership and operation of the PennEast Project, PennEast seeks to provide up to 1,107,000 Dth/day of new firm natural gas transportation capacity from receipt points in the eastern Marcellus region of Pennsylvania to delivery points in the New Jersey and Pennsylvania natural gas-consuming markets, including service to NJNG and the other major local gas distribution companies in New Jersey. PennEast plans to construct the PennEast Project in a manner and on a schedule such that 180,000 Dth/day of needed capacity will be available to NJNG beginning on November 1, 2017. As a New Jersey local gas distribution company,

³ See *id.* at § 385.214(b)(2)(ii)(B).

NJNG has a statutory obligation to provide safe and reliable service to its customers and NJNG's participation in PennEast as a Foundation Shipper is an integral part of its commitment to both its customers and regulators to satisfy that obligation. To meet the November 1, 2017 project in-service date, PennEast requests Commission authorization by August 1, 2016. NJNG has executed a precedent agreement with PennEast for its 180,000 Dth/day of the firm transportation capacity to be constructed under the PennEast Project, and encourages the Commission to expeditiously approve PennEast's Application so that PennEast is able to meet its commitment to NJNG to commence service on or before November 1, 2017.

The PennEast Project is a critical component of NJNG's ongoing efforts to enhance the overall reliability of its system. The new firm transportation service that NJNG will obtain from PennEast will further diversify NJNG's supply portfolio while enhancing the flexibility and reliability with which it serves the over half million homes and businesses within its service territory of New Jersey's Monmouth, Ocean and parts of Burlington, Middlesex and Morris counties. Through PennEast, our customers will directly benefit from access to reliable natural gas supplies that are literally next door, and importantly, among the most abundant and lowest cost natural gas supplies in the country.

The PennEast Project will not only benefit energy consumers, but also will have a positive effect on our local communities. The PennEast Project will create local jobs, particularly during its construction, contribute to state and local tax revenues and increase revenues for local businesses.

By maximizing the access of energy consumers within the New Jersey and Pennsylvania market areas to domestically produced, clean-burning natural gas, the PennEast Project provides significant economic and environmental benefits to the communities that it will serve, while supporting America's push toward a cleaner and more independent energy future.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, NJNG respectfully requests that (i) NJNG be granted permission to intervene as a party to this proceeding with all rights appropriate to that status; and (ii) that for the foregoing reasons, the Commission expeditiously approve the PennEast Project by no later than August 1, 2016 so that PennEast is able to begin serving NJNG and the more than half million homes and business that it serves within the State of New Jersey by November 1, 2017, as planned.

Respectfully submitted,

NJR SERVICE CORPORATION

/s/ William P. Scharfenberg

William P. Scharfenberg, Esq.
Assistant General Counsel
NJR Service Corporation
1415 Wyckoff Road
P.O. Box 1468
Wall, New Jersey 07719
Phone: (732) 938-1134
Fax: (732)-938-1226
E-mail: wscharfenberg@njresources.com

On Behalf of NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY

October 28, 2015
Wall, New Jersey

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document on the Applicant.

Dated at Wall, New Jersey this 28th day of October, 2015.

/s/ William P. Scharfenberg

William P. Scharfenberg, Esq.
Assistant General Counsel
NJR Service Corporation
1415 Wyckoff Road
P.O. Box 1468
Wall, New Jersey 07719
Phone: (732) 938-1134
Fax: (732) 938-1226
E-mail: wscharfenberg@njresources.com