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Last December Kinder Morgan moved the Northeast Export Direct pipeline from a route planned through Massachusetts, up into New Hampshire.

They assumed that the level of opposition here would not be the same as in Massachusetts and forcing it through us would be quick and easy. They were wrong. The level of popular opposition has been higher than anyone ever imagined. Eric Tomasi of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission admitted that the NED project has set an all time FERC record for the number of electronic comment filings and they have only begun to assess the number of conventional mailings, all against the pipe. This is more significant when you consider the fact that the electronic filing process on FERC's website is complicated and confusing and requires strict adherence to a 26 step procedure. It is not at all similar to posting something on Facebook or Twitter and requires a fair bit of computer savvy! It should also be noted that at one point, a FERC official actually suggested to opposition leaders that they stop filing comments for a while so that FERC staff can catch up!

We also noted that at a recent FERC "Scoping" meeting, a Kinder Morgan vice president, Allen Fore was seen with two rather burly and aggressive looking body guards. Yet at earlier meetings, he was unaccompanied. It is regrettable that he feels insecure, but clearly this too is indicative of the intense level of opposition NED and its sponsors are now facing. We are not surprised since so many people now fear for their own health with the thought of high pressure, explosive gas buried only three feet down throughout their neighborhoods. Just as bad, the compressor stations emit poorly regulated toxins and carcinogens into their otherwise clean New Hampshire air. Not to mention the continuous noise, light pollution and disconcerting, deliberate releases of precious gas during so called "blowdowns". A cynic could shrug and suggest that if they don't like it they should just leave, but with property values dropping precipitously, homeowners feel trapped.

The big issue is eminent domain. Most New Hampshire citizens, whether they believe in a marketed "energy crisis" or not, don't go along with the idea of the Federal Government usurping states rights, and taking people's hard-won land for a project that has little or no benefit for New Hampshire residents. Has anyone looked at our license plates recently?

Deny NED on popular and moral grounds.

Thank you
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