

**WEYMOUTH CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
RECORD OF MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

**Wednesday, May 25, 2016, 6:00 p.m.  
Weymouth High School, Mary Jo Livingstone Humanities Center  
1 Wildcat Way, Weymouth, MA**

**Present:** Steve DeGabriele, Chairman  
Tom Tanner, Vice Chairman  
George Loring, Commissioner  
John Reilly, Commissioner  
Scott Dowd, Commissioner and Clerk

**Also Present:** Mary Ellen Schloss, Conservation Administrator

*The following is part of the hearing held on May 25, 2016. A full-length video recording of this meeting can be found at <http://weymouth.tv/wetc-11-full-tv-schedule>, under Video on Demand/Other Government, for one year from date of meeting.*

Chairman DeGabriele called the May 25, 2016 Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Weymouth High School Humanities Center. He introduced the members and administrator and informed those present of the procedures for the hearing. He stated that, as the applicant has declined to make an initial presentation regarding additional information requested since the April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Commission would proceed.

**Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC – Notice of Intent, Public Hearing – Continued**  
**6 Bridge Street**  
**Map 6, Block 63, Lot 1**  
**DEP File # 81-1170**  
***Natural Gas Compressor Station***

*On a motion made by Commissioner Tanner, seconded by Commissioner Loring, the Commission voted 5-0-0 to re-open the public hearing.*

Rob Stevens, a Principal Planner with the City of Quincy appeared before the Commission saying the City of Quincy has a lot of concerns regarding this proposal. He said there is a small piece of Quincy in North Weymouth (00 Washington St., ID number 2001-A-3) at the tip of the peninsula. Tax and water bills are being paid by Calpine, owner of the property, to the City of Quincy. He said the Quincy Conservation Commission (Con Comm) was not notified as an abutter, as section (H)(2) of the Weymouth Wetlands Protection Ordinance requires, and therefore asked that the project be denied. He also said two neighborhoods in Quincy will be affected and they have not been notified; he feels Quincy Con Comm should have an NOI submitted to them.

*Later during the hearing, Atty. Jon Bonsall, attorney for Spectra Energy, rose to say that he has receipts for both the NOI and the abutter notification letter for the April 6, 2016 meeting signed by the Quincy Mayor's office and the Quincy Conservation Commission.*

Mike Tyrell, of Algonquin Gas, said all land to be acquired is in Weymouth and no Quincy land will be impacted, but he will confirm if an NOI was sent to Quincy.

Cmmr. DeGabriele said he feels impact to Quincy should be determined by the City of Quincy and not Weymouth Con Comm.

Ms. Schloss reviewed the applicant's response of May 10, 2016 which responded to the Weymouth Conservation Commission's April 13, 2016 request for information.

**Question 1, 4/6/16 Power Point Presentation:** was provided by email.

**Question 2, Soil and Groundwater Contamination:**

Ms. Schloss asked for a summary of data from Resource Report 8 (regarding contaminants and contaminant levels) which was considered 'confidential'.

Kelly Race, TRC, is the Licensed Site Professional (LSP) for the project; she is also a geologist. She has been an LSP since the early 90's and has been on the LSP board "since the early days".

Metals & PAHs:

- Arsenic: Ms. Race explained that arsenic is associated with site fill material. Arsenic concentrations in the fill are above Reportable Concentrations (RC). The Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) has some exemptions for arsenic associated with coal ash fill, dating back to the 90's, because it is so widespread. Regulatory closure for the site was achieved even though there were some levels of contamination.
- Beryllium was found to be 2-3 ppm in 1997 when the standard at the time was 0.7 ppm; today's standard is 90 ppm (well above levels found).
- Total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH): concentrations were at a non-detect level, 40-49 ppb (well below the standard at the time, 500 ppb). This was in the May 10 submittal.
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) - (a product that results from particles falling from the sky as a result of smoke stacks): low levels were found throughout the site. This data was included in the May 10<sup>th</sup> submittal.
- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs): in field they use a photo ionization detector (PID); they measured for this during geotech borings and did not find any VOCs.
- Leachability of metals: they tested pH in the stormwater basin areas and found a normal pH (a low pH could possibly leach, but this is normal).

