

Web: [www.cbprogress.org](http://www.cbprogress.org)  
Email: [cbpa@epix.net](mailto:cbpa@epix.net)



*Progress Authority*

*One Elizabeth Street, Suite 3 • Towanda, PA 18848*

**ORIGINAL**

Phone: 570.265.0937  
Fax: 570.265.0935

December 8, 2015

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

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SECRETARY OF THE  
COMMISSION  
2015 DEC 21 A 11:56  
FEDERAL ENERGY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Re: PennEast Pipeline Project, Docket No. CP15-558-000

Dear Secretary Bose;

On behalf of the Progress Authority, I'm writing in support of the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. The Progress Authority is an economic development organization serving Pennsylvania's Bradford and Susquehanna counties. These counties are some of Pennsylvania's most prominent shale gas-producing counties.

Pennsylvania is now the country's second largest natural gas-producing state. Through new projects like PennEast, Pennsylvania and its neighboring states of New Jersey and New York can put natural gas to work for their businesses and families. This has been our objective in the Northern Tier.

Thanks to abundant reserves, we've seen new local gas service come to Susquehanna County. This utility invested more than \$9 million, building over 16 miles of main pipelines, to serve new customers. This new infrastructure helped Elk Lake School District receive natural gas service and install four cleaner-burning natural gas boilers. Natural gas is expected to save the district more than \$100,000 annually in energy costs.

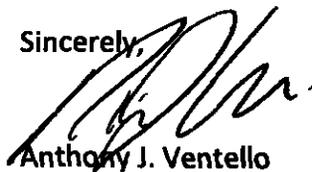
That is just one example of the benefits of new natural gas infrastructure. For additional build-out of natural gas service, greater reliability, and the option to provide additional consumers with the benefits of natural gas service, we need more transmission pipeline capacity, such as that of PennEast.

From the vantage point of the Northern Tier, it's puzzling the mid-Atlantic and northeast are still reliant on natural gas being shipped from the Gulf Coast when we have natural gas selling roughly \$1.50 less than the benchmark Henry Hub price. Sourcing more-affordable local natural

**gas will bolster the local and state economies of Pennsylvania and New Jersey; it will also help the region's electric sector as states look to natural gas to help reduce emissions in conjunction with the EPA's Clean Power Plan.**

**For those and many other reasons, we ask FERC's approval of the PennEast Pipeline - an important next step in the region's energy future.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Ventello', written over the printed name.

**Anthony J. Ventello  
Executive Director  
Progress Authority**

Document Content(s)

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