

Department of Environmental Protection  
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Harrisburg, PA 17101  
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RECEIVED

JUN 16 2017

Cindy Hose/Douglas Gross  
106 Winters Road  
Orangeville PA 17859

WATERWAYS & WETLANDS

Dear DEP;

My husband and I live in Greenwood Township, Orangeville. We moved there over 30 years ago in order to enjoy the quiet rural life. The Atlantic Sunrise pipeline will be next to our house going through our neighbor's fields. We oppose the pipeline because the natural gas to be extracted/moved through pipelines will not be used to make the USA more energy independent, much less provide energy to local residents, but will be sold to markets outside this country to make a profit for the gas companies. So these companies will become wealthy at the expense of the environment and health of local citizens. It seems as if the only stakeholders under consideration for this project are the stockholders that stand to profit from it financially, not the citizens of the region who are inconvenienced and put at risk by it. The citizens do not seem to be represented well by our elected officials who seem more interested in the private business concerns. Because of this we have attended informational meetings, township meetings and written letters to the editor to voice our concerns—see enclosures.

The pipeline will be close enough to our property that if there is a pipeline rupture and explosion like there was in nearby Unityville our house and its occupants will be incinerated. If that area was not so sparsely populated, there would have been loss of life due to the rupture. It will not be a very comfortable feeling to have this risk when you go to bed every night.

We oppose the pipeline due to these safety issues as well as the health and environmental risk that the pipeline and accompanying compressor station will present. So our primary interest is that the pipeline and compressor station not be built but that is unlikely. We are therefore asking that DEP require the Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company and its contractors to ensure the following:

- Limit the number of pipes to be installed not only now but in the future
- Provide for sound mitigation of the compressor station in the form of the design of the building with noise dampening shell, silencers on the exhaust and screening around the building with vegetation
- Continual monitoring of the air quality
- Frequent inspections of the pipeline
- Restrict water extraction
- Minimize the negative effect on wetlands and streams that the pipeline crosses
- Minimize the width of pipeline corridor in wooded areas, decreasing forest fragmentation effects
- Provide emergency warning to residents upon detection of leaks
- Conduct surveys for state and federally listed species along the right-of-way after the pipeline is put in place because of the changing dynamics of their populations.

It is more important now more than ever that the state and local governments step up to protect its citizens.

Sincerely,

Cindy Hose and Douglas Gross

**Spiritual presumptions**

Recently, it seems to me, certain spiritual presumptions have been expressed in two pieces in the Sun Gazette. First, on the religious page it was implied that when certain Christian churches die they might sadly be replaced by Buddhist or Hindu groups. Groups that happen to make great use of silence. Second, in the review of the book *Silence and Beauty* by Makoto Fujimura, the reviewer's assumption was made that the repression of Christianity in Japan resulted in a "spiritual void".

When Christ is denied, why is it assumed that a spiritual void is the result? Does that not imply a certain arrogant dismissal of other valid religions that were/are active in Japan? When Jesuit missionaries are officially stifled by governments, they adapted and learned from other religions. People will always have the silences of their own minds. To me silence is an openness to the energetic activity of God through silence itself. It is always available. A spiritual void can only exist in your mind if you let it.

Henry Hopper  
Williamsport  
Submitted by email

**Fight pipeline noise with noise**

As we were driving home on the back roads of Orange and Greenwood townships from the meeting on the proposed compressor station, we marveled at the tranquility of rural life. As residents, our quality of life would be affected if the compressor station is built along Black Road in Orange Township.

The noise emitting from a natural gas compressor station is equivalent to the decibels of a jack hammer. Because of its proposed location the sound would travel far and at all hours of the day and night.

Many people live in rural Columbia County for the quiet and for privacy. Both will be shattered for the unwilling neighbors of this very noisy compressor station. Instead, the sounds of nature will be masked out by the constant droning noise of a compressor. It will be an oppressive noise for all

its neighbors whether you are a resident of Orange, Greenwood, Mount Pleasant townships or Orangeville. The serious impact that continuous loud noise levels has on one's mental and physical health has been well documented.

A decision by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on whether to approve the proposed compressor station and Atlantic Sunrise pipeline is expected by early 2017. What can you do? Tell a friend. Tell your neighbor. Talk to your township supervisors. Talk to Columbia County commissioners. Voice your opinion to the state Department of Environmental Protection. Make some noise of your own.

CINDY HOSE  
AND DOUGLAS GROSS  
Orangeville

Press Enterprise • Sunday, December 18, 2016

**LETTER****Compressor a noxious presence**

Blow downs, venting and noise ... and more. With the proposed compressor station in Orange Township noise from periodic blow downs and ongoing noise from the compressor equipment will become a part of the landscape. The geographic location of the proposed compressor station will allow it to broadcast noise to a large area. It is high on a hill without vegetation or hills to absorb the noise.

This will not only affect residents of Orange Township but residents of the neighboring townships of Greenwood, Mount Pleasant and the borough of Orangeville. The federal government allows noise levels of 55 decibels, so the ongoing noise will be like a loud truck engine idling all day and all night for years to come.

The noise from the blow downs will sound

like a jet engine as the natural gas is released into the air for 30 minutes to three to four hours. When this happens there will be a gas plume shooting up the air and the air quality will be affected. People who have respiratory issues and compromised health issues may need to leave the area or stay inside.

Blow downs are done to release the gas into the air and ongoing venting is done as part of the everyday operation.

Do you want this kind of environment for your green living space? There is still time to contact elected officials and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to voice your concerns.

CINDY HOSE and DOUGLAS GROSS  
Greenwood Township

The world is my country, all mankind are my brethren,  
and to do good is my religion. — Thomas Paine

Columbia City

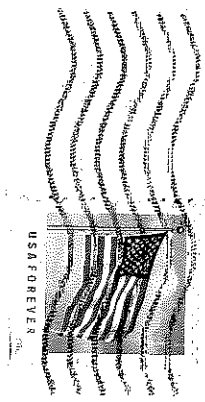


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