

Scoping Milford NH  
7.30.2015

My name is Terry Silverman, Chair of Planning Board, Town of Fitzwilliam. Our town is a member of the NH Municipal Pipeline Coalition.

The problem many towns face in dealing with the FERC process regarding the NED project is illustrated by the Town of Fitzwilliam. Our current Masterplan, created under NH RSA 674:1 by the Fitzwilliam Planning Board, was revised in 2012. It was also revised in previous years: 1981, 1995, and 2004. The Masterplan's vision statement "charges us to act as stewards of our natural resources. The town must balance issues of energy, conservation, protection of natural resources and economic development that maintains our rural character and sustains a viable community."

Fitzwilliam Conservation Commission's Open Space Plan's table of important resources ranks the following resources on a scale of 1-7:

1. water, 6.85
2. clean air 6.82
3. protection of wildlife habitat, 6.51
4. protection of wetlands, 6.43
5. peace and quiet from natural areas, 6.35
6. scenic qualities, 6.29
7. land and water for recreation, 6.28
8. historic features, 5.99

These values would be undermined by the construction, maintenance and infrastructure associated with the NED pipeline project.

Chapter 110 of the Land Use Code of the Town of Fitzwilliam governs Blasting. This would not be followed if the project goes forward due to preemption. Chapter 113 of our Code is our Groundwater Protection Overlay District. This would not protect the town if the project goes forward. Chapter 137 covers our Rural Character, including our Night Skies Ordinance. This would not protect the town if the project goes forward.

The Town of Fitzwilliam was incorporated 253 years ago, and having lawfully adopted by vote the highest and best zoning practices, we are unprotected from the affects of this project due to federal preemption. We are a rural community with some of the cleanest air and water in the world, and we strive to protect it.

**I urge you to reject the NED pipeline project.**