

Subject: re: millennium pipeline

Resent-From: Millennium.Comments@noaa.gov

Date: Wed, 25 Sep 2002 08:20:13 EDT

From: <LJMSW@aol.com>

To: millennium.comments@noaa.gov

I am writing to voice my STRONG opposition to the Millennium Pipeline as it relates to the New York State Coastal Zone Management Program.

This project is slated to cross the Hudson River at a key estuary noted in the state coastal management program. The Haverstraw Bay is a brackish water sanctuary for numerous spawning fish including the endangered short nosed sturgeon. To allow the Hudson River to be dredged and then blasted for 400 feet of coast line- is unconscionable given the knowledge we have of the fragility of the area. In addition, the shore line of the Haverstraw Bay is home to at least one pair of nesting Bald Eagles- one of only six nesting pairs south of Albany. The abundance of fish and natural shoreline (it is a county park on the Westchester side) provide the Eagles with a perfect habitat.

All of this is set to be destroyed for the profits of one privately held company who is out for their own profits.

Why is it that we study and then create such documents as the "Coastal Zone Management Program"? Is it not to study the resources and needs of an area? Are we not then supposed to guide our building and environmental practices accordingly?

There are a number of pipelines that ALREADY cross the Hudson River in our area. Would it not make sense, with respect to the Coastal Zone Management Program, to insist that a pipeline that is already in place.....be Upgraded and utilized to assist in the Millennium Pipeline project?

Just because a company requests something....does not mean that we have to grant it - on exactly their terms. It would make sense to me, that the guidelines of our state CZMP would restrict a new destructive pipeline from entering an already fragile water system.

PLEASE make the right choice. The time is NOW for agencies and politicians to stand up for our principles and support the protection of our natural resources. It is our job to guide and direct companies to operate in ways that are both profitable AND beneficial to our environment.

URGE the Columbia Gas Co. to work WITH the pipelines already in place- which will need to be upgraded in the future anyway.....causing more construction to take place in the waters.

Saying yes to this project crossing the Hudson is a sure sign that government is not doing it's job to help our people and lands.

Sincerely,
lisa moir
44 sunset lane
croton ny 10520
914-271-1035

Subject: Nov. 13 Public Hearing for the Millennium Pipeline Consistency Appeal
Resent-From: GCOS.Inquiries@noaa.gov
Date: Tue, 1 Oct 2002 08:59:35 -0400
From: <d.l.glaser@att.net>
Organization: Beadangled.com
To: <millennium.comments@noaa.gov>
CC: <gcoss.inquiries@noaa.gov>

Mr. Karl Gleaves
Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services
1305 East-West Highway
SSMC 4, Room 611
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Re: The November 13 Public Hearing for the Millennium Pipeline Consistency Appeal

Dear Mr. Gleaves,

I write on behalf of the United Communities of Westchester (UCW), a non-partisan group composed of citizens in communities across Westchester County who are opposed to the certified route of the Millennium Pipeline project across the Hudson River and through Westchester County, New York.

We respectfully request your consideration of our suggestions regarding the time, format and agenda at the November 13th public hearing in Tarrytown, New York.

- Time – Please do not begin the meeting before 7:00 p.m. to accommodate the working citizens of the County.
- Format – Please keep in mind that a significant purpose of the meeting is to listen to the citizens of Westchester County who have grave concerns about this pipeline route as it relates to the Coastal Zone. If all parties and elected officials plan to give long presentations, it is our concern that citizens will become frustrated if they are not given a chance to speak at a reasonable hour.
- Agenda – Please consider adding the United Communities of Westchester to the formal agenda. We will abide by the time limitations that are set for all parties.

Thank you for considering our requests. If you have further questions, please contact Dani Glaser at 914-736-1322.

Sincerely,

Dani Glaser
On behalf of the United Communities of Westchester
14 Westminster Drive
Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520

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Subject: (no subject)

