

I am here today to ask that the Secretary of Commerce NOT override the Secretary of States decision on the Millennium Pipeline. There exist many, many reasons why this route is too destructive and too damaging. The item I would like to address is the evacuation in the event of an Indian Point emergency.

As I am sure you are aware, Millennium Pipeline enters Westchester County 1.6 miles from the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant. The pipeline route in question runs through the middle of the 10-mile evacuation zone. It crosses more than a dozen secondary roads and two major arteries being used for the evacuation of the citizens living and working within this area. This pipeline route cuts through both Rtes 9/9A and the Taconic Parkway.

The radiological emergency preparedness plan – REPP to those of us who live in the area, is already very controversial. In fact, most of us doubt its validity. Add the installation of the Millennium Pipeline during an Indian Point emergency and you can multiply the chaos and casualties a thousand times.

In fact, a few strategically placed explosives during a terrorist attack could effectively “cut-off” the escape route for a majority of the people trying to evacuate the area.

Millennium’s 9/9A alternative route also affected the designated Indian Point Evacuation route. It was one of the very valid reasons for rejecting that route. No less should be expected of this route. In it’s evaluation FERC has required that Millennium consult with and assist FEMA in the development of a Contingency Plan for the emergency evacuation route. Can you imagine the conversations during chaos, confusion and panic? “Sorry Dear, we turn right for Plan A and left for Plan B. Can you imagine public notification – sorry folks, cancel Plan A, Millennium is installing, use Plan B.

To those of us who live in the area the scenario is quite comical, however this is not funny. In fact, in light of the September 11<sup>th</sup> disaster, and the much-publicized intent of certain terrorist organizations to attack gas pipelines and nuclear power plants, this route should be immediately disqualified and the Department of States decision should be upheld.

Thank you for your time.

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