Ms. Race explained the obligation for DEP notification if they find something different than what was historically identified at the site.

Soil and Groundwater Management Plan:

- Groundwater elevation averages around 10 ft. below grade, but it might be higher in higher tides (but they are not expecting shallower than 8 ft.).
- Stormwater and pipeline are the two areas of excavation; these areas are proposed to be at 7 ft. below grade.

- Plan shows how they will handle contaminated and non-contaminated groundwater, if encountered.

Cmmr. Tanner asked what the tide level was when the measurements were taken.

Ms. Race stated that the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP) would allow the groundwater to be infiltrated back into the ground near where it was removed, provided there is no visible contamination. She said they could manage construction in these areas outside the high tides. If they can't recharge it, they will put it in a "frac tank", have it tested and taken off-site; this applies to fresh and sea water.

### **Question 3, Potential Wet Deposition of Airborne Contaminates:**

David Cotter, Trinity Consultants, (air quality consultant for the project) said that because methane wants to be a gas, it wouldn't be found in water, so they wouldn't be including methane in the air modeling. He said methane is different than BTEX (benzene, toluene, ethyl-benzene and xylene) and is highly volatile.

He said, regarding a blowdown, they assumed a 3 minute release event and a 15 minute exposure.

#### Compressor station vs. pipeline blowdowns

Bill Welch, of Spectra Energy, said it would only be a station blowdown, not a pipeline blowdown, and the worst case would be 3 minutes to vent the gas. He said there are valves to isolate the pipeline.

Terry Doyle, of Spectra, said that if the existing pipeline needs to be worked on, there could be a pipeline blowdown but only for maintenance and it is planned. He said the last time there was one was about 7 years ago and they are very infrequent.

Mr. Tyrell said "We are only looking at the compressor."

Mr. Doyle said they didn't address pipeline emissions because they hadn't been asked to.

Mr. Cotter referred to the estimated 21% projected increase in the wet deposition rate of BTEX compounds due to construction of Access Northeast. He said that he didn't do the modeling so it may not be a direct comparison, but 21% of very small numbers, is still extremely small numbers.

### **Question 4, Noise and Vibration:**

Ms. Schloss said there were no follow-up questions to Question 4.

### **Question 5, Environmental Assessment (EA):**

Mr. Tyrell responded to question 5(a)(i) regarding the project's proximity to coastal resource areas:

- They have pulled back activity from the river and are not near the river in terms of sedimentation potential.
- They have designed a state-of-the-art stormwater control procedure in respect to water quality.
- They feel there will be no impact to Fore River or resources in the Fore River.

Cmmr. Dowd said he is concerned about vibration from the pipeline in regards to migratory fish and whether they determine to enter (the area) or not. Mr. Tyrell said he feels vibrations can't go beyond the rock that encloses the pipeline (at a depth of 80+ feet below river bottom) to reach the surface of the water.

Mr. Cotter responded to the Air Quality questions: *5(a)(ii)(a) "What levels are predicted if the additional compressor for the ANE project is constructed? How close to exceeding air quality standards?"*

- He said the project has a much smaller portion of the impact than the ambient background levels. (They use DEP monitoring data for the background level comparisons.)
- They won't know about the impact of the Access Northeast Project (ANE) until they model it.

He also responded to *5(b) "Why aren't (CO or SO2) levels shown for the Weymouth compressor station and will these numbers be provided?"*

- He said Weymouth levels were compared to a Significant Impact Level (SIL). If the results are below the SIL then further analysis is not required, per the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

#### **Question 6, Site Selection and Alternatives:**

**No discussion.**

#### **Question 7, Schedule for Filing of Outstanding Certificates of Compliance (COC):**

Cmmr. DeGabriele said he thought the schedule for filing for COC's was reasonable.

