



Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 60

WESTCHESTER PUTNAM COUNTIES HEAVY & HIGHWAY

(A.F. of L. - C.I.O.)

November 1, 2002



CARLOS ASCENCAO
Business Manager

The Honorable Donald Evans, Secretary
United States Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

DAVID MILLER
President

Dear Secretary Evans:

AUGUSTO ROSA
Vice President

On behalf of Laborers' Local No. 60, I am writing you to carefully review the appeal of the Millennium Pipeline Project that is now pending before the Department of Commerce and support the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's decision that this is an acceptable and needed energy project.

RICHARD BERARDO
Secretary-Treasurer

While representatives of our union will attend the November 13th hearing in Tarrytown, New York, in support of the Millennium appeal, I wanted our support to be noted in the written record as well.

ANTHONY ASCENCAO
Recording Secretary

The energy needs of our region are too critical to be diminished by becoming politicized, nor should they become secondary to a "not-in-my-backyard" pressure campaign.

It is important to note that in addition to the FERC, key agencies, including National Marine Fisheries, the Environmental Protection Agency and even New York's own Department of Environmental Conservation, have determined that Millennium's proposed crossing of the Hudson River can be completed in an environmentally-acceptable manner.

Our union members who will be building the pipeline live and work in communities along the proposed route. They will make sure that the pipeline is built safely and that the local environment is protected.

Completion of this project means the addition of \$700 million in critical energy infrastructure for New York, jobs for thousands of workers and increased energy independence.

We urge you to weigh the facts and take appropriate action to allow Millennium's appeal to be successfully resolved.

Sincerely,

Carlos Ascencao
Business Manager

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pronged attack must be considered. Should terrorists attack the vulnerable spent radioactive fuel pools and at the same time cause a pipeline explosion to take place off of the Taconic State Parkway near the Briarcliff Manor schools, not only would our children be devastated and much of New York City be plunged into darkness and chaos, one of the major evacuation routes for an irradiated nuclear facility would be obliterated in a time of nuclear emergency.

Just two short years ago this would have seemed science-fiction or the product of a deranged imagination. Unfortunately, not now.

FERC failed woefully in its obligation to take these considerations into account and we can only hope that this Department is more security minded. We are now forewarned. Each and every government official now taking part in these decisions should well understand and carefully consider how they will be judged in the annals of history. Will they be appreciated for having risen to the occasion in protecting the safety and well-being of its citizens, or will they be blamed for having been the architects, if not the engineers, of such obvious and threatened disaster?

I appeal to those in the audience to continue to keep up the pressure on their elected officials. Appointed officials serve at the pleasure of our elected officials. Our elected officials serve us at our pleasure and are

retired upon our displeasure by the electoral process. Accordingly, those of us here today will, ultimately, be the final court of appeals on these issues of such local and national urgency. Continue to make your voice heard. Thank you.

Bertram Rechtschaffer, DDS
5 Rocky Lane
Garrison, NY 10520

My name is Bert Rechtschaffer .I lived and practiced Dentistry in Croton for 35 years.

When I first moved to Croton on 1965, Con-Edison proposed a pump-storage plant at Storm King Mountain which is up the river in Cornwall. This was an ecological and environmental disaster in the making as well as a physical one.

The water flowing down the mountain would destroy the prime breeding grounds for Striped Bass in the Mid Atlantic Coast plus the plant would be built on an area known as the Ramapo fault.

Con-Ed hired so-called experts to testify for the safety of the physical plant and that no harm would ensue to the ecology of the river. Obviously they had an axe to grind and they sure were not to say anything to cast any doubts to the contrary.

So much for experts testifying for a utility company.

Public hearings were held, where people like you and me expressed their concern and the plan was defeated. Hopefully this hearing will not be just a "dog and pony show" to placate Crotonites who are concerned about the environment and their safety.

The millenium pipeline passing close to homes of Croton residents speaks for itself in the inherent potential danger it possesses.

In these times of concern with national security this poses another potential problem having this run through a populated area.

The pipeline does not belong running through Croton . Where it should go I cannot even speculate but it does not belong here.

Department of Commerce members, thank you for allowing me this brief opportunity to address you in opposition to the Millennium Pipeline project. I would like to thank the New York Department of State and Gov. George Pataki for their tireless efforts in protecting the citizens of this state.

I want to talk about children, families, and safety in this new world we find ourselves in. One fraught with unspeakable dangers from terrorism, affecting the well-being, health, safety, and viability of the coastal zone .

With regard to the consistency requirements to be considered, there are a multitude of alternatives, both in approved projects and other proposed projects. This project furthers no national interest in a significant and substantial manner. In fact, this project contravenes our primary national interests which were made clear by our recent elections, which are national security, homeland defense, and protection against terrorism. This project does not help us reduce American dependence on foreign sources of energy. Rather, this project, becomes an inviting, lucrative, and highly accessible target for those who have proven themselves fanatically bent on causing us great destruction.

On September 18, 2001, the Associated Press reported that "the government is ordering increased security for America's energy systems, concerned that nuclear plants, power lines, hydroelectric dams and nearly