

Town of Stoughton

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Dec. 31, 2007

Mass. Environmental Police Act Office
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114
ATTN: Mr. William Gage
bill.gage@state.ma.us

Subj: Comments on ENF, Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC

Dear Mr. Gage:

The Town of Stoughton wishes to express its concerns regarding the subject project's ENF. The information in this ENF is not sufficiently detailed to provide specific comments, and we therefor strongly suggest that an Environmental Impact Report be prepared so that each of the affected communities can comment specifically on the impacts. The following comments are preliminary in nature, and the Town reserves the right to provide additional comments during the review of the draft and final environmental impact statements.

Enclosed is an enlarged GIS map of the proposed in Stoughton. On this map, the I-10 Extension is labeled "Primary Line," which, we were told, is the route preferred by Algonquin. The Central Street Alternative is labeled "Alternate Line." A third alternative, described in Sec. 2.4.8 of the report, runs cross country from Turnpike Street, across Glen Echo Pond, and then northwesterly into Canton. Each Alternative presents significant impacts to the Town.

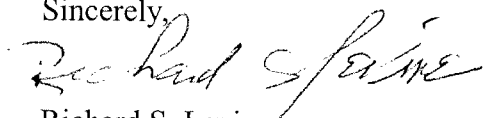
The Primary Line utilizes the N-Star powerline right of way. The proposed pipeline will pass within 400 feet of the Dawe Elementary School located off Lowe Ave. Concern for the safety of the children there in the event of an explosion in the pipeline or other mishap should be obvious. There will be impacts to residential properties along Pine and York Streets. Also, the pipeline enters York Street immediately adjacent to the York Street sewer pumping station. This is a major pumping station, which could have catastrophic impacts if it or its associated piping were disrupted or damaged. Lastly, there is a design on-going for a traffic signal to be installed at the intersection of Washington and York Streets, which may also be impacted.

The Alternate Line (Central St.) is not realistic based on cost, and impacts to traffic, and residential impacts, and the impact on existing utilities in Central Street.

The third alternative, which crosses Glen Echo Pond, appears to be the least disruptive to area residents and infrastructure. The Conservation Commission will have the ability to review this option if more detail becomes available. It is our belief that this alternative should be studied further, and information forwarded to us for review and comment.

Thank you for your consideration of the Town's initial concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard S. Levine". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Richard S. Levine
Chair, Board of Selectmen

Cc: Town Manager
School Dept.
Michael L. Stoltzfus,
TRC Solutions