Hello, my name is Susan Silverman and I live at 67 East Lake Road in Fitzwilliam, NH

I am speaking today on behalf of the NH Pipeline Coalition of 15 towns. I have been a selectman for 20 years, and Fitzwilliam has been a member of the Coalition since May 2015.

I am concerned about the issues of water resources, plant and animal life, watersheds, and the basic need for clean water that we need to survive. Water is equally important as a resource as fuel, and is integral to communities. Once contaminated, it can have devastating consequences for all, individuals, communities, businesses, and tourism.

DATA/FACTS:
The NED pipeline will cross the following water resources multiple times in its route across NH and potentially compromise:

- Souhegan River, which it will cross six times
- Brooks and streams (22 in 15 towns)
- Aquifers (13, one very large)
- Ponds/lakes (11, largest, Scott Pond, is 134 acres)
- Wetlands (over 27, numerous vernal pools)
- Municipal water systems (serving over 500 people, including the Temple Elementary School)
- Private wells (serving in excess of 600 people)
- Numerous watersheds, including the headwaters of Tully Brook, East Asheulot, Miller River, and Middle Connecticut

QUESTIONS:

- Will individual wells and municipal water systems are tested prior and post construction?
- How will contaminated well water be remediated?
- How will contaminated groundwater be addressed?
- Will the delicate ecosystems of headwaters be impacted? How many? How severely?
- How will rivers, ponds, aquifers, brooks and streams be affected by horizontal drilling? Have these impacts been studied and quantified?
- Rivers/Brook/Stream banks/riparian zones often contain wetlands that can be severely impacted via disturbance.
    - How will this disturbance be minimized and mitigated?
    - These banks need to be restored to pre-construction conditions

        - Specialists need to be used for this work, not general contractors, using the most current and site-specific methods.
    - How would the release of natural gas or product affect water ecosystems, including wetlands and groundwater?
    - How big of an area could be affected and how many people would be affected?
    - How would you compensate or mitigate for an accidental release?
- Wetlands
    - Construction activities can impact wetland functions, especially through disturbances to vegetation and soils. What will be done to mitigate these affects?
    - Wildlife are dependent on wetlands can also be negatively impacted through loss of habitats. What will be done to mitigate this impact?
    - Permanent loss of wetlands will result when those lands are replaced with fill. What will be done to alleviate this impact?
    - Will herbicides be used at any point in the project? What will be done to keep these from harming animals, fish, reptiles or humans?
    - Will drilling fluid be used at any point in the project? How will its harmful affects be mitigated?
- Aquifers:
    - How would the aquifers along the route be impacted by construction? Have the impacts been studied and quantified?
    - How would these impacts be minimized or mitigated?
    - How would various conservation restrictions be addressed?

CONCLUSION:

Given the nature of the land in southwestern NH, the amount of water resources (rivers, wetlands, aquifers, wells) it is apparent that the proposed route is arbitrary and does not take into account the rural character and the eco-structures involved. The appropriateness of this proposal is economically unviable for both Kinder Morgan and the affected communities. The affected waters are a sustaining force for each community and the disruption of the proposed pipeline will forever change the character and quality of the region. We are geographically quite small and the intimate nature of our region further exacerbates the threat this project poses. We respectfully request that this project be denied. If it is not denied, then we request that extensive, complete and comprehensive environmental impact studies be done by the applicant on the impacts to **all** of our water resources.