

17 May 2017

**RE: Letter to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Regarding the Rover Pipeline and pipeline approval process**

TO: Cheryl A. LaFleur, FERC Acting Chair; Colette D. Honorable, FERC Commissioner

CC: John R. Kasich, Governor of OH; Sherrod C. Brown, Senator (OH); Rob J. Portman, Senator (OH)

Dear Commissioners,

We write to express our deep concern regarding the extensive environmental harm caused by Energy Transfer Partners in their construction of the Rover gas pipeline, and to demand immediate action to eliminate the ongoing risk posed by this and future gas pipeline construction. This letter has been signed by 118 organizations from across the country including along the pipeline route in Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

The spilling of 2 million gallons of drilling waste into wetlands as a result of reckless horizontal drilling activities clearly demonstrates ETP's poor planning, neglect, and disregard for communities and the environment along the pipeline route. Already, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency has fined the company over \$400,000 in response to numerous incidents during Rover Pipeline construction.

While we welcome the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC's) recent action to halt new horizontal directional drilling on the project, it is clear that this limited action is not sufficient to ensure the safety of communities along the pipeline route.

**Therefore, we write to demand that FERC halt all construction of the Rover Pipeline in order to ensure the safety of communities and ecosystems along the pipeline route.** The permit case and environmental impact statement (EIS) should be reopened and supplemented so that horizontal directional drilling plans and procedures can be reviewed and improved. Further construction should be limited to only those actions needed to ensure the safety and stability of the vicinity until such a review is satisfactorily completed. A Supplemental EIS would allow for a more thorough analysis of the greenhouse gas emissions and climate change impacts of the project, which were lacking in the original EIS and Certificate Order.

Further, **FERC should initiate an immediate review of horizontal directional drilling plans and procedures on all open pipeline dockets. FERC should put the safety of communities and ecosystems first by halting the permitting for all new pipeline projects while conducting this comprehensive safety review.**

FERC has a responsibility to ensure projects it approves do not imperil the public. Immediate action is needed to live up to that standard with respect to the Rover pipeline and all other gas pipelines currently in the FERC docket.

Signed,

Athens County Fracking Action Network (OH)  
Buckeye Environmental Network (OH)  
Cleveland Environmental Action Network (OH)  
Columbus Community Bill of Rights (OH)  
Communities for Safe and Sustainable Energy (OH)  
FreshWater Accountability Project (OH)  
Friends for Environmental Justice (OH)  
Fulton County Indivisible Alliance (OH)  
Guernsey County Citizens Support on Drilling Issues (OH)  
Licking County Concerned Citizens for Public Health and Environment (OH)  
Network for Oil and Gas Accountability and Protection (OH)  
Ohio River Citizens' Alliance (OH)  
Radioactive Waste Alert (OH)  
Sierra Club Ohio Chapter (OH)  
Sustainable Medina County (OH)  
Torch CAN DO (OH)  
Youngstown Committee for the Two Community Bills of Rights: Drinking Water Protection and Fair Elections (OH)

Michigan Residents Against the ET Rover Pipeline (MI)  
Sierra Club Michigan Chapter (MI)

Aquashicola Pohopoco Watershed Conservancy (PA)  
Berks Gas Truth (PA)  
Camp White Pine (PA)  
Damascus Citizens for Sustainability (PA)  
Delaware Riverkeeper Network (PA)  
Lancaster Against Pipelines (PA)  
LNG Opposition Team (PA, VA, MD)  
Middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper (PA)

Christians for the Mountains (WV)  
Doddridge County Watershed Association (WV)  
Eight Rivers Council (WV)  
Glenville Environmental Organization (WV)  
Greenbrier River Watershed Association (WV)  
Laurel Mountain Preservation Association (WV)  
MeRose Ministries (WV)  
Mon Valley Clean Air Coalition (WV)  
Mountain Lakes Preservation Alliance (WV)  
Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition (WV)

Protect Our Water, Heritage, Rights (WV, VA)  
Summers County Residents Against the Pipeline (WV)  
Waterkeepers Chesapeake (WV, PA, VA, NY, DE, MD, DC)  
West Virginia Highlands Conservancy (WV)  
West Virginia Rivers Coalition (WV)

Idle No More SF Bay (CA)

Altamaha Riverkeeper (GA)

Atchafalaya Basinkeeper (LA)  
Bold Louisiana (LA)  
Gulf Restoration Network (LA, TX, MS, AL, FL)  
Sierra Club Delta Chapter (LA)  
350 Louisiana – New Orleans (LA)

Citizens Against the Rehoboth Compressor Station (MA)  
South Coast Neighbors United (MA)  
Students for a Just & Stable Future (MA, CT)

HoCo Climate Action (MD)  
SouthEast Communities Against Pollution (MD)  
We Are Cove Point (MD)

NC Climate Solutions Coalition (NC)  
NC WARN (NC)

NH Pipeline Health Study Group (NH)

People Over Pipelines (NJ)  
Roseland Against Compressor Station (NJ)

Advocates for Morris (NY)  
Advocates for Cherry Valley (NY)  
Advocates for Springfield, NY (NY)  
Catskill Mountainkeeper (NY)  
Citizens Energy and Economics Council of Delaware County (NY)  
Citizens For Water (NY)  
Coalition Against the Rockaway Pipeline (NY)  
Compressor Free Franklin (NY)  
Compressor FREE Veteran (NY)  
Concerned Burlington Neighbors (NY)  
Concerned Citizens of Allegany County (NY)

Concerned Residents of Madison County (NY)  
Concerned Residents of Oxford (NY)  
Deep Green Resistance New York City (NY)  
Delaware Action Group (NY)  
Dryden Resource Awareness Coalition (NY)  
Earth Guardians New York (NY)  
Elmirans and Friends Against Fracking (NY)  
Milford Doers (NY)  
Mohawk Valley Keeper (NY)  
New York Climate Action Group (NY)  
NYH2O (NY)  
Otsego 2000 (NY)  
People for a Healthy Environment (NY)  
People Not Pipelines (NY)  
Plan to Save the Planet (NY)  
Plymouth Friends of Clean Water (NY)  
Residents of Crumhorn Mountain (NY)  
Roseboom Owners Awareness Response Against Fracking (NY)  
Sane Energy Project (NY)  
Sanford-Oquaga Area Concerned Citizens (NY)  
Schaghticoke First Nations (NY, CT)  
Shaleshock CNY (NY)  
Sharon Springs Against Hydrofracking (NY)  
Sustainable Otsego (NY)  
TriStates Unite for Safe Energy (NY)  
United for Action (NY)  
350 Brooklyn (NY)

Fossil Free Rhode Island (RI)

Chesapeake Climate Action Network (VA, MD, DC)  
Friends of Buckingham (VA)  
Preserve Floyd (VA)  
Renewable Energy and Electric Vehicle Association Do-It-Yourself Club (VA)

Beyond Extreme Energy (National)  
Bold Alliance (National)  
Center for Biological Diversity (National)  
Center for Earth Ethics (National)  
Earth Guardians (National)  
Earthworks (National)  
Food & Water Watch (National)  
FracTracker Alliance (National)

Great March for Climate Action (National)  
Green America (National)  
Greenpeace USA (National)  
Institute for Policy Studies, Climate Policy Program (National)  
International Indigenous Youth Council (National)  
New Progressive Alliance (National)  
Oil Change International (National)  
Rainforest Action Network (National)  
Sierra Club (National)  
Waterkeeper Alliance (National)  
Wittenberg Center (National)