#### Safety Issues

Cmmr. DeGabriele asked:

- What systems are in place for emergencies?
- What information is available regarding the 4/29 Salem Township, PA explosion?
- For additional information on remote monitoring.

Jim Luskay, Algonquin Gas, told the Commission that in regards to response and remote monitoring in an emergency shutdown:

#### For the compressor station:

- There is an emergency shutdown system consisting of gas detection equipment and flame detection equipment.
- The station is isolated with valves that are automatically operated.

- Gas in the station and in connecting pipes is vented to atmosphere and evacuation occurs within 3 minutes of blowdown.
- This system is tested regularly.
- A physical test is done once per year at the facility.

For the existing pipeline:

- Has meter station and valves.
- There are also remotely controlled valves on the pipeline.
- If they see a sudden or significant drop in pressure, they will get an alarm and will be able to remotely isolate that section of pipe.
- About 8/10 of a mile of pipe would be isolated if there was an issue.
- Would send personnel located in the area to the site, typically ½ hour response time to get there, but this would be after the valves were automatically closed.

Regarding 4/29 Salem Township Mr. Luskay said:

- Incident is under investigation by Federal DOT.
- Initial assessment implies corrosion on the welds. Possible flaw in coating material. Pipe has been sent to lab for analysis.
- So far, air quality samples have not detected any contaminants related to the incident.

Cmmr. DeGabriele read from a news report and discussed his concerns. He said the media reported that the explosion:

- Created a 12-foot deep, 1500 square foot hole and scorched 40 acres.
- Caused a 24.5 ft. section of 30" diameter pipe to land 100 ft. away.
- Left a 26 year old man with 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns over 75% of his body.

He then said:

- The original NOI proposed property that is a Conservation Restriction (CR) area and if one were to extrapolate the PA incident to the Weymouth CR nearby, it would have scorched the entire area that people are encouraged to use as a public open space.
- Pipeline monitoring inspections do not seem to have been adequate.
- He reviewed a comment letter from Chet Clem which had links to locations of compressor station accidents. It showed there has been at least one explosion every year from 2012 to the present.
- All this causes him great pause. Can we impose sufficient conditions to make this project safe enough, especially as it is next to a public CR area?

Cmmr. Dowd asked in what type of area was the PA explosion? Mr. Luskay replied that it was in rural farm land.

Cmmr. Dowd responded that, in contrast, the Weymouth location has salt spray all over the place and commented that this area would be more conducive, and particularly vulnerable, to this type of corrosion.

Mr. Luskay stated that off-shore gas rigs with similar equipment have a coating for salt water corrosion.

Cmmr. Loring asked what happens if there is a gas tanker coming into the river and traffic is tied up at the bridge; Mr. Luskay said he wasn't going to speculate.

Atty. Bonsall said a single incident is unacceptable adding that USDOT has jurisdiction over the interstate pipeline and safety of the facility doesn't not fall under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission.

Cmmr. DeGabriele stated that he didn't agree with that statement saying that the facility was clearly within Con Comm jurisdiction in regards to consequences to the environment. He cited a pending case regarding a proposed fine of \$239,200 from May 2014 where it is alleged that Spectra failed to administer alcohol and drug testing following a fire and accidental leak of 1000 cubic ft. of gas caused \$186,437.00 worth of property damage.

Cmmr. DeGabriele asked about impacts to the adjacent CR area. He stated that aesthetics and recreation are relevant to the Weymouth Ordinance and are relevant to the King's Cove parcel. He asked about noise and odor (mercaptan) impacts to the CR area.

Mr. Luskay said the station is designed for a noise limit of 55 dB at the nearest receptor. He said a 3-4 minute period of blowdown would not create "a thunderous noise" and the mercaptan may linger, depending upon the weather. He said they have done a noise analysis and they comply with state and FERC regulations.

Mr. Tyrell said there is a noise section in the EA.

Ms. Schloss asked if they know what the peak noise level would be; Mr. Tyrell responded that they do not know, that it would need to be checked.

