

FGM

Pamela G. Monroe, Administrator  
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee  
21 South Fruit Street  
Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee:

New Hampshire has long had to receive its supplies of propane by sea-borne vessels, which is expensive, unreliable, and somewhat unresponsive to New Hampshire's supply needs. Sea-3 has developed a project at their own cost to start shipping American-produced propane by rail to a new state-of-the art facility. This is of tremendous benefit to the people of New Hampshire, as they can be assured of a steady, reliable, and cheaper supply of propane to heat their homes. It is my hope that you will vote yes on granting Sea-3 a certification exemption so they can get this project underway for the people of New Hampshire.

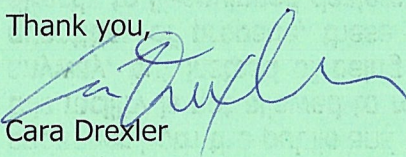
With 77,000 homes in New Hampshire already dependent on propane, it is imperative that we secure an uninterrupted supply. Sea-3 is doing that with this project, by sourcing the propane in the US. In short, it's a better system for delivering a safe and clean fuel to our citizens. The facility has been approved, the rail lines that were in question have passed their safety inspections, and it is an improvement over the way propane is handled now, so there is no reason not to move forward with a project that will benefit so many people in our state.

A strong case could be made that not approving the exemption requested by Sea-3 will do far more to endanger both the public and local propane workers than allowing the facility to operate. The fact is, if this facility is not allowed to receive these rail shipments of propane, then these shipments will happen anyway, but instead of being delivered to a central high-tech facility designed to safely handle large quantities of propane, these deliveries will instead be loaded into tankers all along the rail system directly to ill-equipped dealers. This propane will be put into tankers without automatic shutoffs, water flooding capabilities, or other fire suppression systems that will exist in this facility expansion. The first time there is some kind of accident under these circumstances, whose fault will it be that it happened? This facility is the right choice and the safe choice for New Hampshire.

Sea-3 has a long history of safe operation, and has met all necessary and applicable guidelines and legal requirements to be granted an exemption for their facility upgrade, but the noisy voices of a very few people in Portsmouth have held this project up from a deserved approval. This small minority of activists should not be allowed to hold up progress when they can demonstrate no downsides associated with the project. This project is good for New Hampshire.

I believe strongly that Sea-3 should be granted an exemption so this project can start moving forward, and the people of New Hampshire can start saving money on winter heating fuel. We have the opportunity to purchase domestically produced propane that will be delivered through a state of the art receiving facility. It is cheaper, it has passed all safety considerations, and it is progress. I implore you to vote yes at Sea-3's exemption hearing, so construction can begin immediately.

Thank you,

  
Cara Drexler

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