Resent-From: GCOS.Inquiries@noaa.gov

Date: Thu, 10 Oct 2002 16:16:33 EDT

From: <Paq0264@aol.com>

To: millennium.comments@noaa.gov

CC: gcos.inquiries@noaa.gov

Dear Secretary Evans,

I am writing in support of the New York State Department of State decision on the Millennium Pipeline project that ruled the project inconsistent with the Coastal Zone Management Act. This ruling properly recognized the devastating impacts of the project to the Hudson River and the New York City Watershed. You should not impinge on State's rights by overriding this well thought out decision. This past spring, the Administration announced a plan to buy out oil drilling leases in Florida based on a policy to protect the State's coastal zone. The same courtesy should be extended to the Governor and State of New York. The Secretary of Commerce should not override the New York State decision. In addition to the devastating impact on the Hudson River, the Millennium project as currently planned seriously undermines our national security by building the pipeline in the midst of critical infrastructure that has never undergone a site study after 9/11. The pipeline would be built: within 1.6 miles of the Indian Point Nuclear Facility (placing it within the 10-mile evacuation zone) within feet of the Con Edison transmission towers that supply 40% of New York City and Westchester's electricity 1.6 miles from the Algonquin Pipeline through the New Croton Reservoir that provides drinking water to millions of New York City and Westchester residents within 2-feet of the Bryn Mawr Siphon in Yonkers that supplies 40% of New York City's drinking water. As I write, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection is investing \$70 million dollars to rapidly install anti-terrorism measures to the New York City watershed. This protection is being added because New York City recognizes the vulnerability of this system and after extensive study has determined that this is necessary even in this fiscally constrained environment. We should not add additional risk to the vulnerable watershed by placing a gas pipeline through the heart of a system that supplies drinking water for millions. There are alternatives to this destructive route through the Hudson River and Westchester County. For example, the Tennessee Gas Pipeline, a subsidiary of El Paso Corporation, plans to file an application with FERC by the end of 2002 that provides 500,000 Dth/d to the Northeast region and New York City.* Your agency has had an open invitation since May from the Westchester County Executive to hold a public hearing regarding the Millennium Pipeline administrative appeal in Westchester County. Your decision to wait until after the November election has sent a negative message to the citizens of Westchester County, one of protecting politicians, not citizens. As a courtesy to the working citizens of Westchester County, please do not begin the November 13th hearing before 7:00 p.m. We look forward to the opportunity to express our concerns about this project at the hearing. We sincerely hope that you will listen on that evening and truly judge this appeal based on the merits.

Sincerely,
Martin Vuksanaj

Subject: Millennium Pipeline RE: Haverstraw Bay crossing

Resent-From: Millennium.Comments@noaa.gov

Date: Mon, 28 Oct 2002 18:17:58 -0500

From: "charleskane" <zenith@bestweb.net>

To: <millennium.comments@noaa.gov>

CC: "Leo Wiegman,trustee" <trusteew@bestweb.net>, <christian_semonsens@dc.kirkland.com>, <dmccarthy@mfdds.com>, <drgreg412@aol.com>, "Frances E Allen" <franalle@us.ibm.com>, "Georgianna Grant" <grantgk@bestweb.net>, <rherbek@bestweb.net>

Dear NOAA,

Please review the attached word document. This document is written as information relative to the Millennium pipe line's proposal to cross Haverstraw Bay, an area designated as Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat by New York State. The attached information illustrates the peculiar nature of the Hudson Rivers flushing rate, and the adverse impacts dredging of Haverstraw Bay may have on the Bays benthic communities. As a nursery for important northeast coastal fishes and home of the shortnose sturgeon, these valuable benthic communities play a critical role in supporting young of the year Atlantic Coast species.

Charles Kane, Chairman, Village of Croton Water Control Commission
Member, Village of Croton Waterfront Advisory Committee

Leo Wiegman, Liasion to Village of Croton Water Control Commission
Trustee, Village of Croton

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National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Agency

October 30, 2002

Re: Millennium Pipeline Consistency Review

Dear NOAA:

We write to inform the Agency about the peculiar nature of the Hudson's flushing rate. The low flush rate will have adverse impacts in prolonging any disturbance from the cross-river trenching, dredging, and blasting proposed by Millennium in Haverstraw Bay, as opposed to an alternative navigation channel dredging procedure or other alternative route.

During low runoff conditions from upstate drainage basins, as typically occurs during the fall season, the flushing rate will be much slower than during spring runoff conditions. At this time of year freshwater flow is usually only a small fraction of the water moving past any given point in the river, most of the flow is water sloshed back and forth by tidal currents. Tidal inflow may be > 10 times that of freshwater outflow. Combined with the above action, more dense ocean salt water intruding with an incoming tide will travel close to the river bottom. Fresh flows from upstate will override the denser salt intrusion creating the wedge shaped salt front. Friction between the layers of fresh and salt water create turbulence, mixing the two currents. This dynamic action will also create stratification or layering in Haverstraw Bay depending on current flows. The productivity of the Bay depends on the friction between the layers creating turbulence which circulates nutrients upward to well-lit surface areas where algae and planktons grow to great abundance feeding young of the year Atlantic fishes.

The importance of Haverstraw Bay as a nursery for North Atlantic fish species is directly related to the phytoplankton (algae) that is constantly stirred and trapped in the Bay by tidal action (nutrient trap). At the lowest end of the Bay food web, diverse bottom dwelling detritivores, numerous in number, keep the energy and nutrients of the Bay's detritus circulating in the Bay. Production by bacteria alone (the storing of chemical energy) is four times that of algae.

The burial of these lowest forms of Bay life by siltation, related to dredging, and blasting, may interrupt the food web that exists in Haverstraw Bay. As information, if a 2"x10" piece of lumber marked with "Albany Beef" on it's pointed prow were to be tossed into the Hudson at the Troy Dam, an estimated 126 days will pass before the craft Albany Beef travels the 153 miles downstream to the Battery at Manhattan. This is the approximate flushing rate of the Hudson.