Mr. Welch said they are below the background ambient noise. The blowdown silencer would reduce the noise to 55-60 dB at 300 feet.

**Public comments:**

°Weymouth's Mayor Hedlund spoke about his letter of 5/25/16 and material submitted:

- 200 pages of material and comments have been provided.
- Copies of letters written to regulatory entities.
- Highlights of the mayor's and constituents' opposition to the siting of the natural gas compressor station and their urging for denial of the OOC.
- Legal resources are being expended to support Con Comm's decision and to protect the citizens of Weymouth.
- Has asked for FERC to extend comment period for ANE at least 45 days.

Cmmr. DeGabriele said that the Mayor's May 25<sup>th</sup> letter discusses Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage. He then asked about severe weather causing total facility inundation; what would prompt a shutdown and would a shutdown be done remotely?

Mr. Luskay said that they monitor the weather and, if there should be an event, they would be able to shut it down remotely and vent the gas. He said a response team comprised of the regional office in Waltham and members from the Houston office has been established.

Cmmr. Tanner asked about rapidity of response; Mr. Luskay said they have local personnel to address facility issues before storms arrive.

Mayor Hedlund's letter raised the point that the project would be exempt from Riverfront standards. Cmmr. DeGabriele asked if the project would be exempt if the Chapter 91 license is issued.

Ralph Child, attorney handling Chapter 91 licensing, said it is common for permitting to proceed concurrently. He said normally Con Comm acts first, conditional on the waterways license being obtained. DEP doesn't want to issue a Chapter 91 license until Con Comm has issued the Order of Conditions (OOC) and they know if there will be an appeal.

Cmmr. DeGabriele then read from testimony given at the 4/06/2016 hearing:

Rep. James Murphy's statement points out that Weymouth's ordinance permits Con Comm the ability to deny a permit based on "failure to avoid or prevent unacceptable significant or cumulative effects upon the resource area protected by this ordinance and where no conditions are adequate to protect those values".

Public comments from the audience continued:

◦Margaret Bellafiore, 49 Caldwell Street:

- Sec. 2.10.3 states "no wetlands will be affected".
- Concerned about soil make-up and the Edgar Power Plant PCBs, arsenic (a carcinogenic) and lead. She said the soil shouldn't be disturbed.
- Cites Dr. Curt Nordgaard's comments on arsenic, worker and resident protection, and the need for a detailed protection plan for toxic and carcinogenic waste.

◦John Sullivan, 17 Tilden Road, So. Weymouth:

- Proposed project is adjacent to estuary, a sensitive biome.
- He cited Colburn (a researcher) in 2011 said toxic VOC's can escape and mix with nitrogen oxides from the exhaust of diesel fueled equipment to produce ground level ozone which can damage the lungs. Ozone plus particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers produces smog, asthma, COPD - damaging to humans, and presumably other mammals.
- Silencer and cap on stack can make emissions linger lower to the ground.
- Compressor station noise has an adverse effect on birds.
- Concerned cumulative impacts will lead to a tipping point.

◦Rev. Betsy Sowers, 48 Sandtrap Circle, So. Weymouth:

- Concerned about greenhouse gas – methane is 20 times more potent than CO<sub>2</sub>.
- Ice melt is putting us in very real danger of 9 feet of sea rise by 2050, and 20 feet by end of the century.

- Concerned compressor station is at the shore and the fish will suffer.
- Compressor is part of a bigger picture and problem that affects Weymouth and others.

°Susan Harden, 500 E. Falls Blvd., Quincy:

- She refers to Mass. Environmental Justice Policy – concerned about alternatives analysis for pipeline.
- She challenged Atty. Bonsall to explain why, when asked why alternative sites were not deemed feasible, he said that the environmental impact of miles of underground pipeline is greater than the environmental impact of a compressor station at the mouth of a river.

