

PM

SEC 2015-9

TO: Pamela Monroe, Administrator
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
21 South Fruit Street
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FROM: *WMA* William Driscoll

DATE: 10-11-2015

In regards to Sea-3's expansion exemption, I urge you unreservedly to vote yes. The project will benefit thousands of residents of New Hampshire, it is being done at the Sea-3's cost, and it will provide us with a cheaper and more stable supply of propane to heat our homes. This facility is progress for New Hampshire, and it will provide immediate benefits. Please support the Sea-3 expansion exemption!

The opponents of this project expansion often fail to note what an improvement the facility is over the status quo. Without this propane handling facility in operation, many local propane dealers will find it necessary to offload bulk propane along railroad stops into their tanker fleets. The problem with this is that these railroad sidings lack safety features inherent in a dedicated use facility. Without automatic cutoffs, water deluge, and fire safety systems such as those inside the Newington terminal, there is far greater risk of accidents and spillages that could endanger communities in our state. This facility is not only a good idea, it is the safer choice.

Activist Portsmouth residents who could only find at best a delaying argument against this project should in no way continue to hold up this vital facility. All safety and legal requirements from the federal requirements on down to the local governments have been met. There is no reason left to withhold a Sea-3 expansion exemption. There is no reason to continue forcing New Hampshire residents to pay for expensive foreign fuel when abundant supplies of U.S.-sourced propane are available.

New Hampshire citizens depend on propane for heat in our cold winters. We should not stand in the way any longer of their opportunity to obtain less expensive propane by way of a modern facility with a demonstrated safety record and a plan for trained people to expertly handle clean-burning propane. The change from foreign-sourced propane to domestically-produced propane is critical for the 77,000+ New Hampshire households who use it, not to mention the businesses and institutions of our state. It is cheaper, with a more stable and responsive supply chain than shipping by sea, and it can be set in motion by simply granting an exemption to a project that has met every applicable safety standard thrown at it.

New Hampshire will have access to cheaper, abundant, American-produced propane, all handled by a facility purpose-built for handling and distributing large volumes of heating fuel. We cannot deny how beneficial it will be to New Hampshire; the SEC needs to grant this exemption, so New Hampshire can start reaping those benefits. I ask that you vote yes on this exemption request.

Regards,

WMA Suzanne Driscoll

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