If not mitigated, tidal action back and forth every six hours, may deposit silt as a flour sifter will deposit flour in a bowl, the entire length of the bay and beyond, exacerbated by turbulence along the salt wedge. For these reasons we are greatly concerned about the amount of suspension of construction related matter in the waters of Haverstraw Bay.

Charles Kane
Chairman, Village of Croton-on-Hudson Water Control Commission
Member, Village of Croton-on-Hudson Waterfront Advisory Committee

Leo Wiegman
Trustee, Village of Croton-on-Hudson N.Y

Subject: Approve the millennium pipeline
Resent-From: Millennium.Comments@noaa.gov
Date: Thu, 31 Oct 2002 08:17:52 -0600
From: William R Byrd <bill@your-rcp.com>
To: "Millennium.comments@noaa.gov" <Millennium.comments@noaa.gov>

Pipelines by their nature tend to impact one geographic area, while serving another geographic area. If everyone who was IMPACTED by a pipeline were able to stop it, there would be no pipelines built. This would be a great disservice to the country, since pipelines are often the cheapest and safest form of energy transportation. It is important that the federal government fulfill its responsibilities to ensure that no state acts to restrain trade across its borders, which is exactly what the State of New York has done. Take action to approve the Millennium Pipeline.

Yours,

W. R. (Bill) Byrd, PE

President

RCP Inc.

713-655-8080

wrbyrd@your-rcp.com

www.your-rcp.com

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Subject: Amicus briefs
Resent-From: GCOS.Inquiries@noaa.gov
Date: Fri, 1 Nov 2002 06:02:53 -0500
From: "Glaser" <d.l.glaser@worldnet.att.net>
Organization: Beadangled.com
To: <millennium.comments@noaa.gov>, <gcos.inquiries@noaa.gov>
CC: "Geri Shapiro" <gerishapiro@aol.com>, "Jean Bordewich" <schumer@valstar.net>, "Charlie Fox" <charles.fox@chamber.state.ny.us>

Dear DOC,

As November 13th approaches, the public and officials are trying to get up to speed on all of the briefs so they can properly comment at the hearing.

It is not fair that the amicus briefs have not yet been posted, not to mention any of the exhibits (including DOS).

Please post this information as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Dani Glaser
On behalf of the United Communities of Westchester
14 Westminster Drive
Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520
914-736-1322

cc:
Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton
Senator Charles Schumer
Governor George Pataki

Subject: millennium pipeline

Resent-From: Millennium.Comments@noaa.gov

Date: Fri, 1 Nov 2002 14:08:55 -0500

From: "Arlie Hubbard" <arlie.hubbard@verizon.net>

To: <millennium.comments@noaa.gov>

The Honorable Donald L. Evans

Secretary

U.S. Department of Commerce

Room 5854

14th & Constitution Ave. NW

Washington, DC 20230

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Dear Secretary Evans:

Please do not allow United States energy security to be undermined by the "Not In My Back Yard" movement.

The US Commerce Department is now considering an appeal by the Millennium Pipeline, a project that offers to bring significant new supplies of clean energy to the Northeast and help ease our dependence on imported energy.

While the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has deemed this project in the public interest, a small and well-funded "Not In My Backyard" group has decided that their own convenience is more important than making sure we have an adequate energy supply. They make no secret about it – the group even named itself "Not Under My Backyard (NUMB)"

Please review the facts and merits of this appeal. Don't allow sensible energy policy to be derailed by political pressure, fear and intimidation. This project fits with the Bush Administration's energy policy and it should proceed.

Subject: please help

Resent-From: Millennium.Comments@noaa.gov

Date: Fri, 1 Nov 2002 18:11:36 -0500

From: "Andrea L. Archer" <digbyhsif@msn.com>

To: <millennium.comments@noaa.gov>

The Honorable Donald L. Evans Secretary<?xml:namespace prefix = st1 ns = "urn:schemas-microsoft-com:office:smarttags" />

U.S. Department of Commerce

Room 5854

14th & Constitution Ave. NW

Washington, DC 20230

<?xml:namespace prefix = o ns = "urn:schemas-microsoft-com:office:office" />

Dear Secretary Evans:

I am writing to ask for your support in strengthening our national energy security. Your department is now considering an appeal by the Millennium Pipeline. This proposal has been exhaustively studied for more than four years by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, which ruled that this energy project is in the public interest. When completed, it will provide large new supplies of clean energy for heating and power generation.

Sadly, a small group of wealthy people has decided to push the Millennium pipeline into somebody else's backyard, and they have used political intimidation and fear tactics to twist the facts about this project.

I ask you to please review this appeal based on the facts. Don't allow our nation's energy policy to be dictated by the selfish interests of a few. Protect our energy security by allowing this project to be completed.

Most sincerely concerned,

Andrea Archer