°Sandra Peters, 57 Webosset St., North Weymouth (“half mile zone”):

- DCP compressor *is* a Spectra compressor, per the Spectra website.
- Regarding wet depositions: formaldehyde, which has a very long dispersal rate, is a component of gas and blowdowns – was it included in the depositions Con Comm looked at? Cmmr. DeGabriele said he didn’t think so.
- Blowdown decibel level is 55-60 dB, within 300 ft.; how close is the conservation area to the 300 ft.? Less than 300 ft. would be louder than 55-60 dB. What about with the ANE project?
- Are any PID monitors operating at any of Spectra’s compressors 24 hours per day?
- How long did the Searsmont compressor station vent gas during the incident on New Year’s Eve?
- Will there be more blowdowns for longer periods of time with ANE?
- Invasive species – who is responsible for mitigation of invasive species as a result of their disruption of the land?
- What is the minimum distance between fireworks and compressor blowdown before an explosion or ignition would occur?
- Herons and cranes are back and piping plovers *do* forage at this site.

°Judy Roberts, 30 Curtis Ave, Quincy:

Ms. Roberts stated she was relating questions and comments from Weymouth resident Chet Clem (Davids Island Road).

- Soil report is from 1997; have there been no advancements in soil science?
- Spectra’s information states that “There will be no change from the construction of the compressor on the pipeline operations.” If so, then the compressor is not ancillary to the operation of the HubLine and the applicant’s Chapter 91 application before DEP is inaccurate and they must apply for a variance to build a non-water dependent facility.
- Spectra has nine (9) open Orders of Condition (OOC); can we consider this new application when they haven’t closed out other applications?
- There is no current analysis of oil or hazardous materials so we don’t know what impact contaminants may have on construction activities.
- At past incidents, first responders have been told to wait for a Spectra company representative to arrive on the scene before responding to emergencies, is this correct?



Ms. Roberts added that regarding the air quality being ‘fine’ scientific evidence refutes that, as Dr. Nordgaard’s information shows. She stated that she has lung cancer and is being told by doctors that it is due in part to her environment (she grew up in Quincy Point).

°Alice Arena, 6 Blueberry Street, Weymouth concerned about:

- What contaminants are being treated before being drained from the building? She would like to see an oil separator and maintenance schedule on these drains requested.
- Gas heater next to pedestrian walkway; what’s the impact on passing pedestrians? Can it prevent walkway usage?
- Impact of noise on park.
- Potential for clay on the site – it could impact groundwater movement.
- Local PA press says it took over 1 ½ hours to shut off the gas.
- 24 hours to report leak of 3.9 million cubic feet of gas into pond in Arkansas (a drinking water source).
- Blowdown in Searsmont, Maine lasted 45 minutes and was not reported until Bangor News informed the public; they were fined for not reporting.
- Fined for using unqualified welders.
- Fined for using substandard material to line pipes.

°Debbie Brown, 5 Tara Drive, Weymouth, regarding Pennsylvania explosion:

- Spectra’s statement that there were no contaminants revealed during their air quality test; local media reported their testing wasn’t done until 20 days after the explosion.
- Pennsylvania DEP sampling data was for 24 hours (results not in yet), but was done much closer to the incident date (May 2<sup>nd</sup>). How long was Spectra’s test duration?
- She observed the pipe being floated down when it was installed so she’s not sure how it could have been drilled into rock.

°Kathy Bevans, 28 Aspinwall Avenue, No. Weymouth:

- She said, basically, the 16 acre peninsula is a coal ash landfill (the top 25 feet is coal ash and contaminants) held up by a seawall. She feels this would qualify this area as unstable which would require assessments, on an ongoing basis, on the part of owners and operators to reduce the risk of structural failure.
- Are we in sync with the state in terms of coal ash?
- Concerned about blowing dust in the area.
- What happens if there is an explosion and coal ash is released into the environment and retaining seawalls are damaged?

°Becky Haugh, 34 Evans Street, Weymouth District 1 Councilor:

- The Environmental Assessment (EA) pages 2-22 through 2-28 talks about wetlands; it does not mention any Weymouth wetlands. The October Research report also does not mention Weymouth wetlands.

Cmmr. DeGabriele responded that, in fact, there are no wetlands on this particular site. Ms. Schloss explained there are other wetland *resources* present that Con Comm has jurisdiction over.

- She asked why the 1992 EA sampling shows 228 mg per kg of arsenic, but 2015 soil samples found 2.3 mg – 80 mg per kg of arsenic; 100 times the amount.

Kelly Race from TRC responded that:

- The EA sampling was from the 1990's and is done by looking at public record data, not actually collecting it.
- 2015 data was reported in the May 10<sup>th</sup> submittal. This was based on a very small pocket of soil and results depend on what is in that sampling, then they look at samplings across the site.
- Ash they are finding is intermixed with sand, silt and a little clay, it's not just ash.

Cmmr. DeGabriele recapped by saying the lower numbers were an average from across the site and the higher number was from DEP. He added that one of the reasons why arsenic is exempt is because it occurs naturally at high levels, and, unfortunately, coal ash is not treated like other toxins.

°Councilor Haugh continued:

- Ambient air samples were not done in Weymouth, there were done in Boston, Roxbury and Long Island.

°Cecelia Grace, 9 Lantern Lane, Weymouth:

- Moved here to help with family member who died from cancer related to arsenic exposure.
- She mentioned a lot of history surrounding the water, and the positive affect the wildlife in the area has had on her.

°Robert Kearns, 200 Pilgrim Road, Braintree:

- Mentioned that, as of 6/7/16, UMass has divested itself of all direct holdings in fossil fuel companies.
- The proposed project site peninsula is filled tideland, but was expanded with coal ash and other fill from the Edison Plant. This is where the coal was stored.
- Concerned about sea level rise and storm surge; asked what the 100-year plan is.
- Concerned about excavated toxic material being blown into the air.
- Concerned about herring and the money invested into their expansion.

°Julie Berberan, 14 Riverview Street, Hough's Neck, Quincy:

- Concerned about health and impacts from this site.
- Concerned about chemical components of fracked gas, and that we don't know what is in the gas, asking, what poisons are coming out?
- Concerned about project segmentation – will a new NOI be required for the full project?
- Would Spectra be responsible for damage to waterway?

Cmmr. DeGabriele said government's role is to hold people responsible for damages. It wouldn't just be under the Conservation Commission's jurisdiction.

- Have we asked who their insurance carrier is and how much coverage they carry?

Cmmr. DeGabriele said it was not relevant to Con Comm's responsibility.

- Asked about earthquake study; has one been done?

Cmmr. DeGabriele said he did not think so

°Susan Green, 26 Holbrook Road, Weymouth:

- Regarding the 4/29/16 Pennsylvania explosion, recent reports say four parallel pipes were involved; one exploded and another one was worked on by a Spectra employee one week prior to the incident, so there is a question regarding manipulation of gas pressure.
- Please confirm that a blowdown hasn't been done in seven (7) years.
- Please confirm typical number of blowdowns. Are they typically done twice a month and at night?
- Acute surface water quality benchmarks were used instead of chronic benchmarks because worst-case scenario for blowdown is of short duration and rare or infrequent; she doesn't think twice a month is rare or infrequent.
- Will VOC's coming from the stacks affect VOC levels in soil, thereby increasing the leachability of arsenic into the groundwater?
- Why didn't TRC collect groundwater samples?

°Laura West, 77 Lovell Street, Weymouth:

- Regarding allowable levels, can Con Comm make their own determination as to what is safe or need it be based on government levels?
- Stated air quality readings should be done in Weymouth.
- Hurricane Katrina flattened a compressor station in Louisiana; how was it responded to, what was the damage to, and long term effects on, the environment?

°Peter Lapchak, 58 Saning Road, Weymouth:

- He said he would refute the geologist's claim regarding a pH of 1 being needed to leach out metals.

°Fay Strigler, 94 West Elm Avenue, Quincy:

- Bloomberg News reported Spectra attributed the PA explosion to 'force majeure' and asked if corrosion is an act of God.

*Cmmr. Reilly made a motion to close the public hearing but then withdrew the motion.*

°Lori Hayden, 10 Prescott Terrace, Quincy, regarding Spectra's responses to the Commission's request for information:

- Request #3: BTEX did not look at formaldehyde – why?

Mr. Doyle said formaldehyde is a product of combustion, not natural gas, so it wouldn't be part of a blowdown event. Cmmr. DeGabriele said that is something DEP would review as part of their air quality permit.

- Request #4: Remarked that Spectra's response on noise did not include impacts from ANE.

- Request #6: Alternative sites did not look at cumulative environmental impacts of Atlantic Bridge and ANE.
- Resource Report 11: Impact radius of 786 feet includes Fore River Bridge, the MWRA pumping station and the Fore River.

Terry Gibbons, 49 Bradmere Way, Weymouth

- The meteorological cycle is very complex. In hazy, hot, humid weather when toxins are released, how would that affect water? Along with thunderstorms, the toxins will come back down into our water and the estuary.
- Spectra should look at whole spectrum of weather, not cherry-pick days.
- Regarding seismic activity: Eastern MA is in a moderate earthquake zone; a 6.0 would do devastating damage, a 2.0 would cause enough damage.

Cindy Lydon, 73 Church St., Weymouth

- Page 2-8 of EA: 1992 data is insufficient and she is concerned about contamination.
- Noise frequency: Wants to know how low frequency noise affects humans, mammals and fish. She thinks a health analysis should be completed.
- Dredging and no silt fence: she thinks erosion protection should be used.

*On a motion made by Commissioner Reilly, seconded by Commissioner Tanner, the Commission voted 5-0-0 to close the public hearing.*

Cmmr. DeGabriele listed the interests in the State Act and the Local Ordinance at which Con Comm is looking. He then explained what conditions can be imposed to provide adequate protection:

The instances where Con Comm can condition sufficiently:

- Stormwater protection.
- Soil and groundwater contamination.

The instances where Con Comm cannot condition to protect interest of the Act and the Ordinance:

- Potential for explosion: even if they are only a low probability, they are still a high impact event, and he is worried that they cannot adequately protect the interest of, for example, the adjacent CR area.
- Concerned about recreation aesthetics values – noise and odors.
- Troubled by findings about inspection and oversight deficiencies, lack of training at some locations and remoteness of monitoring.

For these reasons he stated he is inclined to vote for a denial.

Cmmr. Tanner said the area is too dense to risk disaster and is not convinced it can run well in severe weather. He is also uncomfortable with the history of accidents as it regards to safety. He confirmed that the environment was a significant factor in his decision that he is not in favor of this project.

Cmmr. Reilly spoke about explosion impact and that toxic releases would impact the water and the fish, saying the herring are a major part of the food chain throughout the North Atlantic. He is also concerned about monitoring from Houston during severe weather like nor'easters and blizzards. He is inclined to vote to deny the application.

Cmmr. Dowd said he had no new points that hadn't already been expressed.

Cmmr. Loring said he is concerned with the report that the BTEX only affects the top 6" on the water column. He stated that during in and out migration the adult herring and the juveniles are located at the surface. He is concerned about devastating effects on herring and smelt and feels that there is an impact over time from low level frequency noise. He also does not feel other locations were fully addressed. He will also vote to deny it.

*On a motion made by Commissioner Tanner, seconded by Commissioner Reilly, the Commission voted 5-0-0 to deny Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC's Notice of Intent application for a proposed compressor station.*

**Adjournment:**

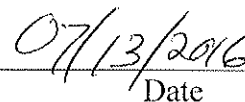
*On a motion made by Commissioner Reilly, seconded by Commissioner Tanner, the Commission voted 5-0-0 to adjourn at 10:15 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted by,

Patricia Fitzgerald  
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

  
Scott Dowd, Clerk

  
Date